

**MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Friday, August 02, 2024**

**SELECTMEN PRESENT:** Mark Avery (MA), Tim Burt (TB), Susan Ossoff (SO)

**OTHERS:** Eric Fiegenbaum (EF), Deb Ahlstrom (DA), Mat Paugh, Road Agent

**Correspondence:**

- A letter from NH DOT on the estimated Highway Block Grant to Madbury (\$56,900) for their July 2024 to June 2025 fiscal year was noted.
- A funding request from the Maine Center for Wildlife will be addressed with other funding requests during the budget process.

**SIGN:** payroll, accounts payable

**MINUTES:** TB moved and SO seconded a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2024 as amended. Motion passed.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- none

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- DA continues to work on scheduling budget meetings.
- EF will email Gintovts (301 Knox Marsh Rd) and their lawyer *to reply to their request* to say that they can have a sixty-day extension to reply to the zoning matter.
- The Building Inspector's updated fees document was reviewed. EF will work on a final draft with Justin Corrow to present for ~~approval~~ review. It was suggested that a public hearing ~~might~~ *could* be held to adopt the new fee schedule.
- A response letter *to questions asked by the Select Board* from the Lawson Group was reviewed. MA reported that Chief McGann was comfortable with the Lawson Group and their proposal to do environmental testing at the Safety Complex. TB moved and SO seconded a motion to accept the Lawson Group proposal to monitor the Safety Complex for \$7,685 and EF will continue to coordinate the project. Motion passed. TB moved and SO seconded a motion to request \$7,685 from the Wentworth Gift Grant for the environmental monitoring of the Safety Complex by the Lawson Group and have EF sign the request to the trustees. Motion passed.
- EF will ask how the amount for the "Home for Now" funding request to Madbury was determined.
- MA will write a solicitation for the Madbury Post regarding the need for volunteers for the Public Works Planning Committee.

**BOARD and DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

- Road Agent, Mat Paugh, spoke with the Select Board on a number of topics. He has the authority to deal with dangerous trees, but an "on call" agreement with a tree company *that he presented* will need further consideration. There was a recommendation to talk with Jay Moriarty on a possible change to the typical salt/sand mix. He is cleaning ditches, but keeping as much vegetation filtering as possible. He noted the necessity of letting sunlight through the tree canopy to dry roads and shoulders. He is working at getting some

tree work done on Jenkins Rd before the planned grind and repave. His hope is to remove the trees first, as that is cheaper than after paving. He has a quote in the amount of \$345,485 for next year's grinding and paving of Evans Rd and Perkins Rd. It was agreed to add a line item for tree work in the ~~road's~~ *highway and streets* budget. There was discussion on the State's bridge grant funding to the town.

## OTHER

- EF provided research on the impact of the recent increases to the elder exemption tax program. In comparing the last two years, the impact increased \$7,500 for a total for about \$59,000 in taxes to *be* exempted in 2024.
- Dover will be closing Mast Road on August 6, 2024 from 3:30 to 8:00pm for a utility pole replacement.
- EF provided a fact sheet flyer on the Federal Safe Streets for All program.
- The new website is moving to the design phase.
- TB and SO reported on their attendance of an election training held by the Secretary of State. A training video is expected to be available on the Secretary's website. The Select Board discussed having a continuity of operations meeting on Friday, August 29, 2024. EF was given permission to investigate purchasing used voting booths from Swanzey, NH.

Meeting ended at 11:30am.

Submitted by: *Eric Fiegenbaum*

Approved: 8-8-2024

*On approved minutes, proof changes are noted through italics for additions and strikethroughs for deletions.*