

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Select Board
Approved Minutes for Meeting of April 19, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Town Hall, 9 Main Street, Alstead, NH 03602

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: **In person:** Joe Levesque, Matt Saxton. **Google Meet:** Joel McCarty.

STAFF PRESENT: **In person:** Robert Esslinger, Transfer Station; Steve Murrell, Police Chief; Prescott Trafton, Road Agent; Mary Schoppmeyer, Office Administrator. **Google Meet:** none

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: **In person:** Gordon Kemp, Rich Nalevanko, Judith Willis, and a representative from Bazin Bros. **Google Meet:** None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER: Joe called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

GILSUM MINE ROAD PAVING BIDS: The sealed bids were opened and the results read to those present: **Pike:** \$298,765.60. **United Construction:** \$342,146.00. **Bazin Bros:** \$309,780.10. **GMI:** \$317,184.00. **All States:** \$312,887.25. The highest bid was ruled out and the remaining bids compared and discussed. *On a motion from Matt that was seconded by Joe, the board voted to award the job to Pike.*

ACTION ITEMS: Signed the payroll manifest for the 4/22 payroll. Signed the bill manifest for the 4/19 bills paid. Signed a pay sheet for a fire department employee. Reviewed and signed a letter for the owners of the property affected by 2022 warrant article #22.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Minutes of April 12, 2022: No changes requested. On a motion made by Matt Saxton that was seconded by Joe, *the Board voted to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.* Minutes of non-public session of April 12, 2022: No vote was required for these minutes because they were approved by the board on April 12 after resuming public session.

TRANSFER STATION: The board would like a final report from the consultant, and would like an opportunity to field additional ideas. There was extended discussion about operating logistics at the transfer station. Joe will invite consultant Ben Hoy to attend the next meeting. Junie also reported that they moved the first batch of baled aluminum over to Walpole, combining loads with them to save money on shipping. There was more extended discussion about hiring a supervisor and the job description of the supervisor position.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Prescott has been working on Gilsum Mine paving project. Price of culverts for our stockpile is at \$35K and availability might be a challenge. It looks like specs on the new truck are down under the budgeted amount and other towns have positive feedback on the same truck. The department completed NH Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) certification and worked to get our equipment into compliance. The department started grading roads last week. Prescott completed his inventory of private property turnarounds for the Bennett Road question and the conclusion is that the configuration of the Bennett Road area is different from all the others. The other areas are all approximately 100 ft x 25 ft wide with an easily accessible driveway that the truck can back into to change direction, whereas on Bennett Rd the truck must travel some number of yards into private land while negotiating around houses, and the driveway is not at an accessible angle for executing the change in direction and a turnaround area would have to be constructed. Matt read a warrant article from the 1968 town report, as follows: "To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to close the following listed little used or discontinued roads and portions of such roads subject to gates and bars, as per RSA 238:1 and RSA 238:2, *Revised Statutes Annotated:* The old trail running beyond the Gordon Moodie (formerly Bennett) property in Alstead Center westerly and joining the South Road above the old Vilas Farm homestead." The board wants to do more research to see what actions the 1968 board took in response to the cited warrant article.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Steve reminded everyone that Drug Take-back day is April 30th. He added that Bill Woods is attending the Wellness Committee meeting on April 20th at the Town Offices and the committee is moving forward with the AED project. The PD intern completes her time with us on Thursday April 21 and will be writing a paper on her experience. Part time officer options are increasingly limited. Part time training program is likely going away and the

availability of new part time officers will be limited to already-existing part time officers or full time or retired officers who want extra hours.

VILAS POOL: **Gordon** reported that one cleanup contractor bid is in and hopefully another one is coming in. Committee meets on Thursday and will hopefully select a contractor for that. The committee is approved to apply for the Moose Plate grant and Gordon will prepare the actual application, working with the historical preservation consultant.

SELECT BOARD: **Matt** reported that he plans to supply a copy of the approved driveway plans for the property currently known as 500 Walpole Valley Road to the listing real estate agent for the property. **Joe** reported that Matt composed a letter to the owners of the property affected by the town giving up Woods Rd.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

INFORMATIONAL: The next regular meeting of the Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26th, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

On a motion made by Joel and seconded by Matt, ***the Board voted by roll call (Joe – y; Joel – y; Matt – y) to enter non-public session at 6:15 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(e) to discuss Bennett Road legal matters.***

On a motion made by Joel and seconded by Matt, ***the Board voted to leave non-public session and return to public session at 6:22 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

On a motion made by Joel and seconded by Matt, ***the Board voted to adjourn the public meeting at 6:23 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Schoppmeyer, Office Administrator