

SELECTMEN'S MEETING– September 25, 2023

Present: Margo Connors, Richard Bielefield
Jennifer Gaudette

Guests: Brenda Aldrich, Bill & Amy Roy, Peter Carbonneau, John Colony, Tim & Lisa Brown
Brooke O'Day

Correspondence was read and acted upon.

The Select Board had invited residents who have property that abuts the sidewalk for a preliminary talk about updating the downtown area, a new sidewalk, and how to slow traffic down in the area. Questions including how they would widen the area where there is a current embankment and the probability of a retaining wall. Would the sidewalk be 5' wide and would it be made of concrete with granite curbing which lasts much longer. Options to plant some trees to make the roadway look narrower and would hope to slow traffic down naturally. A sign that states welcome to the Village of Sugar Hill. The original plan that was done was created through a North Country Council grant at no cost to the town. Should the town want to move forward then funds would need to be approved for an official study. The group also noted that the financial impact for the town would be great and having to maintain a sidewalk during the winter and summer months another costly expense. The board will investigate a survey and ask the participants at town meeting for their thoughts. The board will also ask North Country Council about the pop up that they were supposed to do on a busy weekend. And will also inquire as to simpler less expensive way to improve areas of the sidewalk. The board is very appreciative of the feedback from the residents.

The board discussed the setback for signs on town and state roads. All signs must be 25' from the centerline of the road. The Highway and Police Departments will be letting the office know of signs that do not meet setback on town roads. A notice will be put in the newsletter as well.

The board approves the use of the Meetinghouse by the Willing Workers on November 13th and 15th for holiday decorating.

The Bone Builders class will now be held in the Crapo Building and will be in person and by zoom. Classes are Monday 8:30 – 9:30 and Friday 10:00 – 11:00.

The board approves and signed a renewal of the NCDE/NHMA contract in the amount of \$3,750 to be paid from ARPA funds. They will continue to monitor the broadband process for the town.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to put the Broadband Committee on hold, seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to adopt the following policy:

"Whereas, the Town of Sugar Hill welcomes all people regardless of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or any other variable that makes us who we are.

Whereas, the Town of Sugar Hill has a responsibility to all its residents to keep them safe from discrimination, harassment, or from those who want to marginalize others for being different than themselves through prejudice and bigotry.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by Town of Sugar Hill Select Board that the Town of Sugar Hill will welcome all to our community and that our Town services, amenities, and properties are available to all who live here and to our visitors passing through, following guidelines and policies that apply equally to all persons. We are committed to promoting a secure, welcome, and safe environment. We are committed to modeling respectful dialogue." seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

The board received correspondence from NH DES from an inspection they completed on property owned by Jeffrey and Jennifer Sabados, Map 221, Lot 7.

William Healey Map 227, Lot 20.7, Beaver Pond Trail received a Wetlands and Non-Site-Specific Permit from NHDES.

Update received from Chief Clark regarding two FEMA projects. Currently waiting on an extension for the Streeter Pond Bridge (over Indian Creek) project. The other project is the rebuild of Lafayette and Grandview from the 2018 storm. There is still \$225,000 owed and previously approved and all paperwork was filed.

MS. CONNORS made a motion to approve the minutes of September 18th, 2023 seconded by MR. BIELEFIELD. The motion passed unanimously.

With no more business before the Board, MR. BIELEFIELD made a motion to adjourn, seconded by MS. CONNORS, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday October 2, 2023, at the Carolina Crapo Building at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Gaudette
Administrative Assistant