

**Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, April 25, 2022**

Chairman Les Babb called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectmen Les Babb, and Ernie Day, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded these minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Office. Selectman Melissa Florio arrived at 7:50 PM.

Also in attendance were Brian Taylor, Frank Lalumiere, Bruce Howlett, Kathy Lovell, Rob Cunio, Michael Eldridge, Jr., Jeff Nicoll, and Anne Cunningham. Karl Ogren and Scott Lees arrived at 7:15 PM.

Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes

The accounts payable and payroll manifests were reviewed as well as the red folder containing correspondence.

Ernie made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting and Non-Public Sessions held on April 18, 2022. Les seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Department Head Updates

Fire Department Chief Rob Cunio reported call volume including no new Covid cases, 2 medical aid, 1 fire alarm, 1 tree/wires down, 2 smoke investigations, 1 outside fire, and 1 mutual aid call for a woods fire. A discussion regarding consistent trail naming for emergency response within the Town Forest will take place on May 5 originating from the joint FCC/FAC meeting held last week. Rob reported locating a 12-year-old 19' aluminum boat with twin motors and trailer through the GSA forest & lands program. This will be acquired at no cost to the town and monies raised from the derbies will be used to install electronics, review by marina, and safety training to be completed before it is put into service. Les offered thanks for continually utilizing grants and surplus purchasing to make these purchases happen with no tax burden. Rob also reported that they have resubmitted for the replacement of Engine 2 through the Firefighter's Assistance Grant.

Town Office – Administrator Ellen White announced the 2021 financial audit has been scheduled for the week of May 23. Auditors will be onsite for at least the first three days and information is being pulled together in preparation for their visit. There is no update on interest on the Ford F-550 from the dealership where the new cruiser was purchased. Chief Mullen sent more recent pictures but no offer has been made. ***The Board was in favor of re-advertising the vehicle for bids with no minimum amount.*** The Danforth Bay Bridge reimbursement request to the State of NH DOT is being processed for payment. Proof of payment for all invoices was requested as part of the reimbursement process and that has been submitted.

Appointments:

Bruce Howlett & Frank Lalumiere – Cyanobacteria & water quality in Danforth Ponds – Bruce and Frank expressed concerns with health and property values resulting from the recurring presence of cyanobacteria in Danforth Ponds. Presentation has been made to the Conservation Commission as well. A proposed Friends of Danforth Pond group has sparked the interest of 21 potential members. Studies are needed to determine if the cyanobacteria are being caused by loading or an outside

influence. Discussion on the history and potential impact from Danforth being used for log driving as well as runoff in the area of the public beach. Funding assistance is being sought from local businesses to assist with testing costs estimated to be \$3,000/annually. Frank spoke on the importance of protecting the waterbodies and being preemptive in efforts to mitigate. Cyanobacteria is noted to be deadly to humans and animals. Six blooms have been reported over the past few years. An informational handout was provided to be added into the record. Les questions if there is any water quality grant money available with Covid funding that is being reallocated? Kathy Lovell discussed efforts being made by Province Lake and Lake Kanasatka. She met with the AWWA Watershed Alliance group and received a copy of the survey results and suggested a similar study be conducted targeting information on septic systems as that impacts the amount of phosphorous in the water. Bruce added that they will be working with Amanda McQuaid from UNH. A testing crew will be testing upper Huckins and middle Danforth in front of the campground, and lower Danforth in front of the bridge. It was noted that Huckins was last tested approximately 15-years ago. Middle Danforth has been confirmed that it acts different than upper and lower.

Jeff Nicoll stated the FCC received their presentation last month. He reached out to Jill at Green Mountain Conservation Group for help with interpreting the data and to initiate conversation on the grant funding availability. The data is important to parse out the major contributors including septic loading and runoff. Les questioned if GMCG has reviewed the past study completed on middle Danforth? Bruce stated they will be looking to get new data following a heavy rain event to capture the runoff impact. Water quality importance was reiterated as was continual testing to monitor. Communication will be kept open on the matter.

Old / New Business / Discussion:

Appointments to Boards/Committees – Following the recommendations of the Heritage Commission, **Ernie made a motion to reappoint Mark McKinley as an Alternate, appoint Scott Cunningham and Brandy Buttrick as regular members. Bill Carney and Peg Scully do not want to be reappointed. Les seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.**

Short-Term Rentals – Review & Finalize – The short-term rental conditional use permit application, life safety self-inspection form and other information documents have been prepared for review. Discussion on the fee to be charged and the goal being to cover the administrative costs associated with short-term rentals as well as the license renewal. **Les suggests the permit fee be reduced from \$350 to \$100 covering the first permit issuance which will be valid for 6-months. Ernie agrees.** Discussion on whether the town will be creating liability if the Fire Chief conducts life safety inspections. This question will be deferred to legal counsel. Rob expressed concern with the timing of when inspections will need to be completed and whether he can accommodate. Further discussion on amendments that may be needed for 2023 Town Meeting including the period of time for which the permit is valid. The STR form package will be forwarded to legal for final review after the fees have been updated and then will be available for distribution.

Anne discussed a situation in which an STR property owner has reservations but will not be able to address life safety deficiencies before those rentals take place and questioned the transition phase. Les responded that each application will have to be handled individually in respect to the transition. He noted that a few properties were renting pre-zoning and those will have to be addressed differently.

A suggestion was made for an indemnification waiver. The FAQ will be updated to reflect a question similar to the above regarding transition phase.

*Investment Policy – Review/ Update – Ellen provided an updated policy with no change other than the date of adoption. **Ernie made a motion to readopt the Investment Policy. Les seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.***

Public Input:

Bruce questioned if the Board reviewed his email request regarding request for more than two-years of receipts as proof of grandfathered status for STR's. Les responded that more than 2-years can be submitted; the two years was based on what a court may require for proof. Bruce has concerns that the pandemic may have created an increase in the number of days which will set the precedence using the past two year of proof.

Michael Eldridge questioned if an intent to cut he filed has been approved. Les confirmed.

Jeff thanked the Board for their efforts in recruiting for membership to the FAC. A successful meeting was held last week. He appreciates the new membership and the support given.

Non-Public Session:

Les made a motion to enter into a Non-Public Session at 7:35 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (c) for reputation. Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Ernie-yes, Les-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion reconvene public session at 8:18 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion continued:

Ernie made a motion to appoint Jake Stephan as an Alternate to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Melissa seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Non-Public Session:

Les made a motion to enter into a Non-Public Session at 8:19 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (I) for legal. Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Melissa-yes, Ernie-yes, Les-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion reconvene public session at 8:47 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion continued:

The Board agreed to send a request for bids to the abutting property owners of the Intervale Ave tax-deeded property.

Les will be away next week. Unless something comes up, ***the Board was in agreement to not meet on 5/2.***

Melissa provided a brief recap on the NH DOT meeting held regarding Route 153. Approximately 70 people attended including many reps from NH DOT. Dick Fortin from Eaton questioned the bypass to Eaton. Accident data is very import information to report.

Adjournment

Being no further input, Ernie made a motion to adjourn. Les seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Consent Agenda

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting– 4/18/2022	Approved
Minutes – Non-Public Session – 4/18/2022	Approved
Accounts Payable – Week ending 4/15/2022	Approved
Payroll Manifest – Week ending 4/13/2022	Approved
Intent to Cut – Kaplan Freedom Realty Trust, Map 7, Lot 39	Approved
Intent to Cut – Michael. Jr. and Kali Eldridge, Map 8, Lots 1 & 2	Approved

Correspondence

Minutes – FCC Meeting – 4/19/2022	Reviewed
Letter – to James Despathy Rev. Trust re: Abutters notice of land sale	Reviewed
Letter – to Steven & Catherine Kent re: “ ”	Reviewed
Letter – to John Roman re: Re-appointment to FAC as Alternate	Reviewed
Letter – to Gerard Costantino re: Re-appointment to FAISC	Reviewed
Letter – to Justin Brooks re: Appointment to FAC	Reviewed
Request for Appointment – Linda Mailhot, FCC Alternate	Reviewed
Request for Municipal Fiscal Agent – GMCG Culvert Modernization Study	Reviewed
E-Mail – Thomas Gross re: “ ”	Reviewed
E-Mail – Matt Howe re: “ ”	Reviewed
E-Mail – Alan Fall re: Heritage Commission Appointments	Reviewed
Plan - Cyanobacteria Blooms on Danforth Ponds Action Plan	Reviewed
Notice – State Transportation Listening Session re: Route 153 – 4/25/22 6:00 PM	Reviewed

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen N. White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Melissa M. Florio