

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER  
BOARD OF  
SELECTMEN  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
April 22, 2025**

**Board Present:** Mark Lightner, Everett Thurber and Daryl Simino

Administrative Assistant Robin Cantara

**Others Present:** David Richards, Jim Cheever, Mindy Chadwick, Jon Thomas, Kevin Onnela, Scott Goodspeed, Maren Ardell, Traci and Mike Homol.

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:59 P.M.

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

Approve/Amend Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held on April 8, 2025,  
Everett moves to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Daryl; approved.

**Old Business** - None

**New Business**

**Library Trustees:**

Rachel Tirrell, Wanda Ash, and Molly Miller are newcomers, more trustees are needed to complete the board as Mary Lou Reed and Georgie Hill are not seeking reappointment.

**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commissioner Appointment:**

Recommendation received from the Planning Board to reappoint Read Gildner-Blinn to represent Lempster (4-year term).

Everett makes a motion to reappoint Read Gildner-Blinn, seconded by Mark; all in favor.

**Department Reports**

**Fire/Rescue:** Chief Thomas reported nine calls since the last meeting (four medical, one fire alarm, one chimney fire, one structure fire, and two mutual aid structure fires). Mentioned upcoming department head meeting on May 4, EMS leadership course on April 26-27, and updates on hazard mitigation and Town building values.

**Fire Training Area and Insurance Considerations**

Jon spoke with Primex Insurance (reps Amy Poole & Bob Berry) Jon confirmed town coverage remains valid if fencing and signage are adequate.

The Department plans to use donated materials, in-kind contributions, and seek corporate sponsorships.

Jon to redraw blueprint for training area (prior blueprint misplaced) and include donated old tower sections.

The select board is seeking additional information prior to authorizing the facility. Mark would like to have an engineer involved with any construction.

**Highway Department:** The highway department effectively managed storm damage. Road repairs are ongoing and within three hours issues at Crescent Lake bridge were resolved.

Coach Road will experience temporary increased traffic due to bridge installation (Goshen) starting on May 3, 2025; a sign will be posted to inform the public.

### **Administrative and Correspondence**

Review Prevent Lifepak 15 ProCare Service Agreement – Annual Cost 2025 \$1,938.85 per unit for two LifePak 15s Total \$3,877.70.

The department has one refurbished unit procured with donations and one new unit replacing an older unit which was damaged (insurance claim). Jon explained the contract ensures substitute monitors if a unit is out for calibration/repair placing emphasis on maintaining calibrated, reliable equipment.

Everett moves to approve up to \$3,877.70, seconded by Mark; Daryl abstains.

DES Response to Application for Type III Permit Modification  
Corrections made.

Intent to Cut – Signed by the Board.

Timber Warrant (2) – Signed by the Board.

Employee Time off Requests (2) – Signed by the Board.

Budget Review Mark announced the budget is on track with 28% spent in four months, which is satisfactory given that 33% of the year has passed.

One year anniversary of the four-way stop. It is functioning well, and the preventive signage has been removed.

Steering Committee next meeting May 20, 2025, 7PM at the Town Office. Several interested participants have been found.

### **Public Participation**

Sea Containers – Kevin Onnela has concerns with his sea containers being assessed when there are others in town which are not. The issue of taxing sea containers remains unresolved, with state laws dictating taxation regulations.

Avitar is contracted by the Selectmen to handle all assessing functions, they are monitored by the state, but discrepancies can occur.

Mark will check which containers are commercial and ensure they are taxed accordingly.

## **Public Participation Continued**

Maren Ardell inquired about the large amount of property taxes due. Everett asked where she was getting her information from, Maren said the annual report.

The following points were made for clarification:

Most tax arrears are collected by June.

Eighty percent of taxes were paid after December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Remaining arrears are down to \$300,000 from \$2 million.

Delayed tax bills were due to the school budget not being completed on schedule.

Traci & Mike Homol - Discussion about Brown Road and its classification as Class V or Class VI and maintenance responsibility.

UPS and FedEx use the road, causing maintenance concerns. Homol's request the Town extend Brown Road maintenance to the turnaround near an old foundation.

Upgrading roads to Class V requires town meeting approval.

Traci will review measurement data and mapping with Robin.

There being no further business, Daryl moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM, seconded by Everett; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Cantara  
Administrative Assistant