

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER
BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
Approved Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2024**

Board Present: Mark Lightner, Everett Thurber and Phil Tirrell

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

Others Present: Gabe Brehio, Patrick McCullough, Rep. Hope Damon, Bob DeVits, Paula DeVits, Jennifer Gildner-Blinn, Ted Kraus, Melanie Kraus, Jim Cheever, Fire Chief Jon Thomas, Scott Goodspeed, David Richards 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 July 9 and July 11, 2024 Selectmen's Meetings.
Everett moves to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Phil; all in favor.

Old Business

Highway Department:

Culverts – Scott Goodspeed confirmed that there have not been any additional maintenance culverts installed

Mountain Road – The center line has been completed.

Mountain Road Bridge – Summer 2024; no date yet.

Landfill – Maintenance brush cutting has been completed, it still needs to be brush hogged. Everett noted that there are remaining logs that need to be removed prior to any brush hogging. Mark mentioned the site will require routine mowing and maintenance. Daryl is checking on fencing for the site.

New Business

Town Office Picnic Table – Mark announced that the town office employees would love to have a picnic table on the side of the building and wanted to put the word out if anyone has a lead or would like to donate a good used one that would be great.

Librarian – The current Librarian has resigned, so if anyone has a lead on a new Librarian the Trustees are recruiting.

Department Reports

Fire Department:

Chief Thomas asked if the Board had an opportunity to view the area staked out for the training facility the department would like to build. Mark had inquired of the facility being built in Claremont, that facility will be used by Claremont only; Jon explained the department would also like to include training for surrounding towns at the Lempster facility.

Fire Department Continued:

The Department has had 14 medical calls, 1 med flight, and 2 fires- one in Acworth and one in Marlow.

Jon visited the Noro shooting range, he addressed a few code issues and inquired if the owner was open for the entire department to attend a walk thru in order to become familiar with the layout, and the owner was fine with the walk thru.

There is a new EMT on the department.

Jon and David attended the Long Pond Association's annual meeting to update them on the department's activities and they are hoping to offer them some CPR and AED training in hopes of putting and AED at the beach.

Upcoming training will be hose movement and fire extinguishing.

They are in the process of switching their responding software.

Jon gave a reminder that for Old Home Day the Department will be holding their Pancake Breakfast from 7am-9am and the Ladies Auxiliary Dinner he believes starts around 4:30pm.

Jon will reach out to his ambulance contact and have them order the IO Drill and bill the Town.

Administrative and Correspondence

Budget Review – We are approximately 60% through the year and the overall budget is at 60.5%.

Trustees of the Trust Funds – Mark and Phil attended a meeting of the Trustees of the Trust Funds and overall it was a great meeting. The Trustees explained their reasoning for not investing in the NHPDIP; the Public Deposit Investment Pool is not federally insured and they do not want to put the Town's funds at risk. They have a desire to work with local banks and have moved the funds to a different platform at Claremont Savings Bank which pays a higher interest rate; Mark will get a confirmed interest rate.

Time off Request – Signed by the Board.

License to Sell Pistols & Revolvers - Signed by the Board.

Public Participation

Melanie Kraus – Long Pond and Loon Loop – Mark thanked Melanie for initiating an in person meeting at the Long Pond Beach with the Board and Robin to voice concerns. The Board and Robin then did a site inspection of the areas of concern. Mark asked Melanie to play point person for the Long Pond residents to which she agreed; this is a trial to see if it eases up the congestion at the Board meetings.

Public Participation continued

Melanie addressed concerns with ditches, culverts and the overall condition of the roads. The culvert near 284 Long Pond Road is scheduled for replacement on July 30, 2024.

Gabe Brehio – Gabe inquired as to what the plan was for the Gee Road ATV Trail. Phil explained the ATV Club had applied for and received a grant for \$130,000.00 to repair the hill on Gee Road and also for repairs on Kempton Road. Gabe explained his concerns regarding the damages to Gee Road that he maintains and the fact that people often think his driveway is part of the trail.

He asked if the ATV Club would post the trail as “Dead End” to try and slowdown the amount of traffic looking for the continuation of the trail. Phil stated the ATV Club will post it as requested; Gabe will make a turn-around at the end of the trail. Gabe expressed his appreciation with working together instead of against each other.

Representative Hope Damon announced she will be seeking re-election, updated on recent happenings at the State level and answered questions from Mark.

David Richards mentioned that the double doors at the Meeting-house would not open. Robin will contact Greg Lynch to take a look at them.

Scott Goodspeed asked if the town had anything to do with the procurement of the ATV grant; the town did not.

Mark announced the next Board meeting will be August 13, 2024.

Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3, II (b) Hiring

At 8:01pm Phil moves to enter non-public session, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

At 8:48pm Mark moves, seconded by Phil to end the non-public session and return to the public meeting; all in favor.

Phil makes a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public meeting, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

There being no further business, Mark moved to adjourn the public meeting at 8:49pm, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara
Administrative Assistant