

**Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2024**

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

Board members present:

Mike Kaminski, Chair
Dave Nault, Selectman
Justin Nault, Selectman

Town Officials and Others present:

Line Comeau, Town Administrator
Jon Wiggin, Fire Chief
Linda Landry, Town Clerk
Jennifer Cormier, Deputy Town Clerk
John Trottier, Town Moderator

Members of the Public present:

Fred Mullen
Zaheer (Steve) Ahmad-Kahoon

Lee Martel recorded the meeting for the benefit of citizens that were unable to attend (Linda Nickerson uploads the videos to YouTube).

Board Chair Mike Kaminski called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Justin Nault to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 22, 2024 as amended.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Martel thanked the Board for the open dialogue between the Board and members of the public at the meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Residential Project Discussion

Steve Ahmed-Kahoon appeared before the Board to update them on the work and inspections done on the solar panels at his home on 80 Robert Rogers Road. He stated that Inspector Scott Johnson from the state inspected the panels at his home and found more items that need to be corrected, even though he made the changes resulting from the last inspection. He feels that everything should have been noted the first time and doesn't feel that he is being treated fairly.

The Board communicated to Mr. Ahmed-Kahoon that although some things may have been missed during the initial inspection, it is important to ensure that these systems are installed to code. The Board cannot step into the jurisdiction of the state inspectors. **Mr. Ahmed-Kahoon departed the meeting spewing vulgarities towards the Board and others.**

Town Meeting Discussion

Town Moderator **John Trottier** and Town Clerk Linda Landry updated the Board on Town Meeting preparations. Setup will begin at 3 p.m. on Monday. Woody Bowne and some of his staff from the Transfer Station will have everything brought over from storage at that time. He asked that the Selectmen review what their duties are for this election, noting that Justin Nault's and Mike Kaminski's roles are limited. Linda Landry is coordinating scheduling and meals for election staff. Dan Sklut will be serving as a police officer at the polls that day. **Linda Landry** stated that 11 absentee ballots have been sent out and returned.

Warrant Article Discussion

Fire Chief **Jon Wiggin** told the Board that Warrant Article #8 is no longer necessary because of the deal they ended up getting on their new fire truck. Discussion took place regarding the practice of passing over Warrant Articles. With some input from current and former moderators, the Board determined that it is better to address the Warrant Article and explain why it is no longer needed and recommend a no vote rather than passing over it.

Article # 7 was discussed briefly. There were no changes to the Fire Department Capital Reserve deposit as written.

Article # 9 Jon Wiggin updated the Board with the three bids he had received to by a new ambulance. He stated that the original quotes he received back in November were less than \$300,000 which could have been totally funded with the ambulance special fund if he picked the lowest bid. In just the last two

weeks, the quotes he received from three separate companies are all coming in between \$320-\$350 thousand dollars. Jon stated that the ambulance account balance is just over \$293 thousand dollars. Because of this, I am asking the Board to allocate the unassigned funds from article # 8 to put towards article # 9 through an amendment on the floor at town meeting.

There was general discussion from the Board for the best way to word the amendment of article # 9.

The Board **reached a consensus** to amend Warrant Article # 9 to read: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000) to purchase a new ambulance and to authorize the withdrawal of Two Hundred Ninety-Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$293,260) from the Fire Department Equipment Non-Lapsing Special Revenue Fund established in 2001 for this purpose and further to fund the sum of Fifty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$56,740) from the unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation in 2024. (Majority Vote Required).*

Update on Fire Truck Purchase

Jon Wiggin told the Board that they asked for a couple of additions to their new truck: build some space to store their suction hose as well as installation of a camera on the back of the truck. This will cost another \$5,000.

He has received a quote on Transportation: \$2000 to drive it, or \$3,000 to transport by truck. He is working on obtaining a few more quotes. The Board is in favor of having it shipped by truck, and will await the additional quotes **to discuss at the next meeting.**

Subdivisions with Class V & VI Frontage

Donna White has been working to get recommendations from their lawyers and put together a process for them to follow in relation to upgrading a Class VI road and subsequent acceptance by the town. The Board agreed to propose a joint meeting with the Planning Board and Conservation Commission on March 21st.

Review Driveway Regulations

The Board reviewed the driveway regulations put together by Road Agent Jeff Crosby and Fire Chief Jon Wiggin and recommended to them by the Planning Board. **Dave Nault** said that he would like to review some of the specifications before voting to approve. **Jon Wiggin** spoke to the challenges he has faced with

some driveways when driving either a fire truck or an oil delivery truck. The Board was in agreement to table this until they are able to research and discuss further.

Mailbox Items

Mike Kaminski reviewed the following items of correspondence received since the last meeting:

- Invitation from DES for BOS to volunteer as a guest reader Thursday March 21st during “Literacy Week”

Mike Kaminski offered to attend (depending on the outcome of Tuesday’s election) and will respond.

- Email from NHMA encouraging towns to contact their representatives(s) to vote NO; for HB 1479. The Board will send a letter to both of their representatives indicating that they do not support this bill. It would remove the ability of the NHMA (which is supported with tax dollars of small towns) to lobby on their behalf.
- FYI, email inquiry from 12/27/2017 regarding the procedure to adopt prepayment of taxes. RSA: 80:52-a. After brief discussion, the Board decided to table and not to pursue action related to this item at this time.
- Email from Chief Remillard regarding department action to recent activities: to be discussed in nonpublic session.
- Handouts from Dunbarton Elementary School regarding the public hearing noting the tax impact on the proposed budget (increase is 6.54% which includes the operation budget and CRF deposit)
- Request to consider revising the policy for Dunbarton Solid Waste Operator Training. It could state something along the lines that the document will only be used in the event they are no longer employed by the town. The way that it is written implies that the employee is no longer employed. The Board asked Line Comeau to develop proposed wording to be reviewed at the next meeting.
- Credit card policy signed by all town officials except the Transfer Station Supervisor. **Dave Nault** will follow up with Woody Bowne on this.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jon Wigin and **Fred Mullen** noted a story in the news that the Two States Project will not be progressing. **Line Comeau** said that they did receive a call the day before it came out in the news to inform the town.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

Justin Nault is appointing Robert Nault to serve as Selectmen Protem in his place at the polls during the upcoming election.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Dave Nault to appoint Robert Nault to serve as Selectmen Protem in Justin Nault's absence at the upcoming election.

Discussion: Dave Nault and Mike Kaminski remarked that he has done this work before, and **he** is very diligent and familiar with the processes.

Vote: (3-0).

Dave Nault said that he heard from Library Director Mary Girard that she hasn't heard from a contractor regarding the issues they are having with the door. He will follow up on this and place some calls to get things started on this.

Mike Kaminski said that he is up for election on Tuesday, and should he not be reelected, he has enjoyed working for the Town of Dunbarton. He thanks his fellow Board members, town officials and community members that he has worked with during his time on the Board.

NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion: by Mike Kaminski to enter into nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II (c) **at 8:20 p.m.**

By roll-call vote: Kaminski-yes. D. Nault-yes. J. Nault-yes.

The Board exited the nonpublic at 8:50 p.m. there were no motions made during this nonpublic meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

Signed:

Michael Kaminski, Chair

Dave Nault, Selectman

Justin Nault, Selectman