

Selectboard Minutes

May 16, 2023

Present: Jennifer Jones, chair  
Andy Artimovich, vice-chair  
Russ Kelly  
Paul Kleinman  
Jon Morgan (via zoom)

At 6pm, Jones called the meeting to order.

The Board signed the payroll and accounts payable summary register.

Artimovich motioned, seconded by Kelly, to accept the consent agenda which consisted of recreation manifest, 1<sup>st</sup> Issue Tax Warrant for tax bills due July 3, treasurer's report (found at the end of these minutes), and the following building permits:

- Kenneth & Erika Brown, 77 North Road, Building
- Johnson Family Revocable Trust, 30 Robinson Street, Electrical
- Denise Kysor, 442 Middle Road, Building
- Shannon & Lucas Adams, 13 Northrup Drive, Solar
- Shannon & Lucas Adams, 13 Northrup Drive, Electrical
- Kimberly Monaco & Jason Irwin, 5 Merrill Circle, Minor Project
- Gregory & Annette Robie, 452 Middle Road, Minor Project
- 3 Ponds LLC, 87 Three Ponds Drive, Electrical
- Kelly Goodrich, 16 Autumn Lane, Minor Project

All four were in favor.

Artimovich motioned, seconded by Kelly, to allow Jon Morgan to attend remotely. All were in favor.

Jones opened the meeting to public comment. There was no public comment offered by those in attendance.

Chief Ventura, Brentwood Police Chief, was present to share the newest information on the Route 125 and South Road intersection and the Road Safety Audit (RSA) with the board. Ventura read a letter received from the NH DOT regarding the 2023 RSA program which stated that Route 125 and South Road has been selected to be audited by an interdisciplinary team. Ventura encouraged those in attendance to continue to use their voices in an effort to bring change to the intersection. He thanked the board and town for their support.

Jones stated there was a vote at the last board meeting to send a letter to the governor. She asked Ventura if he believes the board should continue to hold off on submitting that letter. It was Chief Ventura's recommendation to wait. Jones asked Morgan how he felt about the plan because it was his motion to send the letter. Morgan stated the board supports Ventura and his safety of the town. He believes if Chief Ventura recommends the board wait, they should wait to send the letter.

Karen Clement, Town Administrator, shared with the board that Lieutenant Doty applied for a grant for an in-car radar unit for the new cruiser which was accepted. She explained the radar unit was slated to be paid for through the detail fund. The amount of the grant was \$2,137.50 with a match of \$712.50. Clement informed the board it would offset the cost of an already approved amount. Two board members signed the grant amendment notice and three signed the scope of work. Clement explained she would have to post a public hearing to accept the grant because the Highway Safety Grant increased from \$8,200 to \$10,337.50 and now exceeds the \$10,000 threshold.

Jones asked what the \$8,200 grant is for. Clement explained it is the safety grant for increased patrol on Route 125. The grant

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will help cover the overtime for the officers to perform speed enforcement on Route 125.

Kleinman asked if the increased enforcement has resulted in more tickets. Ventura responded the State Troopers offered manpower for the first few weeks but explained they have too much territory to cover just a section of Route 125. The Sheriff's department has also helped with additional patrol of Route 125, according to Ventura. He explained Brentwood PD has stopped over 500 cars in a month. He is unsure the ratio of stops to tickets, but shared there is an attempt to change driving habits.

Ventura added there are currently temporary signs on Route 125. Jim Michaud, Route 125, asked what the plan is for Route 125 (and South Road intersection). Ventura responded he hopes the outcome will be a light with a turning lane and explained the Road Safety Audit will determine what happens. Kleinman stated he would like to see the speed limit reduced. Ventura explained there would have to be a reduction in speed if a traffic light is installed. He shared the average speed is 63MPH in the 55MPH section.

Wayne Robinson, road agent, was present to discuss signage for Class VI roads. Artimovich, as rep to the Conservation Commission, shared the committee has voted, at their last meeting, to withdraw their request for signs to be placed on the Class VI roads. Robinson stated he believes the signs go against the NH RSA which prevents towns from spending money on Class VI roads.

There was continued discussion about signs. Robinson stated the Selectboard has the power to put the signs up. He explained some surrounding towns do not put any signs up and others do post on Class VI roads. Artimovich believes there are some signs posted on Class VI roads already. Kleinman asked if Robinson is suggesting signs be posted. Jones asked if the Conservation Commission is interested in posting any signs. Artimovich answered they were not and reiterated they voted to withdraw their request.

Artimovich motioned, Kelly seconded, to accept the retraction of Conservation Commission's request to post signs. Jones – aye; Artimovich – aye; Morgan – aye; Kelly – aye; Kleinman – aye.

Jones requested follow-up information on the Block5 quote. Clement responded that the quote which was just under \$500 was for labor to install a secondary WAN. She explained Comcast cannot offer higher speeds and she will be working with Block5 to price out a potentially different option.

Jones spoke about information on Consolidated Communications. She shared they have sold all their poles in Brentwood to PSNH. She asked if the change has any tax impact on Brentwood. Clement responded all the poles will need to be transferred to the utility. She added the pole license has been signed by Daphne Woss Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Jones asked if the town had done their part. Clement responded they had and added PSNH will need to submit a PA-81 and then file it annually.

Jones asked about the contract/document from MunicipalOne. Clement responded MunicipalOne was agreeable to all the town's terms and conditions including allowing NH to be the legal state of jurisdiction in a dispute and they have made/accepted all the other requested changes. Jones asked if the contract was officially signed. Clement responded it was officially signed and the site should be completed 45 days from the date of execution.

Jones shared the town received a Regional Impact Letter from the town of Kingston for 249 Route 125. She explained they are requesting to build a 10-gas pump, 2 diesel pump gas station and convenience store. Jones explained because there is an aquifer under the property that is shared with Brentwood and East Kingston, there will be a meeting for abutters on June 1 at 7pm at Kingston Town Hall. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Kleinman believes the board should gather available information and will do his best to be there.

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Jones asked if board members had any changes or suggestions to the Selectboard handbook. Artimovich motioned, seconded by Kelly, to approve the updated handbook. Jones – aye; Artimovich – aye; Morgan – abstain; Kelly – aye; Paul – aye. Kleinman stated he heard feedback from some people about the formality of being on a committee and the structure of joining a board. He feels there's some rigidity to the process.

Artimovich shared that he attended his Conservation Commission meeting. He shared the commission is diligently working on conserving some properties. Jones asked if the chairperson would be coming to an upcoming selectboard meeting to offer an update status. Becky Dunham, Block Drive, asked if that update would be done in non-public. Jones responded it would be a general update with no property locations divulged.

Morgan shared Economic Development held its first quarterly breakfast and the Plan NH community engagement event. He said he was pleased with the results and felt the meetings went well.

Morgan also offered an update from the budget committee meeting. He explained the group reviewed several items including the cuts that were made as a result of Town Meeting. Budget Committee will be meeting with department heads.

Kelly shared his update from the Library Trustees Meeting. He expressed how fortunate the town is to have a knowledgeable and dedicated group. He explained the trustees are reassessing the amphitheater plans and working on raising funds.

Communications Subcommittee review was provided by Kelly. He explained the committee is working on the website, looking into AV improvements to make recommendations, writing up social media guidelines, and working on a voter's guide.

Energy & Efficiency Subcommittee meeting had not occurred since the last Selectboard meeting according to Kelly. He will ask Rick Labrecque, Chairperson, to update the Selectboard at a future board meeting.

Kelly thanked Joyce Keegal, cemetery superintendent, and Officer Josh Turner for the Arkell Memorial event. He thanked Chief Ventura for his remarks.

Kelly offered a shout out to Swasey, being recognized as a top elementary school in NH.

Kelly's last update had to do with a plan currently being formulated regarding offering some kind of debate panel for SB2 to possibly be held in the fall. He shared he would like to potentially hear from a panel including the Moderator and people from other SB2 towns to discuss the pros and cons of the vote to become an SB2 town. Kelly explained this is something he is just beginning to formulate and consider.

Kleinman had no new updates.

Kelly added the Plan NH event went well and thanked Morgan, Doug Finan, and others for their work on the event. Jones shared the same sentiment.

Jones stated the school board has not met since the last Selectboard meeting. She shared Swasey was awarded the Best Elementary School in NH honors.

Janice Wiers, library director, shared there is a Brentwood resident named Peg Dawson who was awarded lifetime achievement for school psychology.

At 6:44pm, Artimovich motioned to go to non-public for reputation. Kelly seconded the motion. Artimovich – aye; Morgan – aye; Kelly – aye; Kleinman – aye; Jones – aye.

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At 7:24pm, Artimovich motioned, seconded by Kelly to seal the minutes and go into public session. All were in favor.

At 7:24 pm, Artimovich motioned, seconded by Kelly to adjourn. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamera Peek

WEEKLY TREASURER'S REPORT				
<b>DATE:</b>		<b>5/16/2023</b>		
<b>General Fund:</b>		<b>TD BANK</b>		
Previous Balance:		3,278,686.83		
Deposits:		46,646.06		
Payroll:		31,769.44	DDP: \$31,769.44	
			CHK: \$	
FICA:		7488.96		
A/P:		199,673.63	Reg A/P Cks \$18,673.63	NHRS \$
			Swasey \$181,000.00	CO-OP: \$
Transfer to Impact Fees				
Transfer from GF to Rec				
Voided Check				
Account Balance:		3,086,400.86		
Interest Earned YTD:		50,792.75		
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Joyce A. Gallant, Treasurer				