

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beijer called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

Present: Diane Beijer, Chairman, Richard Therrien, Vice Chair, Gary Madden, Paula Penny, Ed Tasker, Karen Montgomery, Town Administrator, Andrew Horohov, Recording Secretary. There was one member of the public in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: D. Beijer announces that the Board has to ratify 2 motions made due to the recent storm disaster regarding the partial collapse of White Oak Road at the bridge and damage to Beauty Hill Road. The first motion and vote was to waive requirements to go out to bid. The second motion and vote was to authorize emergency paving of White Oak and Beauty Hill by J. Clement of Clement and Son recommended by Road Agent G. Drew. The Board voted unanimously in favor of both. K. Montgomery announces an increase in postal rates. K. Montgomery says this is a mid-year increase but they should be alright.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Board reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes of July 20, 2021 on a motion made by R. Therrien and seconded by E. Tasker.

ACTION ITEMS: The Board reviewed and signed the following items: Payroll & Manifest, 1 Letter of Hire, Letters to Residents, and a Leave Request. E. Tasker motions for the Chair to sign the payment request for radios in the new cruiser. R. Therrien seconds. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A) **Government Surplus Equipment:** K. Montgomery suggests that the Board wait until the Police Chief is present, as he has information regarding the release of the government surplus equipment. G. Madden says he thought they could release them immediately and G. Drew was going to look into it as well. R. Therrien asks if they were going to give the truck to someone. G. Madden says he believes it was going to a road agent from another town.
- B) **Fire Rescue Resignation:** D. Beijer says they wish that person good luck in their new career.
- C) **Highway Block Grant:** K. Montgomery says this is the standard block grant they get every year but the estimated revenue for the following year is lower. G. Madden asks if they expected this and K. Montgomery says yes.
- D) **Monthly Fire Rescue Report:** The Board reviewed the monthly report.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: The Board reviewed miscellaneous items.

APPOINTMENTS: At 5:15 p.m. the Board met with D. Adjutant of the Historical Society who relayed that the donations and proceeds will go towards a memorial bench for Stuart Merrill, per request of his widow. D. Adjutant asks permission from the Board to place it in front of the old jailhouse. E. Tasker motions to approve the bench placement and P. Penny seconds the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor. D. Adjutant says the bench should be here sometime by Labor Day and they would like a dedication ceremony and once they have a date, will let the Board know. If the Jailhouse gets moved, the Town will move the bench as well. A. Poulin says they can use the fire house

for a ceremony. K. Montgomery states that she explained to D. Adjutant the ceremony could be held there as long as town hall was open and they didn't have to close down due to covid. D. Adjutant thanks the Board.

PUBLIC INPUT: D. Beijer opened Public Input at 5:22 p.m. and seeing as there was none, it was closed at 5:2 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS: Fire Chief and Deputy Chief Will Bartels met with the Board and the first item for discussion was a new security system for Station One as the building is unmanned and wants to make sure it's protected. A. Poulin says they are considering putting cameras up for now and it's a \$400-\$500 system. A. Poulin says they should also have a security system at the fire house as well. D. Beijer says she thought they did. K. Montgomery says they do, but a new system was budgeted for and she has contacted the security company that both Town Hall and police have. A. Poulin reports that the new command car won't be here until the end of August due to a shortage of chips. A. Poulin says it will probably need an installation of radios as well at a later date. A. Poulin says they have some radios they can use and cables but might need to buy more. A. Poulin next says the new ambulance should be coming in late fall, and it is built and painted but they are waiting for the radio cables to be installed and then putting in the cabinets. A. Poulin says they recently purchased a small trailer for an inflatable raft. E. Tasker asks where they're storing it and A. Poulin says it is right behind the fire house. G. Madden asks if the command vehicle can haul that and A. Poulin says it can. A. Poulin says they did a simulated drill and they had the boat deployed in 2 minutes. R. Therrien says they just got rid of an old trailer. A. Poulin says that was an old snowmobile trailer and it wasn't piratical. W. Bartels asks if the package of the first pickup truck was a full package. D. Beijer says no and they were surprised with a cost of \$8000 to include everything for the truck. She states that the Board will revisit this in the fall after looking at the budget.

A. Poulin says they applied for a grant for a new tower truck and they are still waiting on an answer. A. Poulin says the old tower truck has to go back to the Barnstead Fire Rescue Association. K. Montgomery says the grant requires that the truck cannot go back in service and the Board needs to meet with the Association for a discussion about the truck. A. Poulin says he received a phone call from J. Savage, President of the Association and he wants to have a meeting. E. Tasker says he doesn't know if A. Poulin heard him complain about the tower truck in the past, but it spends half the time in Pittsfield and believes that if they acquire a new one, Pittsfield should be a half owner of it. A. Poulin says he agrees with E. Tasker. E. Tasker says the idea of every small town having a fleet of fire trucks is ridiculous due to the cost. A. Poulin says except for the two engines, every truck they have is designed for a specific job. D. Beijer says she thinks A. Poulin is doing great job with the fire department. E. Tasker asks what they are doing with the explorer program. A. Poulin says they are not doing it at this time and will revisit it at a later time. A. Poulin thanks the Board.

At 5:43 p.m. Road Agent reports that they've had a busy week after the storm but has about every road back in shape with a couple left to do. G. Drew says they have gone through a lot of gravel but will be okay with what they have left to finish. E. Tasker says this is a perfect example of why they cannot under fund the gravel line. G. Drew says if they didn't have a bunch of gravel sitting, they would have been screwed Friday and Saturday. G. Drew says they got great service from Pembroke Sand and Gravel. E. Tasker asks where they got the granite from. G. Drew says they found it on the yard. E. Tasker says he believes it came from G. Preston's "Welcome to Barnstead" sign. G. Drew says he was looking for rock for the head wall and found the granite instead. G. Drew says they have a little bit of cleanup to do and put loam down. E. Tasker says what they should do on White Oak road is take a look at the dry hydrant up there as he doesn't know if it's functional or not. G. Drew says it's not. E. Tasker

says that pool fills with sand and gravel and the dry hydrant needs to be reset. A. Poulin says he will meet with G. Drew about that. G. Madden asks if he thinks this happened because of the beaver dam. G. Drew says he believes so and will ask J. Leavitt to use a drone to check the area out. G. Drew says the pipes were full and it's still draining hard but they got lucky they didn't lose the whole road. R. Therrien says there was some stuff on Welch road. G. Drew says he will be down there tomorrow. G. Drew says on some of the roads, they won't have to use gravel. G. Madden says Wakefield reached out along with other people and they should contact them and thank them for their help. G. Drew says those volunteers helped them out. D. Beijer says they should thank the road crew as well. G. Drew says he called them on Saturday and they showed up in fifteen minutes ready to help out.

G. Drew reports that truck 2 lost two turbos and the cost is about \$5,000 for two but it doesn't include labor. E. Tasker asks if that truck has lost their turbos before. G. Drew says he is not sure. E. Tasker says they dealt with this issue before. G. Drew says truck 22 lost a turbo last year. E. Tasker asks if there is an underlying cause for the issue. G. Drew says it could be anything. G. Drew says he talked to Liberty International and they only had one in stock and they hope they can find a second one. R. Therrien asks who can install it. G. Drew says they would have to get a regular mechanic to do that. G. Drew says truck 18 lost the power steering tank. G. Drew says he will have a replacement tank in tomorrow to replace that. G. Drew says the road repairs regarding pavement are done and R. Therrien asks how they are. G. Drew says they did okay. G. Drew says he knows why Beauty Hill Road is shaped the way it is now and it is due to sand being underneath. G. Drew says when it was paved, the sand wasn't compacted beforehand. G. Drew says there was six inches of asphalt on that road when they cut it.

D. Beijer requests that Police Chief P. Poirier update them and G. Drew on the surplus government vehicles. P. Poirier explains that Captain Haynes was in charge of the lease program and he was the only one doing it but since his retirement, there are now seven people handling it. P. Poirier says spoke with the person in charge, told them what the situation was and was told that there will be no exchange of any equipment until all of the state is audited. P. Poirier says he also filled out the plan for the program and signed it, where he is responsible for it. P. Poirier says when he first became chief, he did the program himself and later delegated it to an officer who no longer works for them and now he has to log back into the program. P. Poirier says he doesn't have a date of when the audit will be done. R. Therrien asks if this inventory is supposed to happen every year. P. Poirier says they are told the process starts in July and to log everything they have. P. Poirier says they don't have much themselves to log but over the next couple of weeks he will be starting their audit. R. Therrien asks if there is a deadline and P. Poirier says there is not. P. Poirier says this is a complicated website and the information is in there, but what they have to do is take photographs and upload those and to update any information that needs to be updated. P. Poirier says he was told there is a new website and that might make everything easier. D. Beijer says it's a waiting game right now. R. Therrien asks what equipment they talking about and G. Drew says the army loader, the army truck, the trailer that came with it, and the generator. The Board thanks the Chief for his time.

G. Drew next relays that they had a problem on Coles Ledge Road due to the recent storm disaster and the water that came down taking part of the road with it; enlarging a stream that ran along a property and the owners asked what the town is going to do. G. Drew says he has the excavator there right now working on the road and they did an excellent job and should be done tomorrow. G. Drew says there is concern of water quality now and if they have to clean it up, it would be a DES situation. G. Drew says the property owner offered a catch basin, but asked the town to maintain it if they use it. R. Therrien comments that the road that shed all the water is a Class 6 non-maintained road. D. Beijer asks who bears responsibility for it and G. Drew says the property owners on the Class 6 portion had loggers in

there last year and they didn't do what they should have regarding the road. K. Montgomery says they need to get in touch with the logger. R. Therrien asks if the logger is still there and G. Drew says no. G. Madden inquires about the paving and reclaim. G. Drew says they are still on the list. K. Montgomery says the AC price went up and they will have another increase in September. She reports that a neighboring town signed a contract with the same company after Barnstead did, but because their contract had a 45-day clause, they will be done before us. P. Penney comments that that isn't fair and if they want our business, they should put us first. G. Madden says the calcium needs to be looked at because the budget was cut. D. Beijer says the budget wasn't cut, the funds were encumbered. D. Beijer asks why there is a delay for paving and G. Drew says the rain delayed them. D. Beijer says she doesn't know why they have to pay for an increase when they had no hand in the delay. G. Drew says he will call them and talk to them about it. The Board thanks G. Drew.

The Board next met with Police Chief P. Poirier at 6:14 p.m. who reports that he applied and received a letter for a crimeline grant to start a bicycle paroling unit. P. Poirier says the grant was approved for \$2,509.96 and will let them buy all the needed equipment. P. Poirier says once they get the new guys get out from the academy, they will be sending them to bike school and thinks this will be a great tool for the police department. E. Tasker asks where P. Poirier sees these patrols taking place. P. Poirier says congested neighborhoods such as the colony area or the parade area. P. Poirier says they could use them at the beaches or trails as well. P. Poirier says he wants to recognize Town Clerk/Tax Collector J. Fifield who stepped in the other night and helped them with a lost canine and would like to thank her. The Chief also thanked Building Inspector Fab Cusson who assisted in securing a table in their booking room. P. Poirier says he obtained permission from TDS to remove the old fencing that outlined the property and he and Captain Cormier took it down and they hope to repurpose some of it. P. Poirier says at the memorial, they cleaned it up and are preparing it for laying some of the bricks. P. Poirier says G. Drew will drop off some stone dust to help lay those bricks. P. Poirier says last week, he ordered the granite benches and stone and put down half of the deposit and should take no later than ten weeks for that to come in. P. Poirier says he spoke to the donor for the trees and they are getting 5 crabapple trees. P. Poirier says they got a quote from someone local on an irrigation system for \$4,400 to put around the memorial but also got two other companies who will do it for free. P. Poirier says he is hoping to do work on that area so they can put in the irrigation system.

P. Poirier reports that the two new officers will be graduating from the Police Academy on August 20, and anyone is welcome to show up and offer support. P. Poirier says August 14, they are going to do a community outreach program for the children of Barnstead and he got an ice cream truck that will go through neighborhoods. P. Poirier says they are handing out free ice cream to the children. E. Tasker asks if the officers that are going to command the ice cream truck and if so, did they volunteer to do it. P. Poirier says he can't ask people to volunteer so the officers will get paid but it will be worth it. P. Penny asks if this is an opportunity for the new resource officer to meet with the kids. P. Poirier says he will reach out to him. P. Poirier thanks the Board.

NON-PUBLIC: On a motion made by D. Beijer and seconded by G. Madden to go into non-public session at 6:26 p.m. per RSA: 91-A:3 II (c) the Board voted; D. Beijer, yes; P. Penny, yes; E. Tasker, yes; R. Therrien, yes; G. Madden, yes. The Board unanimously voted to come out of non-public session at 7:15 p.m. on a motion by E. Tasker, seconded by G. Madden.

NON-PUBLIC: On a motion made by P. Penney and seconded by G. Madden to go into non-public session at 7:16 p.m. per RSA: 91-A:3 II (c) the Board voted; D. Beijer, yes; P. Penny, yes; E. Tasker, yes; R. Therrien, yes; G. Madden, yes. The Board unanimously voted to come out of non-public session at 7:52 p.m. on a motion by E. Tasker, seconded by G. Madden.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by P. Penney, seconded by R. Therrien, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Horohov, Recording Secretary

D. Beijer, Chairman

R. Therrien, Vice-Chair

E. Tasker

G. Madden

P. Penny