

APPROVED

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes @ The Levi Stewart Library's Jones Nutter Auditorium Wednesday, September 11, 2024 – 6 P.M.

Item 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER - FLAG SALUTE. Called to order by Chairman Dennis Carr, at 6:00PM, followed by the pledge.

- A. Board Members present:** Jim Emerson – Absent. Chairman Dennis Carr, Tony Bennett. Ralph McNaughton.
- B. Employees Present:** Lois Jones.
- C. Residents Present:** Jackie Emerson
- D. Non-Residents Present:** Randy Butler, Tim Sawtelle.

Item 2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS.

- A. Take Item 7A after Item 5.** Taken after Item 5. See notes below, under Item 7A.

Item 3. APPROVE MINUTES.

- A. August 28, 2024.** Selectman Bennett made a motion and Selectman McNaughton 2nd to approve the minutes, as written. All in favor.

Item 4. WARRANT AND PAYROLL DISCUSSIONS AND SIGNING.

- A. Payroll Warrant #37.** Selectman Bennett made a motion and Selectman McNaughton 2nd to approve warrants #37. All in favor.
- B. A/P Warrant#38.** Selectman Bennett made a motion and Selectman McNaughton 2nd to approve warrants #38. All in favor.

Item 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS. None.

Item 6. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Fire department request – additional lots.** Manager shared concerns that the Fire Chief has regarding the two remaining lots near the new fire station. He would like to be assured that the Board has no intentions of selling those lots. Manager stated that the Fire Chief was told it is unlikely that the Board will sell those lots.
- B. Roadside Mowing bid.** Manager received only one bid from Municipal Mowing LLC, for \$95/mile for 2025, 2026, and 2027. Also, the bid included for the landfill is \$325/year. Selectman Bennett made a motion and Selectman McNaughton 2nd to award the bid, with a notice of concern regarding using sharper blades, to Municipal Mowing, LLC. All in favor.
- C. GA Ordinance public hearing – set date.** Public Hearing date was set for the beginning of the next regular Board meeting, September 25th, 2024, at 6pm.

Item 7. OLD BUSINESS.

- A. Sunken Bridge discussion with Dirigo Engineering.** Mr. Butler and Mr. Sawtelle were once again present to discuss next steps with the Board. Mr. Sawtelle led the discussion and offered the following comments:
 - 1.** Mr. Sawtelle stated the Freedom Paving will provide excavation and Dirigo Engineering will provide assistance. Freedom Paving will be available some time in October.

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2. Dirigo Engineering will not charge for engineering and purchase of rods needed to bind drive surface concrete pieces together or time spent – not because they did anything wrong, but because it is one of their projects and want to see it through to the end.
3. Suggests dewatering may be necessary.
4. Described the fix as a “belt and suspenders” approach.
5. Stated the settlement is slowing down.
6. Dirigo Engineering will continue to monitor monthly.
7. Stated Freedom Paving is not contractually obligated to repair the bridge. It was unknown if Freedom Paving would charge or not.
8. Mr. Sawtelle will provide, in writing, what Dirigo Engineering is offering and willing to provide – within a week or less. He will also email a status update.
9. He stated a non-corrosive steel bar on the deck, from side to side, with a bearing plate on the outside. Also, placing a neoprene pad between the bearing plate and the bar to alleviate “point loads.” This should keep the pressure strength at 500psi, which is 10% of the total allowed. It is possible the bar could be standard bridge rebar (core 10 – “brown”), that corrodes to a point and then that corrosion protects the remaining rod. The idea is Freedom Paving would excavate the top deck and insert the rod. Nothing to tie it to the bottom sections, at this time. If needed at a later date, maybe tie the joints on the bottom.
10. Selectman McNaughton asked how much it has settled so far. Mr. Sawtelle answered ten inches on the east side, maybe five or six inches on the left side. It has been checked monthly, around the 25th. Selectman McNaughton stated this “fix” (the surface/top deck only) doesn’t change what’s underneath it.
11. Selectman McNaughton commented that Freedom Paving will need to provide proper documentation, insurance, etc, before anything would be allowed to proceed.

B. Land Use Ordinance amendments. (must be completed prior to Oct. 15th).

Manager needs to converse with the Planning Board to determine if they are happy with the proposed amendments and ready to present at a public hearing.

Item 8. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS. None.

Item 9. CORRESPONDENCE.

A. Property & Casualty Insurance Inspection report. The Town’s P&C insurance carrier completed an inspection on the new fire station, the playground, and the community center. There were only a few recommendations, Manager will respond and fix.

B. Community Resilience Partnership enrollment letter. The Town is now eligible to submit a grant application with the Community Resilience Partnership – which is increased to \$75,000, due November 8th, 2024.

Item 10. SELECTMEN CONCERNS.

A. Dennis – Asked about weed whacking at the Village Cemetery, by the rails – and if other cemeteries in the same condition. Also along the fence by the new playground at the community center. Manager will discuss with Public Works.

B. Jim – Absent

C. Tony – None.

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D. Ralph – Asked how Brandon was coming on his CDL training. Manager commented he has a few more hours to complete his permit requirements. He also inquired if Brandon has been offered to drive after mowing hours. Manager will speak with Brandon to obtain progress and goals.

Item 11. ADJOURN MEETING. Selectman Bennett made a motion and Selectman McNaughton 2nd to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois A. Jones
Town Manager