

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
Draft Meeting Minutes
April 8, 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, Jennifer Gildner-Blinn, Cassie Greene, Tim Greene, Ed Smith, Jon Thomas, Al McNeill, David Richards, Steve Zakur and Maren Ardell.

Mark 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 26, 2024 Selectmen's Meeting.

Everett moves to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Phil; all in favor.

Old Business

Highway Department:

Culverts – FEMA deadline to install the remaining culverts from the 2021 storm is June 30, 2024.

Mountain Road Paving – Lane Marking Lines– Spring 2024

Lovejoy Rd. Culverts – Daryl met with FEMA today to discuss mitigation measures.

Mountain Road Bridge – No update

Long Pond Beach – The Board reviewed the Restoration Map presented by Meridian, if approved by the Board Meridian will submit it to DES for approval.

Landfill Maintenance – No update

Brown Road- request for extended maintenance – No update

The Highway Department has been spreading gravel on the roads, concentrating on the roads with the greatest needs.

The Transfer Station is running good with the exception of the recycled paper getting wet, the Town gets charged for MSW when it can't be recycled.

Daryl presented two quotes for the shimming and paving of Grandview Road:

Pike Industries- \$226,185.00

All States Construction- \$260,100.00

Daryl asked if the Board would like him to get one more quote, Tim Greene suggested Wolcott Construction, Gilmanton, NH. Daryl will reach out to Wolcott, Mark states the Board will review again at the next meeting.

Highway Department Continued:

Daryl presented a quote from Viking-Cives to replace the 2009 dump body and plow. If he orders the body now Viking can fit it by December, otherwise it will be two years. The plow is a full fit plow which will use the existing plow connection, the plow is designed to trip in a manner that will not dig into the roads and tear them up like the current plow.

Phil inquired if the truck itself is in good shape, Daryl responded the truck is solid.

Mark inquired if the money will come from the Highway Equipment CIP fund, yes was Daryl's response.

Everett moves to let Daryl proceed with the purchase of the body and plow (\$58,200.00), seconded by Phil; all in favor.

New Business

The Board discussed reappointing the following Conservation Commission members with Terms Expiring March 12, 2027:

Rachel Tirrell

Ivan Wallace

John Nowak

Phil moved to reappoint the above members, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Charlestown Turnpike- Phil met with a resident to discuss the lack of ditching on the Southside of the road. The resident is concerned with his dug well becoming contaminated as the runoff from the culvert travels near his well. Daryl explained that part of the problem is the resident pushes his snow across the road filling in the ditch with debris, there is ledge at the location as well not allowing for a larger ditch and that the logging which was done at the Streeter property is allowing more water to travel. Daryl recommends the owner should clean out his ditch near the well. Daryl will see what can be done to improve the situation.

Phil stated the fire department would like permission to cut the trees and burn the brush around the location where the firefighter's association had placed the skating rink. Everett asked if they could also remove and cleanup the debris of the old foundation. Jon was more than willing to remove the old foundation as it would be a good forced entry training. Everett moves to allow the cleanup of the old foundation and removal of trees, seconded by Phil; all in favor.

Department Reports

Fire Department:

Chief Thomas reported that March was the department's busiest month on record with a total of 24 calls, April currently sits at 9 calls.

Jon has received a quote from Key Communications for security at the Fire Station: Entry Cards \$4,712.35 and Cameras for the interior of the station \$5,736.99. Amer Electric will be providing an additional quote.

Three members are currently training as level 1 firefighters, two members are training as level 2 firefighters; five will be level 2 when the training is complete.

Fire Department Continued:

Jon is working on a presentation to the Board regarding the departments desire to build a training facility for Lempster and other fire departments to train at.

Jon is looking at updating the Department's water rescue equipment as they are not set up for swift water rescues.

The Lempster Firefighters Association would like permission from the Board to hold their annual gun raffle. Everett makes a motion to allow, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Conservation Commission:

Chair Lynda Perry announced that June 1st is National Trails Day and the CC would like permission to clear trees and brush down to the bridge on the Dodge Brook trail located on River Road up to the stonewalls. Everett wants to be certain that the abutters are notified and have given their approval, Mark states that they are not to widen the road any more than it is. Lynda asked for permission to post a sign at the trailhead (it will be on her property). Phil makes a motion to allow, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Administrative and Correspondence

The Board signed the following items:

Oath of Office – 5 for the Conservation Commission

Transmission/Generation Assets Request – NH Electric and Eversource

Intent to Excavate – Della Fulton

Public Participation

Lempster Trailblazers ATV Club-

Ed Smith presented that the club is applying for a grant through the Bureau of Trails to improve a section of Gee Road and Kempton Road and the grant requires a signature from the property owner. Mark asked if there was any obligation to the Town, it is just approval for the work to be done; Mark signed on behalf of the Town.

The Bureau of Trails will contact Ed Smith or the Trail Administrator, Keith Chadwick with any issues or questions. The club is also considering applying for the winter damage grant in the future.

Jon Thomas-

Jon was seeking permission from the Board to lift the weight restriction on School Road as he is moving his company to Lempster and construction vehicles need access. Permission to travel posted roads is done through the Highway Department, Jon will let Gary Caron know he needs to contact Daryl for permission to travel.

Public Participation Continued

Steve Zakur-

Steve appreciated the work done on Long Pond Road but mentioned there is still a bad spot past Splake. Daryl is aware but is currently trying to get the worst roads first, South Road and Hurd

Road are top priority. 19 Loads of gravel were placed on Long Pond Road and 31 loads on Sand Pond Road.

Steve requested the Board look into considering a Budget Committee; he stated he would chat with Phil about it.

Al McNeill-

Al wanted to publicly thank the Lempster Fire and Rescue for going above and beyond for him.

Non-Public RSA 91-A 3; II (b) – Hiring

At 7:55 PM Everett moves to enter non-public session, seconded by Phil; all in favor.

At 8:47 PM Everett moves, seconded by Phil to end the non-public session and return to the public meeting; all in favor.

The Board reviewed the plans from Meridian for the Long Pond Beach restoration. Everett moves to have Meridian turn them into DES, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

There being no further business, Phil moved to adjourn the public meeting at 8:56 PM, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant