

Town of Danbury
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
June 2, 2021 6:00 PM

Present: Jessica Hatch, James Phelps, Tracy Shepard – Selectmen
Karen Padgett- Administrative Assistant

Appointments: 6:30 Doug Colby
6:45 Mike Maines
7:00 Deborah Aylward
7:15 Road Agent Cornell

Checks/Applications/Signatures

- **Payroll and accounts payable** were signed.
- Jim motioned to approve the **minutes of 5/19** as amended(a correction in the sand bid information was needed), seconded by Jessica. Minutes approved 3-0. Jim motioned to approve the **minutes of 5/5** as written, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.
- Jim motioned to sign the **supplemental property tax warrant** in the amount of \$2,907.58, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.
- A **declaration of right to inter** was signed for Robert and Evelyn Davis for 4 plots in Riverdale Cemetery.
- **Abatements**
 - 2021-03 \$192.80 for 410-054/full vet credit not applied to bill. Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.
 - 2021-04 \$319.20 for 416-010-001/property was merged into 416-010 in Feb 2021. Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 2-0 with Jim recusing himself from the vote.

Building Permit Applications

- 17-2021B ROBERTS 416-015**, 208 Littlefield Rd /12X20 hoop house. Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 3-0.
- 18-2021B LAMBRECHT 416-027/** 90 Littlefield Rd/24x16 home addition. Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Jim. Motion passed 3-0.
- 19-2021B ENGLAND 411-109/** 16 Drake Hill Rd/ 17x10 portable garage/Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.
- 20-2021B DONOGHUE 410-070/** Mudgett & Old Danbury Rd/Close in existing A-frame. Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.
- 21-2021B ALEXANDER 408-020/**Hoyt Brook Rd/26x44 modular home. Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 2-0 with Jim recusing himself from the vote.
- 22-2021B BRANTLEY 415-052/**1445 US Route 4/10 x 12 shed. Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.

Driveway Permit Application –

ALEXANDER/Hoyt Brook Road/408-020. Jessica motioned to approve, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 2-0 with Jim recusing himself from the vote.

Highway Department/ Road Agent Cornell

- Sand bids that were opened at the 5/19 meeting were reviewed. The low bid was from Phelps Construction at \$7.50 per yard delivered. Jessica motioned to accept the bid from Phelps Construction of \$7.50/yard, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 2-0 with Jim recusing himself from the vote.
- The bridge proposals for the replacement of the Walker Brook Rd bridge were reviewed and discussed. Jim motioned to accept the contract from Hansen Bridge in the amount of \$128,560 subject to the bridge being built to state approved standards. Motion was seconded by Jessica and passed 3-0.
- A request was received Clarke & Co's insurance carrier(Acadia) for bridge repair estimates. Per Road Agent Cornell, CWS Fencing is preparing an estimate.

Old Business:

- New Canada Road MOU and Easement to be signed. Dan Hudnut would like to schedule a time for Jim and Jeremy to meet at site with him and property owner as previously discussed.

Fridays and Mondays work for them, prefer Fridays.

- Per Chief Suckling, Alexandria AA will be in touch to get potential dates/times for joint meeting of town Selectboards.

Appointments:

Doug Colby

Mr. Colby's first request was for Selectman Phelps recuse himself from the discussion. Chairperson Hatch noted that Selectman Phelps would not be participating in the discussion or voting.

Mr. Colby was in to request an extension for paying off the lien on his property at 88 High Street. He was granted until December 15, 2021 to pay off the lien.

Mike Maines, Transfer Station

Mike stated that people at the Transfer Station have been asking about the purchase of the aluminum can container that was discussed and voted on at the Deliberative Session in February. There has been an increase in the cost of the container due to the rise in steel prices and Jim repeated the Board sentiment that at this time the purchase of the container does not seem to be an effective use of taxpayer funds.

Also, there have been intruders at the Transfer Station during closed hours who have stolen items that have some value for recycling revenue. The Board suggested the placement of a game camera to capture photos of the intruders.

Deborah Aylward

Prior to the meeting, Ms. Aylward had emailed questions to the Board of Selectmen pertaining to the Home Occupations and Cottage Industries approved since 2014. It is her belief that these approvals are no longer valid. Specifically, two approvals that were made for home occupation businesses on her road, which is a private road, are not valid, because the town had no authority to regulate the use of a private road. Ms. Aylward wants the town to write a letter informing the home occupation property owners on the private road that they only need to comply with the zoning ordinance, the permissions they were granted are not valid.

Jason Potter

Problems continue with his neighboring property owner on Railroad Drive changing the roadway where he accesses his property. It is becoming dangerous. He would like the town to write a letter to the property owner stating that the roadway is 16' wide and to keep it clear. Jim will go and measure the width of the road. He is proposing a letter be written to the offending party telling her to remove everything from the roadway and not to use it to store her personal property.

Selectmen Items:

Jim – the next steps need to be taken to clear the title the town owned property on Dean Road. Karen is unclear about this process.

Tracy will be setting up the Safety Committee meetings. It was determined that Monday is a good day to have the meetings during work hours. He also has concerns about the emergency helicopter landing pad at the Transfer Station being quite sandy and suggested paving the area. Jim said an area that size(50' square) would cost about \$40,000.

The Board reviewed some of the provisions that will affect town clerks if the voting rights bill passes US Senate. It will be very costly to the towns and Jim will compose a letter in opposition to the bill.

At 7:58 Jim motioned to go into nonpublic session per

RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an openmeeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Motion was seconded by Jessica and passed unanimously.

At 8:07 Jim motioned to come out of nonpublic, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed unanimously.

No decisions were made, no votes taken.

At 8:07 Jim motioned to go into nonpublic session per

RSA 91-A:3, II(e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against this board or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled

Motion was seconded by Jessica and passed unanimously.

At 8:14 Jim motioned to come out of nonpublic, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed unanimously.

No decisions were made, no votes taken.

FYI/No action needed

- Eversource bill for accident
- State of NH Construction Bureau pre-construction conference 6/8
- IRS notice of delinquent payroll tax – their error, will be corrected.

At 8:15 Jessica motioned to adjourn, seconded by Jim. Motion passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Padgett, Administrative Assistant