

**Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2024**

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, February 22, 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
Jeff Crosby, Road Agent
Linda Landry, Town Clerk
Jennifer Cormier, Deputy Town Clerk
Judy VanKalken, Tax Collector
John Trottier, Town Moderator

Members of the Public present:

Donna Dunn
Andy Dunn
John Stevens
Fred Mullen
Lee Mullen
Andy Dunn
Larry Comeau

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

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Justin Nault to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 8, 2024 as amended.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0)

Motion: by Justin Nault, seconded by David Nault to approve the 9:24 p.m. nonpublic meeting minutes of February 8, 2024 as written.

Discussion: Dave Nault noted that these minutes are not to be sealed.

Vote: (3-0)

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Justin Nault to approve the 10:02 p.m. nonpublic meeting minutes of February 8, 2024 as written.

Discussion: Mike Kaminski noted that these minutes are not to be sealed.

Vote: (3-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 Town Report Dedication

Mike Kaminski stated that the 2023 Town Report is being dedicated to Donna Dunn. He read a brief summary of Donna's history with and contributions to the town of Dunbarton through the Garden Club and through her historical preservation efforts as the town's historian. Dave Nault and Justin Nault offered their appreciation to Donna and expressed how much they have enjoyed working with her over the years. The Selectmen presented her with a signed copy of the Town Report.

Signing of Approved Warrant & Budget

The Selectmen signed the MS-636, which is the approved Warrant and Budget that is presented to the state. This will also be posted in two public places.

Community Power Update

Dave Nault said that the Energy Committee made their recommendation on the default rate to be the 33.4% renewable energy option. This is .4 higher than the lowest rate. Individual households will be able to choose their own plan.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Justin Nault to accept option B as their default rate for their plan.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

Fire Engine Purchase Discussion

Fire Chief **Jon Wiggin** told the Selectmen that he found a fire engine that he has been looking for. It is a 2008 with 18,000 miles. The tank is 250 gallons less than what they were originally seeking, but they can work with that because it meets so many of the items that they were looking for. It is a better truck than what they were originally looking at and will cost less money.

They are looking for 10% down, and the rest upon delivery. It will take them about 45 days to refit the truck. He has a few people traveling to inspect the truck. Because they are leaving too early in the morning to pick up a check, they can overnight the check to them for the deposit.

A resident of Montalona Road asked Chief Wiggin if they get the right of first refusal? **Chief Wiggin** said that they do. The resident asked if they could do an electronic fund transfer instead of a check? **Line Comeau** said that it is a more complicated process because of the way the accounts are set up.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Justin Nault to authorize the 10% deposit on the fire truck and to purchase the truck upon inspection.

Discussion: nothing further.

Vote: (3-0).

Discussion took place regarding delivery of the truck. **Chief Wiggin** will discuss delivery options with the seller.

Discussion occurred regarding the recent mansion fire. **Chief Wiggin** stated that the reason that mansion was saved was because of Mutual Aid. The building did sustain heavy damage, but it is still structurally sound.

2024 Paving Prices

Road Agent Jeff Crosby presented pricing for their planned paving projects for the year. Pricing is based on the cost of liquid asphalt. Last year, pricing was \$85 per ton. It ended up going down, so they were credited.

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by to accept the paving estimate dated January 11, 2024 from Advanced Excavating & Paving for the 2024 paving season for the Highway Department.

Discussion: Mike Kaminski noted that this is an estimate so the pricing could go up or down.

Vote: (3-0).

Road Posting

Jeff Crosby said due to current and predicted conditions, roads will be posted as of Monday, March 4, 2024. Building Department Administrator Donna White has sent notification to current building permit holders.

Dave Nault asked if there are still roads that the builders can still travel on. Discussion occurred about predicted temperatures and if there are possibilities for exceptions if the temperatures remain below freezing.

Mike Kaminski asked Jeff Crosby to coordinate with the Police Department once he officially sets the date.

Planning Board Request

The Planning Board has requested a joint meeting regarding a 3-lot subdivision of map F4-01-06. **Justin Nault** said that part of the discussion at the last Planning Board meeting involved upgrading the current class VI section of road to Class V standards. There were concerns brought up by the Board regarding what will be required in order to accomplish this and what will be required of the applicant.

Line Comeau added that this is a lot of record that has Class V frontage; the two new lots created would have Class VI frontage. **Justin Nault** said they also have to figure out where a new turnaround would go which would be required as part of such an upgrade.

Justin Nault said that the Planning Board would like to meet with the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen and George Holt of the Planning Board suggested that they do so at the next Board of Selectmen meeting. Discussion occurred regarding a possible site walk. **Line Comeau** will let everyone know that the Selectmen will welcome the Planning Board and Conservation commission at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Justin Nault said that driveway regulations for easy accessibility were developed by Jeff Crosby and Fire Chief Jon Wiggin. The Planning Board voted to recommend these regulations to the Board of Selectmen for adoption as an addition to the subdivision regulations. **Jeff Crosby** said that they were developed in such a way to determine the right-of-way for town vehicles in the area where the driveway meets the road. He also noted a necessity for there to be a space between the driveway and the property line to allow for snow maintenance.

Larry Comeau of Montalona Road said that no one wants to take away from someone's ability to use their land, but the big issue they may run into as the push continues for more compact housing is problems with winter maintenance and

drainage. He feels that a buffer seems reasonable in order to prevent these issues. **Jon Wiggin** added that they are one of the few towns that do not have driveway regulations. **Mike Kaminski** said that the Selectboard will review these regulations for discussion at the next meeting.

Jeff Crosby said that he was at the Mansion Road fire, and that it was impressive to see the amount of fire trucks and manpower there. **Jon Wiggin** spoke to the support he receives from Jeff's department in terms of controlling ice during the fire calls.

Mailbox Items

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

- Email complaint (new dated 2/16/2024) from Mike Guiney regarding a town plow truck on private property. Discussion occurred regarding this complaint. **Line Comeau** said that she had responded and received a response from Mr. Guiney saying that it wasn't acceptable. **Dave Nault** said that they responded to and addressed the original complaint. The Board determined that the previous explanation given by the Road Agent is sufficient and no further action is required.
- Email from Mary Girard – update to plumbing and heating issues.
- Request from PD for cleaning services for the Police Department. Discussion took place on this request. Because of the timing in terms of the budget, the Board declined to add extra funds for this this year and advised that the Police Department should use a line in their budget to fund this for this year and they can revisit the issue next budget season.
- Final Audit Report. **Line Comeau** said that the next and final step in the audit process is to schedule an exit interview with the auditor to discuss the results.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Comeau commended the Board on their job of controlling the financial end of the budget.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

Mike Kaminski noted an issue is being worked through in terms of delineating duties and responsibilities of the members of the Board on Election Day.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Justin Nault to adjourn the meeting.

The Board adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

Signed:

Michael Kaminski, Chair

Dave Nault, Selectman

Justin Nault, Selectman