

**Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2020**

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, October 29, 2020 at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

Board members present:

Dave Nault, Chair
Mike Kaminski, Selectman
Bob Martel, Selectman

Town Officials and others present:

Line Comeau, Town Administrator
Jeff Crosby, Road Agent

Members of the public present:

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

Dave Nault called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes

Motion: by Bob Martel, seconded by Mike Kaminski to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 29, 2020 as amended.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEMS

Highway Department 2021 Budget and Warrant Article Review

Jeff Crosby presented his budget proposal for 2021. **Jeff stated that the bottom line of his budget remained mostly the same, but he did reallocated funding to different lines.** Total requested budget for 2021: \$574,848.

Jeff Crosby said that he would like to look at requesting a bond in order to do a larger amount of paving over the next couple of years. He feels that the town needs to take a look at the highway department and consider where they need to go in the future in terms of staffing and equipment.

Jeff Crosby told the BoS that they have received their new truck. He did purchase some extra things through the body company (sideboards, etc.), but it was still within budget. They are very happy with it so far and glad they have it for the winter. He feels that they need to look at selling their old truck within the next year. They can use it as a spare for this winter and will keep it maintained until they can sell it.

Jeff Crosby told the BoS that he has sufficient manpower for the year to handle plowing. He has not heard from Nate Narus, who has been involved in plowing for the town the past few winters, but he has decided that unless Mr. Narus has obtained his Commercial Drivers' License, he cannot use him on the winter maintenance team this winter.

Mr. Crosby told the BoS that he would like to implement a new pay system for his winter maintenance employees. This system is used by the State of NH and the Town of Hopkinton (for one). It would involve paying each driver a 5-hour stipend per week. If they go out and work 5 or more hours plowing and/or sanding, then the stipend would not apply. If they work for less than 5 hours, then the stipend would make up that difference. He proposes that this would go from November to April.

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Bob Martel to implement a 5-hour per week stipend payment system for their plow drivers for 20 weeks beginning November 15, 2020 and ending April 3, 2021, at which time the Road Agent and BoS will review to see how it went. The stipend for drivers of the larger vehicles will be \$85 per hour, and the stipend for the one-ton truck will be \$55 per hour.

Discussion: Mike Kaminski stated that a written policy is needed as well as invoicing guidelines.

Vote: (3-0).

Accept Donation

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Bob Martel, to accept per RSA 31:95-b III (b) \$60.00 from fundraising for Wreaths Across Dunbarton.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Mike Kaminski, to accept per RSA 31:95-b III (b) \$5000.00 from The Center for Technology for Civic Life (Covid response grant for elections).

Discussion: **Mike Kaminski** asked to confirm that this money was going to the general fund. Line Comeau confirmed that it is, but this is to reimburse expenses from the operating budget that have already been spent.

Vote: (3-0).

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Mike Kaminski, to accept per RSA 31:95-b III (b) \$2,357.95 from the Election Cares Act for postage.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

TOWN BUSINESS

Mailbox Items

Dave Nault reviewed the following items of correspondence received since the last meeting:

- Notice from Line Comeau that the tax rate has been set at \$22.28 per thousand.
 - Amount retained in the Fund Balance is: (4.33%) or \$442,104.
- Update on storage unit for election items: Transfer Station Supervisor Woody Bowne has been able to obtain two quotes on movable storage units. Once he receives a third, the BoS will review the quotes and decide then.
- Bond Bank Rate Update:
 - As of July 14, 2020, rates were as follows:
 - 5-year: .57%
 - 10-year: .86%
 - 15-year 1.37%

Next scheduled bond setting will be held on January 6, 2021.
- Quote from Woody Bowne for Transfer Station parking lot lighting. He is working on obtaining two others.
- Dunbarton Police Department Update
- Annual leave request from Town Administrator (32 hours from Nov. 20 through Wed Nov. 25, followed by the Thanksgiving holiday).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

Mike Kaminski said that they had a successful election due to the work of town election officials and volunteers. The public really supported their Covid safety efforts in terms of masks and distancing. He thanks the Town Moderator **and Town Clerk for their** efforts as well. **Line Comeau** added they had over 40 volunteers to do ballot counting. It was well-managed, and the system worked extremely well. **Dave Nault** thanked the transfer station staff for their help in election setup and breakdown as well.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Mike Kaminski seconded by Bob Martel to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

David Nault, Chair

Michael Kaminski, Selectman

Robert Martel, Selectman