

**Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2021**

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. 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

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 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes

Motion: by Bob Martel seconded by Mike Kaminski to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 4, 2021 as amended.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

TOWN BUSINESS

Old Route 13

The attorneys for both landowners in the dispute over a section of Old Route 13 have agreed to attend the BoS meeting on February 25, 2021. One item of contention is a shed that reportedly contains a well. They are working to determine if it is in the right of way.

Accept Donation

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel, to accept per RSA 31:95-b III (b) unanticipated revenue from HealthTrust for the Wellness Coordinator in the amount of (\$500) each for a total of (\$1,000).

Discussion: none

Vote: (2-0).

Line Comeau clarified that they have two wellness coordinators: Donna White at the Town Office and Chris Remillard at the Police Department. This money will

enable them to promote health and wellness in the workplace and to hold small fun events or challenges throughout the year.

Personnel Request

The BoS discussed a letter received from Police Chief Sklut requesting that Bryan Tyler be added to the list of officers that receive an on-call stipend. The BoS was in consensus to allow

Parking on Ray Road/Mansion Road

Road Agent Jeff Crosby joined the BoS to discuss some concerns voiced by the Weare Winter Wanderers snowmobile group regarding some OHRV's that park along the roadway. The concern is that the vehicles will block their snow trail groomer.

Jeff Crosby gave some more details regarding the situation, explaining that the designated parking lot for the nearby OHRV park is closed for some reason, and that is contributing to the problem. He also noted concerns by others regarding the snow that the groomer puts across the road by the bridge to allow snowmobiles to cross the road to access the gas station. Further discussion occurred regarding what sections of roadway were plowed or not plowed in order to provide snowmobile access in some areas.

Mr. Crosby said that it appears the police have recently put up signs prohibiting parking along the side of the roadway.

The BoS was in agreement to send the **complainant** an email letting them know that the matter was discussed, and that the Police Department has taken notice. **Dave Nault** asked Line Comeau to also reach out to NH DRED to find out why the parking area is closed and remains unplowed.

Kelsea Road Plowing Complaint

The BoS reviewed a communication received from resident Mike Guiney regarding winter maintenance for Kelsea Road. Among the issues addressed in Mr. Guiney's email were

- concerns that Dave Nault is continuing to plow Kelsea Road while the roads for the rest of the town were divided between the town trucks.
- the timing and quality of the plowing that is being done on Kelsea Road.
- Previous communications of his to town officials that have not been responded to.
- The broken post damaged by a town truck that has been in dispute since 2018 still has not been replaced.

Discussion occurred regarding the claim that the town still has not replaced the broken post that has been in dispute since 2018. **Mike Kaminski** feels that this situation is similar to the town damaging mailboxes when they plow. They do not replace mailboxes for residents, and he feels that replacing this disputed post sets a bad precedent for future instances of plowing property damage.

- The BoS was in consensus to send Mr. Guiney a check in the amount of what a replacement post would cost.

Jeff Crosby feels Mr. Guiney's email is a further example of the harassment he receives from him on a regular basis. He explained his reasons for having Dave Nault plow the road. Primarily among them are that is because he has a smaller truck that is easier to get turned around, and he has the flexibility in his schedule to be able to get there earlier. If Mr. Guiney would like him to make changes to the schedule, he may find that the quality of service will decrease. They are operating with one less driver this year and he feels that they have been able to keep up with this winter's weather very well using the system/schedule currently in place.

Bob Martel noted that he has received a couple of complaints from Mr. Guiney that were legitimate, and he feels it is important that those are addressed. **Bob also emphasized that Dave Nault communicate to Jeff when there is inclement weather so that Jeff can adjust the drivers accordingly.**

Travel Allowance Stipend

An employee has requested to be paid the full amount of his travel allowance stipend even though did not work a full 40 hours each week during the month. He worked a shorter week and used comp time that he had banked in order to make up for the time he needed to take off. The travel allowance is paid based upon the average amount of worked hours for each week. Discussion occurred regarding whether comp hours are to be considered actual work hours.

Bob Martel said that the purpose of comp hours gives their full-time employees to bank their overtime hours as extra time off to use in the future in place of receiving overtime pay. The stipend was created to be paid for hours actually worked during the week. **Mike Kaminski** added that the whole purpose of implementing this stipend was to provide a bit of additional incentive, especially for part-timers to come to work each day.

The BoS was in agreement that comp hours are not considered work hours and are therefore not included in the calculation of the stipend. **Dave Nault** asked that Line Comeau draft an email response to the employee for review by the Selectmen before it is sent.

Town Meeting Concern

Communication from a resident regarding their disappointment in how COVID-19 precautions for Town Meeting/Election is being handled. **Bob Martel** stated that there are alternative options available as far as voting was concerned. The only thing they weren't able to accommodate was to have a remote option for the meeting itself. He suggested that the person speak to the Town Moderator to learn more about the voting options available.

Future Budget Line Item Discussion

Ron Jarvis sent an email responding to a previous request from the BoS to provide them with an amount that would cover the costs of maintaining the conservation area fields by Gorham Pond Road. There used to be a budget line item for this purpose. **Dave Nault** suggested they look at adding this line item back in for future years' budgets.

Mailbox Items

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

- The BoS signed the MS-636 (proposed 2021 budget) and the warrant.
- Update on Solar Panel usage.
- Update from Dana Lavoie regarding a software upgrade for the solar panels.
- Letter from Hughes Net Resources.
- Email from Holly Zeller, property owner on Everett Rd.
- Transfer station update: improving recycling markets, telephone issue that is being addressed with the phone company; Supervisor Woody Bowne received his first vaccine dose. Someone was videotaping on Transfer Station property. They fled into the woods when approached.
- Notice from the state Attorney General regarding results of polling observation.
- Advertisement for Accounting Secretary position.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

Line Comeau said that the Town Report has been finalized. She expects to have a proof of it by tomorrow.

Mike Kaminski noted that the Police Chief is dealing with ongoing personal/family issues. He has structured the schedule accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Bob Martel, seconded by Mike Kaminski to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

David Nault, Chair

Michael Kaminski, Selectman

Robert Martel, Selectman