

## OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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## SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES February 28, 2024

Chairman Pitt called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Selectman Paight and Selectman Nelson were present. Also in attendance were Ellen Smith, Town Administrator, Drew Cullen, Roland Veaudry and Dustin Franco.

TA Smith gave a brief update on the crosswalk at Route 101 and Water Street. The lightbar and control panel need to be replaced. We are working with Hamblet Electric to order the necessary parts and update the signage to NHDOT current standards. Hamblet Electric has worked with the City of Keene on these systems and has installation experience.

Chief Byam and Craig Cashman were in to discuss the February 26, 2024, public hearing held to gather public input into possible traffic restrictions to be put in place as a result of NHDOT work on three bridges on Route 12 and the concerns over additional traffic on Webb Depot Road. Chairman Pitt gave an overview of the hearing and noted that three important things were achieved at the hearing:

- 1. A good description of the project was provided
- 2. An explanation of why the project causes concern with the possible additional traffic affecting Webb Depot Road
- 3. The options available

Selectman Nelson suggested starting with a less restrictive solution and monitoring it closely. Chairman Pitt asked the Chief if it could be ratcheted up if necessary. Chief Byam stated that it would require a grace period and education.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to close Webb Depot Road to through traffic with signage at the Webb Depot Road intersection with Route 12 and at the end of Thatcher Hill Road. The restriction will be monitored and adjusted if needed. The restriction will be in place for the duration of the NHDOT bridge repair work on Route 12 expected to run from mid-March to October. The vote to approve was unanimous.

There was a brief discussion about reducing speed limits and what that entails.

Chief Byam left the meeting at 10:55 am.

The board briefly discussed the draft PILOT agreement being considered for Ashuelot River Hydro, Inc. TA Smith forwarded the new management team a draft agreement and they returned it with some of the missing information added. Board members will review the document and will discuss it further next week.

The current policy regarding personal use of a cell phone on town time was discussed and what type of policy enforcement was in place. The group reviewed the "General Rules of Conduct" section of the Employee Handbook.

Craig Cashman and Drew Cullen left the meeting at 11:15 am.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to approve the February 29, 2024, Direct Deposit Register in the amount of \$13,279.06 and the Accounts Payable Register in the amount of \$108,433.86. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 21, 2024. The vote to approve was unanimous.

The Energy Committee requested that the board consider writing a letter to Senator Fenton regarding 2024 HB 1059 encouraging him to consider adding the Energy Code to the list of codes to be updated. The letter was reviewed and signed.

Chairman Pitt spoke about the last Planning Board meeting and the consultations they conducted.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 am. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Smith, Town Administrator