

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

Thursday, January 9, 2025

MEMBERS

Present were Mr. Drake, Mr. Harvey, and Mr. Shaw (6:02 pm - by phone).

PRESENT:

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:

Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to approve the 12/19/24 public minutes as amended. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to approve the 1/2/25 (a) non-public minutes as amended. Vote was unanimous.

WORK SESSION:

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

The following Intent to Cut Wood was signed by the Board:

1. Linda Copping; Straits Road, Map R10, Lot 25A

OPEN ITEMS:

1. Tax Deeded Land – no update
2. Personnel Policy – Mr. Davenport received input from Town counsel who has some questions; will bring changes to Board. He asked if the board wants MLK Day as a holiday, confirming State agencies are closed. Board agreed to discuss at end of 2025.
3. Timber Harvest – no update
4. Fish Hatchery project – Mr. Davenport to take pictures of road; F&G has not provided info yet on status of Hatchery Lane, and types of traffic, etc. Mr. Davenport to follow up.
5. #17 Main St. property – Mr. Davenport said locks need replacement and to confirm utilities are shut off.
6. 911#'s – no update
7. Grants – no update.
8. Carter Mountain Rd unregistered vehicles – no update
9. Town House – no update
10. Drake Road – no update
11. Job Postings – Interviews scheduled with one new applicant.
12. Roads: HMA & Culverts – no update
13. Dr. Childs Rd discontinuance – NHS attorneys still reviewing MOU. Mr. Davenport to follow-up.
14. NHS PILOT – no update
15. Grant status of culvert replacement – Mr. Davenport to see if some grant monies will be coming available in 2025, and to also apply this to HMA and culverts. Mr. Harvey suggested culvert work should be determined. Mr. Drake said some newer culverts may need to be added to the inventory on record.
16. Dry Hydrants – no update
17. Coolidge Woods Rd erosion – no update

18. Nature Fitness Trail dog hours – Mr. Davenport has only obtained feedback from Town of Durham who has a leash law. Board held off on decision for more feedback. Mr. Harvey suggested that Mr. Davenport try to get a citizen committee formed for issues related to the Nature Fitness Trail.

ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Annual Town Report – Reminder to consider Dedication and Service Award recipients, and State of the Community (Selectmen’s report). Mr. Davenport to list highlights for 2024 for use in the report.
- Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to approve a Veteran Tax Credit for Michael & Veronica DeAngelis Trust; 323 Main Street Map R3, Lot 8D. Vote was unanimous.
- Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to appoint Barry Draper, as an Alternate member to the Conservation Commission.
- Board signed the 2024 Municipal Assessment Data Certificate for purposes of the Equalization Ratio Study.
- FYI – Auto Registrations for 2024.
- FYI – Wetland Permit for Ryan Despres; Beech Hill Road; Tax Map R6, Lot 13C.

New Business After Agenda Was Posted:

- Tax Collection update – roughly 32% of taxes have been received, with large escrow payment arriving 1/14/25. TAN is nearly paid off.
- Fire Chief Cathy’s request for disposal of Fire Equipment, 20+ years old and already removed from service, to be donated to Global Gear International: 14 SCBA bottles, 36 structural fire helmets, & 22 forestry helmets. The Board agreed to this request.
- Fire Chief Cathy’s request for disposal of outboard boat motor that was too costly to repair, suggesting it go to the transfer station. Board agreed to offer it on Municibid, with minimum bid at \$25. Mr. Drake asked about bikes that the PD had and whether they disposed of them at the transfer station – Mr. Davenport to follow up.
- Quick Med Claims Letter review: Board reviewed letter, which has been reviewed as acceptable by legal and the Fire Chief. Board agreed to Quick Med Claims sending this letter.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Mr. Harvey asked if Meredith was agreeable to purchasing the street sign for Spectacle Pond ROW. Mr. Davenport to follow up by phone, but said he advised the Hiltz’s that this sign will go up on their property.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Mr. Morse suggested that if the boat motor receives no bid, a local vocational school may be able to use it for training purposes.
- Mr. Provencal asked what the CAI invoice covered – Mr. Davenport advised it was a quarterly invoice per a contract for tax map updating.
- Mr. Provencal suggested a start date be noted for the “open items” list as many have been listed for a very long time and Mr. Drake said some of these are year’s old. Mr. Drake advised that grants should be better tracked to indicate not only what was granted, but what was denied.
- Mr. Provencal advised that there has been no clean-up of the vehicles stored at 3 Carter Mountain Road. Mr. Davenport said some regulations have changed relative to “junk yards,” with Town counsel working on this

problem. Mr. Drake said this needs to apply to all other properties in Town.

Members of the public left the meeting.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION:

At 7:12 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(l) Legal. 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 Steven Whitley, Bond Counsel (by phone at 7:13 PM).

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION:

Steven Whitley left the meeting at 7:35 PM. At 7:44 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 7:44 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c) Review of sealed minutes. 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 7:59 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to come out of non-public session and to open the sealed the minutes of 1/15/15, 1/22/15, 1/25/18, 1/17/19, 1/2/20(c), 1/2/20, and 1/9/20(b). The vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:
(cont.)

- Relative to Mr. Cote wanting a flatbed truck instead of a dump body, Mr. Harvey said it would be lighter, versatile and less costly, but wouldn't have a hoist system so there are advantages and disadvantages.
- Mr. Drake advised he's seen the Town's ambulance and forestry truck at locations in Town and the Board agreed personnel need to use their own vehicles to run errands. Mr. Davenport to advise department heads to utilize their personal vehicles in these situations.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:11 PM, Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Harvey to adjourn the meeting. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Vose