

Town of Danbury

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 6, 2023, 6:00 PM

Members present: Jessica Hatch, Chair, Ruby Hill, Tracy Shepard

Also present, Karen Padgett, Administrative Assistant

Appointments Road Agent Cornell

Chairperson Hatch opened the meeting at 6:00pm

Road Agent Cornell informed the Board that Walker Brook Road paving will be done on 9/7 by GMI Asphalt. They have also agreed to repair the broken pavement on Wiggin Road that was done last fall.

He had a quote from GMI to pave the Ford Mill Rd. bridge for \$5,685. Jessica motioned to approve the paving of Form Mill Rd bridge with \$5,685 from the bridge capital reserve fund. Motion was seconded by Ruby and passed unanimously.

He spoke with the owner of 29 Barry Highlands Rd because water and gravel are flowing down from the driveway and causing issues in the road.

Cornell met with the NH DOT along with Donna Sprague of Huntoon Farms regarding the way that Spear Hill Road has been rerouted to intersect with US Route 4. It has not been built according to the original plans presented to the Town in 2019. At this point, there is nothing that can be done to change it.

He is still working on getting quotes for the Walker Brook bridge replacement. Roadside mowing should be starting soon.

John Schurger wrote a second letter of complaint to the Board regarding washouts of his driveway that he feels is caused by the Town. Jessica and Road Agent Cornell have both gone to assess the situation. Jessica noted that the driveway culvert is full of gravel which does not allow the water to flow through it from the ditch. Also, there is water coming directly down his driveway causing washouts. A letter will be prepared to respond to Mr. Schurger's complaint.

Jessica made a motion to approve the minutes of August 16, seconded by Ruby. Motion passed 2-0. Tracy abstained from the vote.

Consent/Signature Agenda

- Payroll and accounts payable
- July bank reconciliation
- Land use change bills
 - 404-005-002 Cook/\$3,000
 - 201-002 Bemis/\$220
 - 413-018 Sullivan/\$150
- MS-1 Summary of Inventory Valuation – current valuation \$173,498,733 up from \$171,273,300 last year
- Purchase order
 - FD Harolds Truck and Auto for servicing engines 1 and 2 \$1500
 - Becker Training Associates – Advanced EMT training for Jacob Moran \$1800
 - TS Carroll Concrete unknown \$\$ to pour concrete pad(Previously signed)
 - HWY Ready Equipment \$1599.19 cut off saw and carrier(Previously signed)

Jessica motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 3-0.

Building Permit Applications

- 35-2023B Wickstrom/Mclean 62 Davis Rd/416-085 – roof mounted pv solar system/6.56 KW/16 panels/200A/No battery/Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Ruby. Motion passed unanimously.
- 36-2023B Austin 935 US Route 4/412-013/replace existing landing and stairs on back of house/ Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Ruby. Motion passed unanimously.
- 37-2023B DiCenzo 98 Taylor Hill Rd/405-019/add 30 x 8 front porch/ Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Ruby. Motion passed unanimously.

Driveway Permit Application

- Davis/416-064-006/New Canada Road/Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Ruby. Motion carried 3-0.

Old Business

- The first bill was received from the Merrimack County Sheriff for August patrol hours. The deputies are doing about 20 hours per week. The Town is not being billed for travel time, only from the time the officer enters Danbury.
- There was some discussion about selling the 2016 police cruiser. No action was taken.

New Business

- The Report of Locally Elected Auditors is complete. No action was taken, as the report has not yet been reviewed.
- Ruby made a motion to appoint Judith Brewer as an alternate library trustee. Motion was seconded by Jessica and passed 3-0.

Selectmen

Tracy reported that Jim Larkin has made plans to set up an area for taxpayers to get sand at the Transfer Station. Concrete blocks will be brought in to enclose the area and keep the sand from drifting into the wet area. The cost of the blocks is approximately \$800 and there will be a delivery charge.

Ruby reminded the Board of a the school district listening session to be held on 9/18 at 6pm regarding the possible withdrawal of Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton from the district.

Jessica attended the most recent Budget Committee meeting. The current profit and loss was reviewed and their fall meeting schedule was set up.

Ron Moran approached her about the building permit application that the Board has written him about. The application has not yet been submitted.

The feasibility study for the Fire Department building is nearing completion. Some posters were created to display at Grange Fair. There will be two informational meetings for public comment on Tuesday 11/7 at 7pm and on Tuesday 12/5 at 7pm. The meetings will be held at the Town Hall. Fire Chief Martin is going to take the plans to Osgood to get a quote for a metal building and Jessica will arrange a meeting with Wallace Building to see if they are able to quote it.

There was some discussion about the Personnel Policy and holidays. Work will continue at the next meeting. on the Personnel Policy. Also, the draft revision of the Financial Policy was given out for review.

Kendra Braley, Director of the Danbury Community Center, advised Jessica that they are not going to be able to afford to heat the building and may have to shut down for the winter. She said she would meet with the Board of Selectmen sometime in September to discuss the current situation.

A property owner who lives very close to the road on Walker Brook Rd was very upset when the highway crew swept the road in advance of the paving. His truck was parked right next to the road and got covered in dirt. He felt that someone should have advised him of the sweeping, and he could have moved his truck.

Finally, Jessica asked if the new plan for Ragged had changed the ski program from K-12 to elementary school only. Ruby will bring this up at the next Planning Board meeting.

FYI

- Notice of NASB listening session RE HB349 9/18 6pm High School Auditorium
- Notice of PB public hearing Ragged 9/12
- Transfer station – received \$574.00 for aluminum cans less \$200 for container
- Merrimack County Annual Report
- NHMA Budget and Finance workshops
- Septic approvals Knight 412-046/Macuch 413-001
- August property sales

At 7:49 Jessica motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ruby. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 6pm for job interviews for the administrative assistant position.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Padgett, Administrative Assistant