

Selectboard Minutes
August 6, 2024

Present: Jenn Jones, chair
Andy Artimovich
Jon Morgan
Paul Kleinman
Letty Bedard

At 4:00pm, Jones called the meeting to order.

Artimovich motioned, seconded by Morgan, to sign the appointment slip for Joseph Giroux as a full-time officer of the Brentwood Police Department.

Chief Ventura, police chief, welcomed everyone in attendance. Chief Ventura described the importance of a swearing-in ceremony and celebrating officers' accomplishments. Officer Giroux was pinned by his brother Ricky.

The Board signed the payroll and accounts payable summary register. Jones stated accounts payable was higher than normal, Clement stated that was due to paving expenses.

Kleinman motioned, seconded by Morgan, to accept the consent agenda which consisted of public minutes from July 16th, the recreation manifest, the treasurer's report (found at the end of these minutes), and the following building permits:

- Ekachai Ngamcharoenthana, 9 Peabody Drive, Electrical
- River Run Development, 5 Taylor Circle, Electrical
- Brian & Jessica Duffy, 3 Rousseau Lane, Plan Examination
- Brentwood Trading, LLC, 437 Route 125, Plan Examination

All were in favor. Motion passed.

At 4:10pm, Jones opened the meeting up to public comment. Seeing none, Jones closed public comment at 4:10.

The Board discussed Recreation Commission alternate positions. The original rec alternates were Val Rogers and David Menter, they were appointed last year for a term that will conclude at the end of 2024. The Selectboard has been working to get all appointment terms to end in the summer. The Board can either extend the terms for Rogers and Menter to summer 2025, which the Rec Commission is in favor of or the Board may choose to end those terms and appoint new alternates. There were 2 additional applicants. Morgan noted that one of the new applicants is a grant writer, the Town is in need of a grant writer, Morgan is looking forward to speaking with her. Kleinman suggested finding or creating other volunteer positions for the applicants. Jones asked how the number of Rec alternates was decided on, Clement stated that has always been the need. Morgan stated that the need for more rec alternates has not been a topic of conversation. Bedard motioned, seconded by Artimovich to extend the terms for Val Rogers and David Menter from December 2024 to June 30, 2025, all were in favor, motion carried.

Clement had appointment slips for the inspectors of election, their terms will expire August 1, 2026. These positions are usually put forward by the two political parties and are typically split between the two. Artimovich motioned, seconded by Bedard to appoint Carl Adler, Kathy Beggin, Carol Belliveau, Jillian Benedix, Carolyn Cocklin, Katie Coppola, Tracey Descouteaux, Rebecca Dunham, Sally Finan, Heather Gilbert, Elizabeth Ibbitson, Gabrielle Kelly, Michelle Siudut, Robert Span and Robin Wrighton to the position of Inspector of Election for a term ending August 1, 2026, Artimovich – aye, Morgan – abstain, Kleinman – aye, Bedard – aye, Jones – aye, motion carries.

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Clement is in receipt of a Pole License for Public Service New Hampshire, dba Eversource to install a new pole on North Road. Artimovich motioned, seconded by Morgan to sign the pole license, all were in favor, motion carried.

Clement is in receipt of a Hawker's and Peddler's License for Marilis Kelaniena, she is looking to sell education materials. Clement states that she has completed her background check and paid the fee, PD has no issues. Jones asked when she plans to be in Brentwood, Clement stated that she would like to start as soon as possible. Artimovich asked if there were set times when she is allowed to knock on residents' doors. There was a small discussion. The Board agreed to Monday-Saturday 10am-6pm. Artimovich motioned seconded by Morgan to sign the amended Hawker's and Peddler's License, all were in favor, motion carried.

Clement provided the Board with the Timber Tax Warrant; Clement stated it is for 4 of the Intent to Cuts that were conducted in the last tax year. The Warrant is \$2182.60. Clement stated there is one more coming but has not received their report of wood cut. Artimovich motioned, seconded by Morgan to sign the warrant, all were in favor, motion carried. Bedard asked where that money went, Jones and Clement stated it goes to the General Fund.

Clement is in receipt of an Elderly Exemption, she recommends it be denied, as the applicant exceeds the income limitation for that tax year. Artimovich motions to deny the elderly exemption based on the fact that the applicant does not meet the established criteria, Morgan seconds, all in favor, motion carried. Kleinman asked about the income limitations. Clement explained that when people file their taxes they have a gross income and an adjusted gross income and people will apply when their adjusted gross income is below the \$50,000 limit. Clement stated that the statute is written so that a person's net income is basically their gross income, and the only thing netted out of it is life insurance payments.

Clement provided the Board with a Veteran's Exemption, she recommends it be denied as the applicant does not meet the residency requirements. According to the statute a person must live in New Hampshire for 1 year prior to the tax year that they are applying for. Clement added that this person will be eligible to reapply next year. Artimovich motions the denial, seconded by Bedard, all in favor, motion carried.

Clement provided the Board with 6 new Veteran Credit approvals. Clement states they have all been reviewed and meet the criteria. Artimovich motions to sign the approvals, seconded by Bedard, all in favor, motion carried.

Morgan asked Clement about the possibility of expanding the Recreation Center's parking into the Eversource easement, states he has observed several other towns with parking under the powerlines. Clement stated that easements are granted in perpetuity and that easement does not have meets and bounds, it is based off acreage, so as long as they have that specific amount of acreage and access, the Rec should be able to move it slightly. Morgan stated he does not want to move the easement, he would just like the ability to park cars where there is nothing. Morgan used Dover as an example, he stated they have soccer fields and a parking lot immediately underneath the high-tension wires. Morgan states he is not looking to put fields there, just parked cars, so that Eversource can maintain access. Artimovich suggested investigating how large of a radius is needed around the substation. The Board invited Rebecca Dunham, Conservation Commission Chair, to speak to this. Dunham stated there is a management plan for that property as there are vernal pools and wetlands, and concerns for endangered wildlife species in that area. Dunham would recommend referring to the management plan. Dunham and Morgan will meet at a later date to discuss.

Morgan stated that the next Economic Development Business Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, August 13th at 8am at the Brentwood Rec Center. The guest speaker will be Chase Hagaman, he is the Director of Economic Development for the New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs.

Bedard gave a Planning Board update. Bedard stated that the Planning Board appointed a new alternate, Liz Faria, for a term of 1-year. Benedix will assist with the appointment slip. Bedard stated that the Planning Board discussed the "Green Snow

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Initiative.” The new River Run development along the Exeter River will be following the Green Snow guidelines, some members of the Planning Board would like to see these practices utilized throughout town. Benedix stated that there is not currently a Green Snow certificate available for municipalities. The Green Snow Initiative encourages environmentally friendly, reduced and coated salt practices.

Bedard gave an update on the Municipal Building Committee, there was a Question-and-Answer Session with Chief Ventura, it was not well attended. Bedard stated they are looking at 3 different renderings of building placement and layout. Bedard stated that a space needs assessment was done, and it is estimated that a building of approximately 21,000 square feet is needed. The current building is approximately 10,000 square feet. Bedard stated this information is available on the Town website.

Bedard also attended the Rec meeting recently, she stated that their septic pump failed, it has been repaired. She stated the Rec Commission is concerned there is not enough parking on site. Bedard asked about improving the condition of the land that was cleared earlier this year to allow for more parking. Morgan stated that the stumping of that area has not yet been discussed, it is not a likely possibility at this time. Morgan stated that the Rec can look into getting a quote for the stumping of that area. Bedard also stated that the Rec Commission voted in favor of doing a feasibility study for a large gym/community building. Morgan stated that he is meeting with Kip Kaiser next week to start this process.

Jones stated that the Budget Committee’s most recent site walk was at the rec, Jones stated that Andy Gray did a great job explaining the needs of the Rec. The next site walks will be at the highway at 6pm, Monday, August 12th, and at the library 6pm, Monday, September 26th. Jones added that the Budget Committee is also considering a pseudo site walk in the General Government Department.

Bedard asked for an update on the mold in the Police Department. Clement stated that they are getting quotes from vendors, and also relocating the officer’s work area, to another area in the building.

At 4:59pm, Artimovich motioned, seconded by Bedard, to enter nonpublic for hiring. Artimovich – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye; Bedard – aye; Jones – aye. Motion passed.

At 5:23pm, Bedard motioned to come out of non-public and seal the minutes, 2nd by Kleinman. Artimovich – aye; Morgan – aye; Kleinman – aye; Bedard – aye; Jones – aye. Motion passed.

At 5:23 pm Bedard made a motion, 2nd by Kleinman to adjourn. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jillian Benedix