

Town of Danbury

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday February 21st, 2024, 6:00 PM

Members present: Jessica Hatch, Chair, Tracy Shepard, Ruby Hill
Also present, Maggi Fellows, Administrative Assistant

Chairperson Hatch opened the meeting at 6:00pm

6:00pm Ruby Hill made a motion to go into Non-Public session: *legal* Jessica Hatch second, Motion Passed 3-0

6:32pm Ruby Motioned to go back to public session, Jessica seconded, Motion passes 3-0

Decision made to use Mitchell Municipal Group, Laconia NH to represent the Board of Selectmen in the State HAB case.

Approval of meeting minutes 2/7/24, Ruby motioned to approve and sign, seconded by Tracy Shepard, Motion passes 3-0

Consent/Signature Agenda

- Payroll and accounts payable, *reviewed*.
 - January bank reconciliations, *reviewed*.
 - Veterans' tax credit 414-005-000, *reviewed*.
 - SPNHF Timber Tax (415-071), *reviewed*.
 - Gravel Tax Bill (418-015,407-006,418-029,416-020,411-080), *reviewed*.
- Jessica made a motion to approve and sign all items in the consent/ signature folder, Ruby seconded, motion passed 3-0

Intent to Cut/ Intent to Excavate Permit Applications

- Intent to Cut 24-111-01-T Wild Meadow Rd (406-187) Bailey, *Reviewed*, Jessica Hatch Abstained, Ruby motioned to approve and sign, seconded by Tracy, motion passed 2-0
- Intent to Excavate 24-111-01-E Rt 4 (407-006) Phelps, *Reviewed*, Jessica motioned to approve and sign, seconded by Tracy, motion passed 3-0
- Intent to Excavate 24-111-02-E Rt 4 (418-029) Phelps, *Reviewed*, Jessica motioned to approve and sign, seconded by Tracy, motion passed 3-0
- Intent to Excavate 24-111-03-E Littlefield Rd (416-20) Phelps, *Reviewed*, Jessica motioned to approve and sign, seconded by Tracy, motion passed 3-0

Old Business

New Business

Lynn England, 204 US Route 104, was in to discuss with the board, some issues with the Eversource job in town erecting new poles, around town and across her property,

Lynn advised that she had an issue with the Eversource pole crew attempting to erect replacement poles and NEW poles on her property, she advised they had done damage on her property, running over a piece of equipment, and driving directly over her well cover, while attempting to drill for new pole placement within 10 feet of her dug well.

Lynn advised that Eversource believed they have a right of way across her property and do not. She also asked if Eversource had contacted us about doing this work,

Eversource told her that they had been in contact with the Town about the project, Eversource specifically told her they had been in contact with the Town of Danbury, “Karen Padgett” on Monday the 19th.

Currently Eversource has not contacted the Town with any information on this project, they were not in touch with Karen Padgett on Monday the 19th, as she retired in November 2023, furthermore Monday the 19th was a holiday, and the Town of Danbury offices were closed for the Holiday.

Selectmen

- Voter Guide cards, *Reviewed wording*, we will use current supply of card stock for printing.
- Police Chief Kelby advised board of current items he is working on for the Police Department, Chief Kelby advised he researched the information on Hiring a full time officer thru the NH retirement system, He advises that the Town could hire a full time officer, the officer would have to be enrolled in the State retirement system group 2, this would mean a cost of about \$17,200 per year for the retirement system based on a \$55,000 salary. The Town could choose to include the current town employees in the State Retirement System and each employee could chose to enroll or not enroll, but all employees after the hiring of a full-time officer would have to be enrolled in the State Retirement System. For the State Retirement Group 2 (Full-time Police and Firefighters/Emt) it would be a cost of 31.28% payment by the town and 11.55% by the employee into the NH retirement system, based on Salary. For Group 1 (all other municipal full -time employees) it would be 13.53% payment by the town and 7% payment by the employee to the Nh Retirement system based on salary.

Chief Kelby also advised State police will help with covering calls when no one is on duty in Danbury, but they are also short staffed so response times will be long, He advises that The Merrimack County sheriffs office is able to cover a small amount of time at detail pay, but they can not cover the town on a full-time basis. The Chief reports last year’s statistics were approximately 795 calls for service in Danbury.

The Chief has a meeting scheduled with E911, Franklin Dispatch, State Police and Merrimack County sheriff’s department to try and streamline how calls are being dispatched, for better handling of calls and better response times.

Chief Kelby advised he has Posted an ad for a Part-Time officer and will be reviewing applicants. Chief Kelby also advised there are no upcoming Part-Time officer Academy’s Scheduled.

Lastly, He is working on updating the Policies and Procedures Manual of the Danbury police department and will have documents for the Selectboard to review at a later date.

Administrative Assistant

- Town report sent to Printers, *Advised*
- Road agent advising will be posting soon, Jessica Motioned to allow the Road Agent to post the roads as he deems fit, Ruby Seconded, motion passed 3-0

At 8:38pm Ruby motioned to adjourn, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Wednesday, March 6th, 2024, at 6pm.

Respectfully submitted, Maggi Fellows, Administrative Assistant