

**Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, October 16, 2023**

These minutes were transcribed by Angela Eldridge, Secretary. Selectman Martha B. Eldridge was in attendance, Selectman Jonathan H. Smith was in attendance and Selectman Susan J. Simpson was in attendance. Matthew Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, and T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director, were also in attendance. The meeting was held in the Bub Avery Gymnasium at Town Hall.

Call to Order/Roll Call: Completed in the Work Session.

Smith reconvened the meeting at 4:17 PM.

Smith opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input:

Dallas Emery mentioned that he checked into the poll pad election machines, and he found out that LHS Services is Dominion. He mentioned that he isn't crazy about using Dominion and has concerns about internet usage. He also mentioned that people have a bad taste in their mouths about the company. He is concerned that if it is hooked up to the internet then it can be hacked. Smith agreed and said it is against state law to be connected to the internet. Brief discussion ensued.

Meeting Minutes:

M. Eldridge made a motion to approve the Work-Session Minutes for 10/10/2023. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

M. Eldridge made a motion to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes for 10/02/2023. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifest:

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 10/17/2023 in the amount of \$44,204.57. The General Fund is \$27,692.11. Fire Precincts is \$146,029.86. The school payment is \$659,976.00. The water accounts payable are in the amount of \$1,195.16. The sewer accounts payable are \$850.00. The total was \$888,308.50. M. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Review of Red Folder:

The Board received a Sewer Warrant for \$11,022. Simpson made a motion to approve. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a Water & Sewer Warrant for \$134.46. Simpson made a motion to approve. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Huggins Hospital, Map 132, Lot 040. DRA recommends granting exemption with the exception of the apartment on the second floor. They meet the definition of charitable. Smith made a motion to approve as read with the exception of the second-floor apartment. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a Notice of Decision from the Zoning Board for case# 23-09-V. The Belcher Family Trust c/o Paul & Donald Belcher Trustee's for 82 Deer Cove Road, Tax Map 037, Lot 010 was granted a Variance regarding front, side and rear setbacks, lot coverage, and greenspace to demo existing house and construct a new house with a deck, septic system and well.

The Board received a Notice of Decision from the Zoning Board for case# 23-02-SE. The Mark Hannigan & Roland Park Association Survey Engineer, Jim Rines of White Mountain Survey, Tax Map 103, Lot 012 was granted a Special Exception to reconstruct a non-conforming tennis structure.

The Board received a letter and Smith read it into the record. The letter states that it represents multiple residents on Foggs Ridge Road. They are requesting vehicle speed reduction to 25 MPH as well as signs, including a stop sign. After Smith read the letter, he advised that he is not opposed to changing it. M. Eldridge mentioned that they need to make sure the Police Department is aware. Smith said they have to make a motion to lower it first. Smith made a motion to lower the speed limit on Foggs Ridge Road to 25 MPH and the signage will be the responsibility of the Public Works Director. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Smith asked Matt to give the letter to T.J. Eldridge and have him discuss with the Police Department more enforcement on that road. The Public Works Director will address the sign request as well.

Old Business:

None Presented.

New Business:

None Presented.

Second Public Input:

Dallas Emery said that he doesn't think lowering the speed limit by 5 MPH will make a difference. He said he has lived on this street for 25 years and the limit is 30 MPH, and it doesn't make a difference. He also mentioned that posting signs won't make a difference. Smith said he appreciates his input. Emery said 25 MPH is too slow. Smith said the speed limit will need to be followed as posted, which will be 25 MPH.

Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, asked when they will want to do the public hearing for the Power Aggregation. Smith said that Sawyer Jr. can work with them directly to get that scheduled. Discussion ensued.

The next Budget Meeting is October 18, 2023, at 6:30PM at the Freight House.

Smith advised the public to standby for an agenda for the next Selectmen's Meeting.

Ed Comeau reminded Smith about something he wanted to discuss at this meeting, possibly regarding the Police. Smith advised that it was the Charitable Exemption previously mentioned that he wanted to discuss. Discussion ensued.

Adjournment:

Being no further input, Smith made a motion to adjourn. M. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Adjourned at 4:28 PM.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Susan J. Simpson

Martha B. Eldridge

To be approved at the next Selectmen's Meeting