

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Select Board

Approved Minutes for Meeting of April 1, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Town Offices, 15 Mechanic Street, Alstead, NH 03602

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Joel McCarty, Chair, Gordon Kemp, and Joe Levesque.

STAFF PRESENT:

Name	Position	In Person	Google Meet
Misty Gratacos	Town Office Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shelley Steuwe	Recording Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesse Moore	Director of Sanitation, EMS & Grounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Reynolds	Dir Emergency Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: **In person:** Jonathan Landry, Marge Noonan, Judith Willis, Jeanne Brooks, Glen Elsesser; **Google Meets:**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. McCarty called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:00 PM and then proceeded with leading the agenda-based discussion.

GUESTS: Jonathan Landry –

Mr. Landry asks if the CT Valley Yardworks contract has been signed yet. Mr. McCarty says that they have sent a notice and asked for a certificate of insurance.

Mr. Landry then left the meeting, but bamboozled us all when he returned moments later to inform Mr. McCarty that he backed into his motorcycle. This was, of course, an excellently played April Fool's joke.

ACTION ITEMS: Review and sign payroll manifest (\$41,505.19); review and sign bills manifest (\$21,779.61); review and sign Tax Liability (\$8,294.81); sign appointment for new part time officer; review and sign Pay Rate Sheets for new employee (ambulance) and increases for

cemetery employees; review (and sign, if warranted) Tax Credit and exemptions form; review and sign multiple reimbursements; review information provided by Harrisville Planning Board

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: 3/25 meeting minutes were reviewed, amended and approved as amended by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Washed-out glass** – See update above, under Guests.
- B. **Thayer Brook bypass** – No updates.
- C. **Bridge projects** – See below, under New Business.
- D. **Dams** – Mr. McCarty reports that the second of two engineering studies commissioned last year is complete. The first round of edits has been sent to the Regulator in Concord. He has an appointment with them on 4/21, at which time he will determine next steps.
- E. **Status of property at M11 L2 (abuts Town Hall)** – No updates.
- F. **Model T MOU** – No updates.
- G. **Fire Dept Policies** – No updates.
- H. **Pine Cliff Rd info/updates** – No updates.
- I. **210 Gilsum Mine Road land merger talks** – Mr. Kemp reports that he will meet with Ms. Bacon on 4/3 to find out how much is owed in back taxes on each lot and will then figure out next steps.
- J. **Complete Streets Information** – Mr. Levesque reports that it's looking like the grant funding will still be available for disbursement.
- K. **Department & Board**

NEW BUSINESS:

- Pine Cliff Road soil sample – Mr. McCarty asks the Board if they approve of conducting a \$95 soil test to see if the material used to fix the road still meets the State's standards. The Board approves of this conditionally, upon review of the initial complaint.
- Agents to expend bridge Capital Reserve (see RSA 35:25, attached) – Mr. McCarty says the voters funded a deposit into the bridges Capital Reserve Fund and then changed its status to naming the Selectboard as agents to expend. The Selectboard has verified what the warrant directed the Town to give to the trustees and trust funds, which hasn't been done yet. When that's done (he checked with NH Municipal, and read the statute) the voters gave them the authority to spend that money in the current year. He's not planning to just do that, but will ask those who care about infrastructure, as well as his counterpart at NHDOT if we should start spending that money on the first phase of the Drewsville Road bridge project in FY 2025, in anticipation of starting construction in FY 2027.
- Bridge construction engineering supervision review – Not discussed.
- Discuss donation to the Town – Mr. Kemp reports that Dog Daze in Walpole donated their old food truck to the Town. The Board needs to vote to accept this donation tonight, and discussions about how to utilize it can happen at subsequent meetings. The Board agrees unanimously to accept the donation. Director Moore suggests that one way to

utilize it is to use half of the truck for Emergency Management supplies storage, and the other half for a food prep area during emergency events. At present they use an ambulance for the latter part of this idea, which means it's out of service during that time. Mr. McCarty says the Board will send a thank-you note to Dog Daze for their donation, and asks the Emergency Management and Ambulance teams to put together a proposal for the trailer's use for the Board to review.

OTHER ITEMS: REMINDER that the Town Office Administrator will be out of the office from 4/4-4/13 (available by email in the mornings only), and available to Board, Support Staff and Dept Heads by email and cell.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Emergency Management – Director Reynolds reports that the 911 maps are laminated and in the Town Office. He emailed the 911 representative to ask for 3 more maps.

He'll be emailing the Dam Bureau looking for new templates to help him update the Emergency Notification list.

Town Office Administrator – Ms. Gratacos reports that she's placed another call to the abutters of the Hill/Comstock Road projects, but has not heard back.

She will follow up with CT Valley Yardworks tomorrow to get an update.

She will be on email in the morning and later afternoon 4/4-4/13.

Ms. Iozzo is fully up to speed on Payables.

Ms. Gratacos will be printing agendas and minutes remotely to the Town Office printer so Ms. Iozzo can prepare for next week's Selectboard meeting.

She notes that Payroll is slightly larger this pay period due to retroactive pay.

She registered Ms. Iozzo and herself for the NH Municipal Associations Right to Know Conference.

Transfer Station, Ambulance, and Parks –

Director Moore reports that:

- Ambulance –
 - At 64 calls to date.
 - Village Station:
 - Had radio and computer updates completed,
 - Have scheduled an appointment with Fidium to update the phone service,
 - Brought the Starlink to the Village Station, and
 - Received the new narcotics safe.

- 4/15 will be the annual CPR/Stop the Bleed event at the Heartwood School.
- Parks –
 - The Druschels asked about storing the ice skating rink. He advised that the Town doesn't have any space available, but provided some options for them to pursue. It will be picked up by 4/6.
 - Picking up the new mower and planning some Spring cleanups soon, assuming we don't get any additional snowfall.
 - There is a tree at the end of the Town Office Building that needs to be taken down.
- Transfer Station –
 - Someone has offered to paint all the buildings at the Transfer Station for free, as long as the Town pays for the paint. The Board approves and asks him to obtain a Volunteer Agreement from this person.
 - They burned brush, and there were several resident complaints. The Board still supports that the brush pile was processed.
 - Corrugated cardboard is scheduled to go out in mid-April.
 - NRRA provided all new signage, which will be put up soon.
 - Scales have been re-certified/licensed and paperwork has been sent to the State.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mr. Kemp – Re: Vilas Pool – The Moose Plate Grant processor is leaving the department in a week, so she approved an application for updates to the Snack Shack. A \$10,000 payment went to the Town, so they need to write a check to Vilas Pool to reimburse them for the work they paid to have completed.

Motions to appoint Warner Drouin and Allan Kauders to the Ambulance Feasibility Committee. The Board unanimously approves.

Mr. McCarty – Re: Health Trust – he has been talking to legislative representatives and the union that represents school teachers and bus drivers. He also had a phone call with Jim Gruber today and they are trying to set up a face to face meeting with the Secretary of State. Health Trust provides health insurance for Town employees, School employees and municipal and school employees throughout the State, and is currently under threat by new legislation.

He heard from Nick Belsky at Fall Mountain, who is checking with administration about providing a high school student for the temporary Recording Secretary coverage. He thinks he has two candidates.

Mr. Levesque – He asks if Mr. Kemp and Mr. McCarty have signed the MOU for the Library. They have, and Ms. Gratacos will provide it to him. His first meeting with Withdrawal Feasibility Study is scheduled for 4/14.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

INFORMATIONAL:

EXECUTIVE SESSION/S:

On a motion made by Mr. McCarty and seconded by Mr. Levesque ***the Board Chair adjourned the public meeting at 6:30 PM.***

Important Upcoming Events/Meetings

Date/Time	Subject	Location	Notes
April 8 at 5:00 pm	Selectboard Meeting	Town Offices; 15 Mechanic Street	
April 14 at 6:00 pm	FMRSD School Board Meeting	High School	2nd Monday of each month

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Steuwe

Recording Secretary