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**TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, January 23, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Present were Mr. Drake, Mr. Harvey, and Mr. Shaw (by phone).

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Administrator Mr. Davenport, Richard Morse & Scott Provencal

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Drake called the meeting of the Board to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Budget Hearing minutes of 1/7/25 and public minutes of 1/9/25 were held. Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to approve the non-public minutes of 1/16/25 (a). Vote was unanimous.

WORK SESSION: The Board reviewed/signed manifests, invoices, requisitions, purchase orders and leave request forms.

The Board reviewed the following Building Permit Applications approved by the Land Use Administrator:

1. Cody & Ellen Rideout; 64A Straits Rd; Map R10, Lot 19; extension of original permit.
2. Bradley Ober; 1114 Winona Rd; Map R18, Lot 39; convert portion of garage to finished space.
3. Jacob Cullen & Carly Fredrickson; 112 Town House Rd; Map R4, Lot 72; After-the-fact to convert portion of home to finished space. Mr. Shaw said he would like further information when someone files an after-the-fact building permit allowing the Board time to review them.

At 6:18 pm Fire Chief Cathy arrived.

OPEN ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Fish Hatchery Project Fish & Game (F&G) planning to begin demolition on 1/27. A Building Permit for Demolition has been submitted, along with plans, for the Selectmen to approve. NHDOT needs a temporary driveway permit and as this is a town road the Town must submit it. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Harvey said F&G had been advised the Town needed more information on traffic impact and safety precautions, prior to the Town filing for the required NHDOT driveway permit. There was discussion on requiring a bond so any damage to the Town's roadway could be repaired. Mr. Drake said Mr. Davenport should contact F&G to get further information. Mr. Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to table the demolition permit until such time that the Town gets enough information that the demolition and subsequent removal of material will be handled in a safe and effective manner for the townspeople. Mr. Drake reminded the Board that NHS has never had to go through a similar process for any of their major construction including large structures off Dr. Childs Road and Shingle Camp Hill Road and disagreed with holding up the demolition. On the motion, the vote was 2-1 to table the demolition.

APPOINTMENT: 6:30 pm Fire Chief Scott Cathy
Mr. Provencal & Mr. Morse left the non-public session.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: At 6:35 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(b) Hiring. A roll call vote was held: Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Harvey – Y, and Mr. Shaw (by phone) - Y. **PRESENT:** Mr. Drake, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Shaw (by phone), Mr. Davenport, and Chief Cathy.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION: At 6:38 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes for 5 years. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Provencal and Mr. Morse returned to the meeting. Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to hire Richard Dalphond as a per diem employee for the Fire Department upon completion of required documentation. Vote was unanimous.

- 52 • Chief Cathy reviewed his recommended Ambulance Write-offs and Collections; \$11,393.55 to go to
53 collections and \$1,796.65 to be written off. Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to authorize
54 these recommendations. Vote was unanimous.
- 55 • Chief Cathy advised that for 2024 the department had 707 calls (roughly 3% decrease) which included: 330
56 EMS calls, 304 fire calls, 73 MVA's (an increase). Chief said overall calls are more severe in nature. Mr.
57 Drake stated the Boards appreciation for the department personnel.
- 58 • Chief Cathy advised the State of NH is suing AFFF manufacturers for danger to personnel, looking to
59 compile a database of users on State grounds where trainees were exposed to Aqueous Film Forming foam
60 (AFFF). The Board asked Chief to compile a list of employees who had attended training using that foam,
61 understanding there may be difficulty with personnel being listed for more than one town.
- 62 • There was discussion on FD employees using Town vehicles to get food/snacks locally, and to be aware of
63 this public perception, suggesting a policy for when this use can be allowed.
- 64 • Update on responses on Municibid for the boat motor that was offered and has been very active.

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66 **OPEN ITEMS DISCUSSION** (cont.):

- 67 • Town House – 2nd quote obtained for tree removal from ArborTech at \$11,500 and Aerial Tree Service's
68 original quote will increase to \$5,800 for the 3 additional trees that need removal. The Board agreed to the
69 Aerial Tree Service quote and the purchase order was signed. Mr. Harvey asked Mr. Davenport to have the
70 Hwy Dept plow so Aerial Tree Service can reach the trees.

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72 **ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 73 ❖ Warrant Article Final review and vote of support:
 - 74 • Article #4: Fire Dept Engine Bond - will need to be amended at Deliberative Session with language
75 provided by Mr. Davenport. There was discussion that the Board didn't support this article as
76 written and are planning to amend it a Deliberative. Board voted 2-1 to recommend.
 - 77 • Article #6: To purchase and equip an F550 Hwy truck @ \$146,000 from the Town Capital
78 Equipment & Vehicle ETF. Mr. Harvey said he is unclear if this is to be a dumping, or non-
79 dumping flatbed, which can be discussed at Deliberative. Board voted 3-0 to recommend.
 - 80 • Article #7: Operating Budget - Default Budget @ \$3,459,425, reflecting a correction to the
81 language. Board voted 3-0 to recommend.
 - 82 • Article #9: Fire Dept Cardiac Monitor & CPR Device Replacement changed to add sentence that it
83 would be non-lapsing through 2027. Board voted 3-0 to recommend.
 - 84 • Article #10: Appropriate \$84,000 for a PD Cruiser, with \$10,000 from Police Special Detail
85 Revolving Fund, \$54,000 from Capital Equipment & Vehicle Expendable ETF, and \$20,000 raised
86 by taxation. Board voted 3-0 to recommend.
 - 87 • Article #14: Selling Tax Deeded property (Map R13, Lot 9) on Old Bristol Rd. Board voted 3-0 to
88 recommend.
 - 89 • Article #15: Keeping Tax Deeded land for Conservation (Map R8, Lot 1U); Mr. Davenport said
90 that legal counsel advised against taking money from a conservation fund to go into the general
91 fund. The Board asked that any changes that need to be made to recoup the back taxes should be.
92 After discussion the Board decided to vote 3-0 to recommend.
- 93 ❖ Deliberative Session – Mr. Davenport asked the Board if they wanted legal counsel present at the session,
94 as there was going to be an amendment on the floor and they agreed it wasn't necessary.
- 95 ❖ Board discussed a request by a resident on Firehouse Lane to place a mailbox on Intervale Drive because
96 the post office would not deliver on Firehouse Lane. The Board agreed to this placement.
- 97 ❖ Board reviewed enforcement letter to William Krueger from Mitchell Municipal Group, 432 Blake Hill Rd;
98 Some edits were provided.
- 99 ❖ Election & Appointment update of open officers filing period. Mr. Davenport is getting feedback from
100 Board and Commission members whose terms are expiring, to see if they're interested in reappointments
101 and will advertise all open positions.

- ❖ Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to accept the Highway Safety Grant in the amount of \$6,600. Vote was unanimous.
- ❖ FYI – Town of Andover Planning Board Notice for a cell tower.

New Business After Agenda Was Posted:

- Board signed a Voluntary Land Merger for 5 lots belonging to Ripple Realty LLC. - Map R-13, Lot 14, and Map R15, Lots 3, 7, 9A, & 12.
- FYI – Landfill December report
- FYI – Settlement Agreement approved for properties on Lindsay Lane. Relative to tax deeded property recently sold on Lang Drive, Mr. Davenport said the Town had miscalculated the amount due so the Town will correct that mistake and file a Bill of Interpleader for the remaining amount. The additional money should be revenue in 2025.
- Town Report – Mr. Davenport asked if the Board was agreeable to leaving organizational reports, as received, instead of formatting the Town Report to be similar throughout, for time savings. The Board was agreeable.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was none.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Provencal suggested the Board document everything that was said, and agreed to, by Fish & Game, relative to the project. Mr. Provencal and Mr. Morse left the meeting.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: At 7:59 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(b) Hiring. A roll call vote was held: Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Harvey – Y, and Mr. Shaw (by phone) - Y. **PRESENT:** Mr. Drake, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Shaw (by phone), and Mr. Davenport.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION: At 8:11 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes for 5 years. The vote was unanimous.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: At 8:12 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(a) Personnel. A roll call vote was held: Mr. Drake – Y, Mr. Harvey – Y, and Mr. Shaw (by phone) - Y. **PRESENT:** Mr. Drake, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Shaw (by phone), and Mr. Davenport.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION: At 8:20 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes for 5 years. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:21 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to adjourn the meeting. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Vose