

**Dunbarton Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2022**

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

**Board members present:**

Mike Kaminski, Selectman  
Bob Martel, Selectman

Dave Nault was not present

**Town Officials present:**

Line Comeau, Town Administrator  
Patrick “Woody” Bowne, Transfer Station Manager

**Members of the Public present:**

Ray Plante

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

**Michael Kaminski** called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Approve Minutes

**Motion:** by Bob Martel, seconded by Mike Kaminski to approve the minutes of January 20, 2022 as amended.

**Discussion:** none.

**Vote: (2-0).**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**TOWN BUSINESS**

Draft Warrant Article 8 Discussion

Transfer Station Manager Patrick Bowne met with the BoS to discuss the proposed Draft warrant article 8 and how a can crusher can help increase efficiency at the Transfer Station. The importance of crushing the cans is so they take up less space in the dumpster, allowing them to haul more in one load. The more weight in the container, the less trips they have to make. He does about 4 loads of aluminum per year. He feels that with the use of this machine they can increase their weights by 50% at a minimum.

They don't currently crush their steel cans. This can crusher has a magnet to help separate steel from aluminum. Crushing the aluminum cans is labor-intensive under their current process.

**Mike Kaminski** asked about how long one trip takes. Woody said that each trip is roughly 2 hours round-trip.

**Woody Bowne** said that he applied for a grant for the containers. He won't know if they will get it for a couple of weeks.

**Mike Kaminski** asked about the life span of this piece of machinery, the repair cycle, etc. **Woody Bowne** said he can get those answers from another town he knows that uses one.

**Mike Kaminski** asked Woody to obtain a couple more electrician quotes for installation. **Bob Martel** agreed that trying to get more quotes is a good idea, even if he doesn't get responses, he has at least made the effort.

**Mike Kaminski** said that based on his answers, he's more accepting of the idea, but asked him to get more information.

**Lee Martel** asked about the warranty on the machine.

**Woody Bowne** said that the lead time on these machines is currently about 18 weeks. **Line Comeau** noted that he should mention this to the electricians so they can take that into consideration when bidding.

**Mike Kaminski** said that he reviewed Woody's overtime request for this week of six to eight hours, and he feels that it is entirely reasonable. He also feels that perhaps they have taken to micro-managing the Transfer Station Manager a bit. The BoS agreed that future discussion on overtime may occur between the Manager and the Town Administrator with exceptions for extreme examples.

Discussion regarding fuel usage. **Michael Kaminski** wanted it clear that these pumps should only be uses in rare instances. **Bob Martel** stated that the time paid for the employees time also has to be taken under consideration when calculating the fuel cost savings. **Woody Bowne** said that he understood and would only be fueling up at the state pumps when he is driving by during his hauling, to save a little money.

**Line Comeau** said informed Woody that she had requested a PIN for the Town's Credit card so it could be used at Sam's Club.

#### Review Warrant Wording Changes

**Line Comeau** presented the BoS with the wording changes to the warrant. They made some changes to make it specific to the town, removing references to the state. They also made it easier to understand how the voting and town meeting process works. **Mike Kaminski** noted a change to be made to explanation of the ballot portion of the process.

Warrant Article 3 did not change.

Warrant Article 4: adjusted the budget numbers. The total is 400 less than last year. The BoS had decided to try and keep a flat budget, so they reduced the Building Maintenance account. Net amount to be raised from taxes is \$1,664,592; estimated tax rate impact is \$4.17. In 2021 the operating budget impact was \$3.35, amended on the floor for a 2% additional pay increase; the BoS chose to use \$295,082 of surplus. If there is no surplus used, the increase for this operating budget will increase by \$0.77, so to try and keep the tax rate level, they would need to use at least \$300,000 of surplus. **Line Comeau** said that their estimated total of all other potential revenue sources (surplus) is \$575,977.31.

Tax Rate impact from operating budget: \$4.17

Tax Rate impact from warrant articles: \$0.55

Tax Rate impact from overlay: \$0.13

Tax Rate impact from war credits: \$0.16

2022 estimated town tax rate: \$4.89

2021 tax rate: \$4.05

Increase: \$0.84

**Line Comeau** said that she was advised that if they include the wording of the ARPA Grant in the warrant article, if the warrant article gets shot down, they can't use that money toward that project at all. They should word it so it is from surplus, then also mention on the floor that the ARPA grant money will be used to offset the total expense.

#### Review Revised Unanticipated Revenues and 2021 Budget Surplus

Discussion occurred regarding the minimum fund balance.

**Mike Kaminski** would like to return any remaining excess surplus to the taxpayers. **Bob Martel** said he would like to ensure that they use some of it to address their concerns regarding the possible outcomes of the utility assessment.

#### Review Draft MS 636

The BoS reviewed the Draft MS 636, currently a work in progress.

#### Sign Milfoil Grant Agreement for 2022

**Motion:** by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel to accept the grant from NHDES in the amount of \$1,010 to assist with exotic aquatic control in Gorham Pond.

**Discussion:** Bob Martel said that applying for this grant is how they are able to stay on the list for milfoil treatment.

**Vote: (2-0).**

The BoS signed off on the Milfoil Grant Agreement with the NH DES for 2022.

#### Mailbox Items

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

- **Reviewed the revised** quote from High Priority for electrical work for the can crusher warrant article.

- Email from the Building Inspector regarding inspection of the work being done in the front of the Town Hall building.
- Email from Patrick Bowne for hours worked to date with request for overtime of 6-8 hours.
- Receipt of petition warrant article opposing the retail sale of dogs and cats (33 registered voters verified; 5 not registered)
- Email from Patrick Bowne that he will be purchasing fuel from the state.
- NH DES Milfoil Grant Application
- Email from Dennis Mires regarding the second addendum for the library addition.
- Public Notice on the Bond Hearing & Public Hearing on the Budget & Warrant.
- Dedication Letter
- Report from Chief Remillard regarding the existing fleet (in response to Dave Nault's questions from prior meeting)
- **Email request from** Patrick Bowne **asking** the BoS to set up a maintenance fund for the solar project as he is concerned there are things that will need attention. **Michael Kaminski asked** Woody **to** talk to Jeff Crosby, **Road Agent** about the issue **to come up with a plan of action.**
- Request from the Trustee of the Trust Funds to appoint John Casey as an alternate for a term of one year beginning in March 2022. This was continued to next meeting.
- Letter of recognition of outstanding service. Continued to future meeting; Line will get a frame for this award.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

#### BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

**Line Comeau** said that she is still waiting on the Selectmen's portion of the Town Report.  
**Mike Kaminski** commended Line Comeau on her work on the budget this year.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

**Vote: (2-0).**

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

Signed:

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Michael Kaminski, Selectman

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Robert Martel, Selectman