

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2024**

Board Present: Mark Lightner, Everett Thurber and Phil Tirrell

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: Kevin Onnela, Mindy Chadwick, Lynda Perry, Katy Haas, Scott Fusco, Seana Fusco, Daryl Simino, Jim Cheever, Pat McCabe, Linda Callahan, Korrie Goodspeed, Scott Goodspeed, Jennifer Gildner-Blinn, Read Gildner-Blinn, Marilyn Butler, Sharron Wallace, Cassie Greene, Tim Greene and Beth Clark-Moulton.

Everett called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Board reviewed and approved the payroll and accounts payable manifest.

Approve/Amend Minutes of the March 12, 2024 Selectmen's Meeting.
Phil moves to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Elect the Select-board Chair: Everett nominates Mark as Chairman, he feels that he and Phil can guide him from both sides, seconded by Phil; Mark accepts the position and thanked the Board for the vote of confidence.

Supervisors of the Checklist Appointment of Auditor: Korrie Goodspeed was appointed by the Supervisors, they feel she is highly qualified to hold the position of Auditor. The Supervisors based their decision on qualifications of the applicants. They explained that they were not required to look at write-in candidates when deciding who to appoint but they looked at the two that had received the most votes, one write-in candidate was not interested. By request of the Supervisors the public package for their process is attached to these minutes.

Supervisors of the Checklist Counting of Ballots: The Supervisors would like to be withdraw as ballot counters for future elections. Sharron Wallace explained that by the time the polls close they have been working the elections for 12 hours; they feel that a fresh set of hands should be chosen to count the ballots. The Board felt it was a reasonable request. Mark mentioned that the Supervisors numbers were spot on election night and an error made outside of the Supervisors election results is what triggered a discrepancy in the numbers resulting in a recount for the one-year term for selectman.

Old Business

Highway Department:

Culverts – Spring 2024

Mountain Road Paving – Lane Marking Lines– Spring 2024

The department has been working on graveling Lovejoy Rd., Keyes Hollow Rd., Sand Pond Rd. and West Shore Rd. They have moved towards Mountain Road in order to start on South and Long Pond roads. Posted weight restrictions along with a two-man crew have hindered repairs. The department hired contractors to haul the gravel in order to speed up the repairs. Everett explains it cost very little more than it would to paying a third man with benefits.

Lovejoy Rd. Culvert – Daryl received a preliminary look at what needs to be done, he is working on mitigating the culvert, the preliminary estimate is \$83,268.20.

Mountain Road Bridge – Daryl met with the contractor last week.

Long Pond Beach Update – Daryl has heard from the wetlands scientist who is waiting to hear back from the State as to what needs to be done to the beach/boat and wharf areas to bring them up to compliance. The scientist recommends that the silt fence remains and not to replace the boards on the dam until the repairs have been made. Mark highlighted that per the Meridian scientist the lake should be back to full capacity by Memorial Day. Phil feels we should notify the Long Pond Protective Association regarding the level of the lake.

Jennifer and Read Gildner-Blinn:

Follow-up request for development of regional impact declaration regarding Drift New England. The Gildner-Blinn's would like to know if the Board felt a DRI was necessary as the plans and approvals are moving forward. Phil mentioned that the Building Inspector needs to be involved, Jennifer stated that the UVLSRPC also needs to be involved. Read serves on the committee that reviews DRI's and would reclude himself if Drift New England is brought forth for review. The Gildner-Blinn's understanding is a DRI is advisory only. Mark states we will look into it and have a more definitive answer at the next meeting. Mark and Phil will attend the Planning Board meeting to discuss further.

New Business

Everett moves to appoint Robin McGuire (member) and Vicky Madziarick (alternate) to the Conservation Commission, seconded by Mark: all in favor.

Landfill Maintenance Requirements – Confirmation has been received that any trees growing on the closed landfill must be removed, being careful not to disturb the cap. If the required maintenance isn't completed by next March the permit will need to be amended.

Brown Road – The Board received a request for extended maintenance; preliminary research has been done which is inconclusive at this time; no decision made.

Department Reports

Rescue Department:

Beth stated the department has been busy. Beth is requesting the withdraw of \$5,910.00 from the Rescue Departments CIP for the purchase of equipment. The equipment is a start since the department now has 2 advanced EMT's on board. Phil makes a motion to allow the purchase and withdrawal, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Administrative and Correspondence

Onsight Landfill Visit – Daryl and Mark to attend.

State Driveway Permit Map/Lot 201-11 reviewed.

2024 Hard Road to Travel Workshop – Phil and Robin to attend.

Intent to Cut – Map/Lot 213-22 – signed by the Board.

Budget Review – Current expenditures to date for the operating budget are at 22.7%.

Public Participation

Kevin Onnela raised concerns regarding the fire department washing vehicles with the doors open, Phil explained that is not the case.

Marilyn Butler asked if the Library Trustees had received their appropriation, they received a portion several weeks ago.

Questions were raised regarding the Bean Mountain ongoing litigation; Kevin Onnela stated that as of 1/23/24 the Town has spent \$44,896.00, Avangrid \$152,000.00 and the Onnela's \$147,498.00. The Board will not discuss the case in open meeting.

Discussion around the select-board's meeting location were brought up by residents' present. Some ideas were utilizing the Fire Department or the Meeting-house; no decision to move was made.

Korrie Goodspeed inquired about establishing a Budget Committee.

Everett discussed the role of the Planning Board in setting up the Capital Improvement Plans as they discovered about a month ago that the Town has been doing it incorrectly. The Planning Board should be doing the legwork on prioritizing CIP's and what funding is required.

Kevin Onnela asked where the money is coming from for the soil scientist regarding Long Pond beach. Everett explained we have a contingency fund in case of emergency. Kevin asked if it should come out the CC funds, Everett responded the Board hasn't approached that yet. Phil explained the wharf replacement was also a part of the deficiency letter from DES, not just the beach.

Linda Callahan Town Clerk/Tax Collector read her resignation letter; effective date of resignation is Saturday March 30, 2024.

Mark thanked the citizens for their involvement and Traci, Jim Grenier and Linda for their services.

Scott Goodspeed wanted to know if the Deputy could provide the same services; Everett responded yes, that's what she has been trained for.

Non-Public RSA 91-A 3; II (a) – Public Employee

At 8:50 PM Phil moves to enter non-public session, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

At 9:46 PM Phil moves, seconded by Everett to end the non-public session and return to the public meeting; all in favor.

There being no further business, Mark moved to adjourn the public meeting at 9:46 PM, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant

Supervisors of Checklist
Special Meeting to Appoint Interim Auditor
Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Present:

Pat McCabe, Marilyn Butler, Sharron Wallace, Phil Tirrell, Everett Thurber, Andria Elliot, Korrie Goodspeed.

Marilyn Butler (SOC) welcomed everyone and explained that the SOC have never been put in a position to appoint someone to a town position. We are now developing a procedure to make this happen professionally, with transparency and a true interview process.

We will ask all interested to submit a letter to the SOC as to why they want this position and why we should chose them, as well as submit a resume of their qualifications. Then the SOC will schedule short interviews with the candidates. The SOC will develop a policy and procedure on how this happens for future reference.

Everett Thurber said this hasn't happened at anytime during his long years as a Select Board member. Phil Tirrell (SB) endorsed our intent and said it sounded like a good process.

Korrie thanked the SOC for being transparent and communicating professionally with her since the Town Election.

Pat suggested that an extension of appointment be made to the state for the deadline of submission of Lempster's annual audit.

Everett indicated that Jim Grenier was half way through the annual audit.

It was suggested that whomever is appointed consult Jim Grenier and Paul Mercer (previous auditor) with any questions or concerns.

The SOC will announce the results of the appointment at next Tuesday's Select Board Meeting, March 26..

Supervisors of Checklist
Special Meeting/Interview to Appoint Interim Auditor
Friday, March 22, 2024

Present:

Pat McCabe, Marilyn Butler, Sharron Wallace, Korrie Goodspeed

The SOC welcomed Korrie and explained that the SOC have never been put in a position to appoint someone to a town position. We are now developing a procedure to make this happen professionally as an actual HR type policy, with transparency and a true interview process. In addition, the SOC noted that they were advised to have no contact whatsoever with any Town employee, official or counsel in this process as they are audited by this position. The Supervisors report to the Secretary of State's Office which is why this situation is in place per RSA 669.68 which states: "Vacancies in the office of town auditor shall be filled by appointment made by the supervisors of the checklist."

In light of this some details are unknown, i.e. salary, time frames, State training, reporting requirements, deadlines, etc. The supervisors have taken on this task to interview based on qualifications for the position.

The SOC reviewed Korrie's letter and resume and began an interview. It was obvious by her 28 years as an Auditor with the same company, that she would be a viable candidate.

After 15 minutes of interview, Korrie was dismissed and the SOC discussed the likelihood of her succeeding in this position. Many candid questions were presented to her including the impact of her in this position and her family's lawsuit with the town - which none of us could answer. We did not see that any auditing would be involved in that topic. The SOC decided that she has the work qualifications, and that it will be up to her to prove herself to the community and succeed in the position. The supervisors stated that they would trust her ability to maintain her professionalism and perform the job, and offered it to her. She accepted.

Korrie thanked the SOC for being transparent and communicating professionally with her since the Town Election. She indicated that if she had known Mr. Grenier was not returning to the position that she would have filed papers to be on the ballot for the position. She said she has a good relationship with Mr. Grenier and will reach out to him for assistance/training.

Pat suggested that after the announcement at the Select Board meeting, an extension of the final April audit deadline be made to the state.

We asked Korrie to respectfully keep the appointment private until it is publicly announced at Tuesday's Board Meeting.

Side Note explained to Korrie: Sharron contacted James Tremblay by phone and explained that her approaching him (per Ms. Callahan's suggestion) on Election Day to fill this interim position was inappropriate and offered her apologies for this (now known) inappropriateness. He was then asked to submit a resume and letter of consideration to be similarly considered and interviewed for this job. Mr. Tremblay clearly stated that he was never interested in applying for this position, only that he was doing this as a favor to his town which he loves. He asked me to take his name off the list for consideration of applying, but offered to be here for the town anytime if they need him.

Supervisors of the Checklist

Sharron Wallace

Marilyn Butler

Pat McCabe



Sharron Wallace <lifeisshort.wallace@gmail.com>

Town Auditor Position

2 messages

Korrie Goodspeed <kgoodspeed@nfronline.com>

Tue, Mar 19, 2024 at 8:42 PM

To: "lifeisshort.wallace@gmail.com" <lifeisshort.wallace@gmail.com>, "marilyn419593@outlook.com"

<marilyn419593@outlook.com>, "mccabeepatricia@gmail.com" <mccabeepatricia@gmail.com>

Cc: "korrieg@aol.com" <korrieg@aol.com>

Good Evening Ladies,

Thank you for your time tonight to explain your process in choosing the individual to fill the vacancy in the auditor position. As I stated - I think you can't go wrong with either option, Jim Tremblay is a great human!

You did make me dig - it's been a long time since I looked at or for my resume! I have attached the last resume that I have available. Not much has changed in my professional life over the last 10 years other than I do work remotely and only have to go to the office in Claremont a couple times a year. I do travel periodically for work as well for full disclosure.

My interest in this position is me wanting to get more involved in our town. Our daughter only has a couple of years left at home to control my schedule and once she graduates, I will have a lot of time on my hands. I do intend to get more involved in hopes of maybe getting elected as a selectman and I see this as a good opportunity to learn and understand the inner workings of the town and budgeting process. To see where we spend and why as well as where we could save. To help keep accountability present for all departments and their expenditures.

We moved to Lempster when I was in 4th grade- I graduated from Goshen/Lempster Cooperative school before attending Newport High. I did not get a degree from college as I switched my major from accounting to General Business Management. After college I came back home and lived with my parents for a few years until my grandfather passed away, I then moved in with my grandmother in Sunapee for about 5 years until Scott and I bought our 1st house in Goshen in 2000. We lived in Goshen for 4 years and then built our home in Lempster. So, of my 52 years you can see the majority of my time has been here in Lempster and its home!

I appreciate your time and transparency over the last week with my questions on how the position will be filled.

Best,
Korrie

Korrie Goodspeed

Manager, Property Preservation

800-639-2151 x2254 | www.nfronline.com

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REPRESENTATIVES
Protecting your properties. Protecting you.

KORRIE GOODSPEED

603-477-6184
KORRIEG@AOL.COM
1155 US RTE 10
LEMPSTER, NH 03605

OBJECTIVE

To obtain a challenging position, involving various tasks, attention to detail and the opportunity for future advancement.

EXPERIENCE

1996- Present

Property Preservation Manager
National Field Representatives Claremont, NH

Oversee Daily operations and provide leadership guidance to Team Captain and assigned staff. Responsible for producing monthly/yearly budgets along with our controller and analyzing profit/loss on monthly basis for multi- million-dollar Mortgage Servicers. Audit internal process for maximum efficiency, audit assigned staff performance to identify training needs. Complete annual performance reviews and pay increases of assigned staff. Initiate and monitor performance improvement plans for non-performing team members. Perform infield audits of our independent sub-contractors completed work nationwide, produce written reports of findings and present to contractor base.

1994-1996

Vendor Credit Representative
PC Connections, Inc. Keene, NH

Analyze vendor accounts to determine if ads should be approved based on credit issues. Accurately and efficiently invoice vendors for their advertising. Timely processing of vendor payments. Monthly balancing of general ledger accounts; to include price variances, debit and credit memos.

EDUCATION

1991

Accounting/General Business Management
Hesser College, Manchester NH

1989

Academic/Business Curriculum
Newport Jr/Sr High school

Town of Lempster
Select Board and Moderator
856 US Route 10
Lempster NH 03605

RE: Hand Counting Ballots

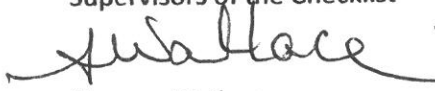
Dear Select Board and Mr. Shklar:

The Supervisors of the Checklist request that you appoint a fresh set of volunteers to hand count votes after each election. After the many hours that we work for an election, we Supervisors are not fresh and are subject to making inadvertent and unintentional mistakes in the tallies. We would encourage finding bookkeepers, accountants, math teachers, the town treasurer or others who work with numbers.

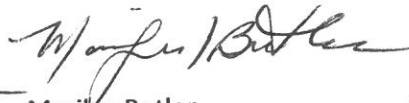
Especially with the next 2 elections of the NH Primary and the Presidential, we will have worked 12 or more hours before the hand counting even begins. We feel it is important that you consider this request prior to the 2024 NH Primary (without question) as we are not comfortable performing these counts to the satisfaction and accuracy that is expected.

Respectfully,

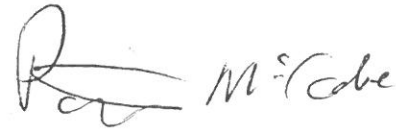
Supervisors of the Checklist



Sharron Wallace



Marilyn Butler



Pat McCabe