

**Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024**

Present: James Bailey – Chairman, Richard Pelletier – Selectman, and Laura Buono, Town Administrator. Iris Campbell – Selectwoman arrived late.

In Attendance: Peter Mellen, Riche' Colcombe

Meeting opened at 6:00 pm
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

Whittemore Project - During the January 18th Selectmen's meeting the question that arose was is the paving included in the cost for the Whittemore Road project. Commissioner Mellen confirmed the paving is included in the project cost. Mr. Mellen also said the town is going to take the 2 catch basins in an easement located on Park Place, and the sidewalk is left in the project as well. Mr. Mellen said he met with the property owners on Park Place and neither had any issues with the proposed sewer hook-up.

Ms. Buono discussed that from the ARPA funds, Water & Sewer will receive another \$598,347 from the Town for this project since so far, they have already been paid \$30,000. The Town's total for the project amounts to \$717,000, so another \$89,000 will be needed to be raised at Town Meeting to make up that difference. Ms. Buono asked if all the work will be completed in 2024 and was told it's highly possible it will run into 2025. Ms. Buono said she will write the article to expire at the end of 2025 so the funds don't lapse.

Development Fees - Mr. Mellen said at the last Economic Development Commission meeting, a vote of support was provided for the Water & Sewer Development program and charges. He is hoping to get the same support from the Selectmen. The information had previously been presented and discussed with the Board

Chairman Bailey made a motion to support the Water & Sewer System Development charges. Selectman Pellitier seconded the motion, the motion passed.

2. TAX LIEN PROPERTY BIDS

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 1 Lot 71, Severance Road to R. Lawrence for \$22,500.00. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 25 Lot 99, 8 Wyman St. to R. Lawrence for \$38,000.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 17 Lot 81, Birch Tree Lane to Land List, LLC for \$801.00 Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 24 Lot 74, Park Place to R. Lawrence for \$5,000.00. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 17 Lot 130, Bobolink Lane to A. Rice for \$5,100.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 14 Lot 591, Sunrise Place to JC. Donahue for \$3,333.33. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 14 Lot 492, Autumn Road to S. Lenel for \$2,500.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 14 Lot 273, Ellen Brook Road to A. Rice for \$4,600.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 16 Lot 121, Firefly Lane to T. Reed for \$2,222.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 16 Lot 190, Old Lantern Road to A. Rice for \$1,750.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 13 Lot 189, Spring St. to D. Segara for \$18,000.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 14 Lot 482, 8 Autumn Road to S. Lenel for \$2,105.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

Chairman Bailey made a motion to award Map 17 Lot 181, Birch Tree Lane to S. Lenel for \$3,000.00. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the carried.

3. PARKING ORDINANCE

Ms. Buono brought up the Road (Parking) Ordinance that the Board had been working on for quite a long time, and which a public hearing has already been held. She asked the Selectmen if they are ready to adopt the changes. Chairman Bailey made a motion to adopt the amended Parking Ordinance. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion. Riche' Colcombe asked if a summary of what has been agreed upon could be provided. Ms. Colcombe was referred to the public hearing meeting minutes. Chairman Bailey called for a vote on the motion, all were in favor, the motion carried.

Ms. Buono said the Board will need to decide upon the cost for the annual stickers. Once decided, a public hearing will be scheduled. Selectman Pelletier asked what is the rational for charging for a sticker. Ms. Buono said because some of the lots being used are not for overnight parking. Riche' Colcombe asked about owners with multiple vehicles. Other towns will be researched. The program will begin in late summer.

4. ANTRIM DISPATCH SERVICE

Ms. Buono said she spoke with the police chief who said the contract between Antrim and Hillsborough will be increasing by a couple of thousand dollars for 2024. Ms. Colcombe brought up this topic twice about her concern regarding the costs not increasing as she learned at an Antrim meeting. Ms. Buono does not know why Antrim said there will be no increase for 2024. The cost is based on a formula.

5. 2024 BUDGET

Ms. Buono said she added an estimated \$70,000 for the grader payment, but the Board first needs to decide. The total increase to the budget amounts to 9% (operating and capital). The largest impact is salary, benefits, and union contracts. Selectman Pelletier is concerned the increase is too high, but he doesn't know where to begin to reduce the budget. He is also not in favor of offsetting the police salaries with the funds (\$150,000) from Invest NH, he feels the money should be used for a project that will benefit the entire town. Selectman Pelletier would like to hear the feedback from the public hearing. He would also like to create a capital reserve fund for infrastructure repairs. Ms. Buono removed the \$150,000 off-set from the 2024 budget and added \$89,000 for Whittemore St.

6. PARK'S BOARD

Chairman Bailey made a motion to disband the Park's Board. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, the motion carried.

7. COMMUNITY POWER COMMITTEE

Selectman Pelletier asked if the Community Power Committee members be added to the Energy Committee and should they be asked. Ms. Buono will find out how many members are needed on the Energy Committee. Selectman Pelletier asked if a Selectman should be part of the Energy Committee. Ms. Buono said yes if there is an interest.

8. WEBSITE

Ms. Buono asked the Board if they want all the meeting minutes and agendas on the current site transferred to the new site, they go back as far as 2002. It was agreed to move the last 5 years but not the agendas.

9. MANIFEST

Chairman Bailey made a motion to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll Check numbers 19103 – 19116 a/k/a Vouchers #4 in the amount of \$108,399.54 (includes 109 direct deposit stubs) and Accounts Payable Check numbers 030937 – 031012 a/k/a Vouchers 3 & 4 in the amount of \$211,370.74. Selectwoman Campbell seconded the motion, motion carried.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for January 24, 2024. Selectman Pelletier seconded the motion, the motion carried.

- Veterans' Tax Credits – Map 14 Lot 150; Map 11F Lot 284
- Land Use Change Taxes – Map 11 E Lot 50-6

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm

A true record
Mary Whalen
Recording Secretary

Date: _____

Approved by:
Hillsborough Selectboard

James C. Bailey, III, Chairman

Iris Campbell, Selectwoman

Richard Pelletier, Selectman