



TOWN OF DEERING
762 Deering Center Road
Deering, NH 03244

Board of Selectmen Meeting
August 18th, 2022
Minutes
7:00pm

Members Present: Roy Watson, Bill Whisman, Jill Smith

BoS MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance:

Presentation of the Fire Department Study Committee to the BOS

- Report of the Fire Department Study Committee: EMS Services
 - Town Administrator Julius Peel presented to the BOS the findings of the Fire Department Study Committee. In his presentation J. Peel focused on the intent of this meeting, what the charge of the FDSC was, the committees review of the 2015 fire department study, building repairs/maintenance and the overall cost of changing EMS staffing. The materials for this meeting can be found on the Deering website under the FDSC tab. The board reviewed the materials and after a few questions to the members of the FDSC, the BOS expressed that they would organize a public hearing to discuss these materials with the public in further detail prior to making any decisions on the matter. The presented materials can be found on the Deering website using the link below.
 - <https://www.deering.nh.us/fire-department-study-committee>
- 5 Minute Recess

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda:

- a. Minutes Aug 4th
- b. Minutes Aug 15th

Bill Whisman asked that the minutes be changed to correct the spelling of Tricia to Trisha. Jill Smith asked that the heading be amended to reflect minutes, include members present and that the minutes reflect that she suggested the signature spot for the TA on the AP manifest.

Roy Watson motioned to approve the Minutes with amendments. Seconded by Bill Whisman. All in Favor. The motion passes.

- c. Employee Payroll Aug 10th
- d. Employee Payroll Aug 17th
- e. AP Manifest Aug 18th
- f. Intent to Cut
- g. Primex CAP Program

Roy Watson noted that Jill Smith had asked to have the Class 6 Road agreement for Ellsworth Road removed from the consent agenda. Previously TA Peel had advised the Board that the Code

Enforcement Officer was responsible for addressing issues regarding non-conforming lots and two dwelling units on a single lot. She expressed that she had a conversation with Mike Borden about the lot. J. Peel explained the history of this lot and its standings with the Planning Board. After discussion, the board approved the permit, subject to the restriction of no commercial, residential dwelling unit or short-term rental businesses being operated out of the location. Motion made by Roy Watson, seconded by Jill Smith. All in favor. The motion passed.

Bill Whisman motions to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roy Watson seconds. All in favor. The motion passes.

New Business:

- Statement from the Board Regarding Stealing at the Highway Department
 - Roy Watson explained that during this last month, there was a report submitted to a selectmen from a member of the public accusing staff of stealing materials from the garage. Roy continued by stating that all claims are taken very seriously by the town and thus an investigation was established. It was concluded through this investigation that the employee did not steal from the highway garage. Roy concludes by stating that at this point this matter is closed and asks that all members of the public with serious claims such as these approach the town through proper channels rather than continuing to spread rumors.
- Continuation of Discussion Regarding GraniteGrok Article
 - Roy Watson explained that during the last meeting he had approached the board about an article written about SAU 34 by GraniteGrok. Roy continued by stating that it is not the role of the BOS to effect other bodies of government like the school board, but that it is the role of each resident to inquire about concerns that they have. Roy recommended that anyone with concerns about this article attend the upcoming School Board meeting to better educate themselves prior to jumping to conclusions about the material.

Old Business:

- Town Hall Residing Proposal (Review of Proposal)
 - B. Whisman explained to the board that during the last meeting they had discussed the residing of the townhall, but explained that after reviewing the topic further he believed that the town should maintain the same vendor for a project even though it may span a few years. R. Watson expressed the importance of continuity for its vendors, noting that otherwise vendors would not submit proposals for the work the town needs completed. J. Smith agreed with the other members of the board, but explained that the board has requested other departments to obtain multiple vendors per bid policy. The board should abide by its Bid Policy as well.
 - Bill Whisman motioned to accept the Residing Proposal from Hardwick for \$47,250. Seconded by Roy Watson. All in Favor. The motion passes.
- Meeting with James Gallagher: Reservoir Update
 - Roy Watson, J Smith, and J. Peel presented a short synopsis of the BOS' meeting with James Gallagher from NHDES. Reference the meeting minutes of 8-15-22 for further detail.
- Safety Day: October First
 - B. Whisman explained that after working with the PD's assistant, they determined that the Safety Day would begin at 10:00AM on October 1st and would end at 2:00PM. Brian continued by explaining that he reached out to the Bel Aires to see if they would quote him for the performance. The Bel Aires said they would do the event for \$1,200 to perform from 11:00PM to 1:00PM on that Saturday.
 - Bill motions to expend \$1,200 from the clement arts fund for the payment of the Bel Aires. Seconded by Roy Watson. All in favor. The motion passes.
- 250th Committee:

- Jill Smith asked the board and J. Peel what the status of the 250th committee was. J. Peel explained that there were currently members appointed to the board, but there was no chair, so it is currently awaiting the organizing of its members to create its first meeting date. J. Smith recommended establishing an Ex Officio to represent the board until a chair can be established.
- Bill Whisman motioned to appoint Roy Watson as the Ex Officio to the 250th committee. Seconded by Jill Smith. Roy Watson abstains. The motion passes 2-1.

BOS/ Administrator Comments:

- Bid for the Highway Truck.
 - J. Peel explained that the bid for the highway vehicle had been unsuccessful and noted that the \$5,000 was a steep asking price and asked if the board would be willing to decrease the amount to 3,000.
 - Bill Whisman motioned to change the bid rate from \$5,000 to 3,000. Seconded by Roy Watson. All in favor. The motion passes.
- Truck Show at the Airport
 - J. Peel explained that the Truck show would be this weekend from Saturday until Sunday and that the Deering Fire Department Auxiliary group would be there selling breakfast as a fundraiser.
- Purchase of Radio Equipment through GOFFER
 - J. Peel explained that during this last week he was notified that the town was approved by the Governor's Office for the purchase of the radios that he had applied for. He noted that although they were approved, he would have to first purchase the radios and then submit those confirmations to the state before they could be apportioned out. Julius noted that he would need some time to determine the appropriate location to apply this to, but would get back to the board with further information. Bill Whisman recommended approving the expenditure now to expediate the receipt of the funds and the equipment prior to the chief's departure.
 - Bill Whisman motions to approve the necessary expenditure from the Police Vehicle and Fire Department Vehicle capital reserve fund to allow for the purchase of the new radios to then be matched by the states GOFFER funds.
- State Representative Candidates: Suzanne Kane and Karen Reid. Spoke with Jamie Pike
 - J. Peel presented to the board a request from Suzanne Kane to attend an upcoming BOS meeting to inquire about the needs of the community. The board agreed that they would table this concern until a later meeting so that they can determine the proper process of addressing this matter.
- Bill Whisman: Compliments to Committees and Staff
 - Bill Whisman expressed to the community members present that volunteers and staff are what makes the town operate on a day-to-day basis. He explained that without staff operations within the town would begin to fail quickly. B. Whisman thanked the staff for what they do and asked that they continue making Deering a better place.

Other Business:

- Stephen Fogelson, Treasurer, expressed that he was not happy with the statement given by the board regarding stealing at the highway garage and explained that he had issues with the process taken by the board when dealing with employees. R. Watson expressed that this matter had been reviewed by the board and has been deemed finished. Stephen explained that he understands that the accusations about the staff were proven false by the board, but emphasized that there was far too much gossip about a private town matter being discussed by the public and wanted to know what the board was doing to remedy this leak. J. Peel explained that no member of the board currently believes that this employee had done anything related to these allegations. J. Peel continued that the board had reached out to legal counsel to discuss this matter and during this discussion was retrained on the importance of sealing non-public minutes and NH's privacy laws as determined by 91:A. S. Fogelson asked if there was any anticipated liability because of these accusations. J. Peel explained no matter what the

board may be doing, there will always be some level of liability, but explained that from the guidance of the attorney, there is currently little to no liability remaining from this matter.

- Peter Beard stated that he plans on attending the next few BOS meetings to continue to remind the board to go out to Bid earlier. Mike Stone explained that he had concerns with bidding further out as when doing so, companies will often increase the costs for the town. Jill Smith asked how Brian manages which roads are reconstructed and which ones he would be working on next. B. Houghton explained that he has a plan drafted internally but explained that there was a road study done a few years back and it exists at the townhall for anyone to review. Jill Smith asked if there was a current plan and Brian Houghton stated there was and it was upstairs.
- Katie Lavoie asked the board if they would continue to allow her to decorate the front of the townhall. The board agreed and noted that she could work with the TA to have the water spicket turned on for when she needs it.
- Tom Copadis expressed that he had concerns with the actions of selectmen Smith. He noted the last few meetings and specifically explained his concerns with how she spoke to Julius Peel and Carol Baker.

Non-Public:

Adjourn: Motion to Adjourn at 8:54PM by Roy Watson. Seconded by Bill Whisman. All in Favor. The motion passes.

MEETINGS:

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be held on September 1st, 2022

Submitted by Julius Peel, Town Administrator.



BOS Meeting Sign in Sheet

NAME	Reason for Attending
DOUG + GALE LALMOND	Carol + Charlie Baker
GARY + PAHY SAMUELS	Brian Wright
PATRICK MURPHY	MIKE STONE
THOMAS J. GARDNER	Whisman
OLIVER STONE	Alejandra Whisman
SOM IVANOV	Phil Bouchard
ERIC IVANOV	Kristin Bouchard
WILLIAM ELLIOTT BEARD	Walter Lawrie
EDWARD HAY	IAN KIM
TEDDY SOLE	Polly Aruck
DONALDSON	ROB CILIC
JOHN [unclear]	Kris Parelo
KAY HARTNETT	Karen [unclear]
KEVIN [unclear]	
SEAN HERFORD	
JACQUELINE SAWYER	
STEPHEN DIAS	