

**Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2022**

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

Board members present:

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

Town Officials present:

Line Comeau, Town Administrator
Linda Landry, Town Clerk
Chief Christopher Remillard, Dunbarton Police
Sergeant Brian Tyler, Dunbarton Police
Officer Jason Patten, Dunbarton Police
John Trottier, Town Moderator Pro Tem
Fire Chief John Wiggin
Road Agent Jeff Crosby

Members of the Public present:

Sue Bracey
Fred Mullen
Don Larsen
Officer Edward Shaughnessy
Raymond Plante
Bronda Crosby

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 Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel to approve the public hearing minutes of February 17, 2022 as written.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

. None.

TOWN BUSINESS

Dedication of the 2021 Town Report

The BoS dedicated the Dunbarton 2021 Town Report to Road Agent Jeff Crosby. **Dave Nault** read aloud a brief narrative of Jeff's history with the town. He thanked Jeff for his years of service to the town on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

Jeff Crosby mentioned that spring road weight limits will be posted next week.

Central NH Special Operations Unit

Chief Edward Shaughnessy of the Bradford Police Department appeared before the BoS to give a presentation of the Central NH Special Operations Unit (of which he is also Commander). He explained that it was formed in 2002 in order to serve as an additional resource to local police departments in the event of an emergency. He provided a list of the benefits of becoming a member community, the training that team members receive, and the services provided.

Ray Plante asked what their approximate response time would be. **Chief Shaughnessy** explained that one of the benefits of a regional team is that members are in or near your community. He gave a recent example of an incident in Henniker they were on the scene within approximately 35 minutes.

Ray Plante asked where their equipment is stored. **Chief Shaughnessy** answered that most of it is kept in Concord, but some is kept at different locations in the region.

Dave Nault asked what it costs to have an officer on the team. **Chief Shaughnessy** said that it is a flat \$3,000 to put at least 1 person on the team. When someone's application to join is approved, they are put through an oral board and PT test. They are fully outfitted with the exception of sidearm and holster.

Ray Plante asked how their hours on a call would be handled. **Chief Shaughnessy** answered that their hours responding to an emergency would be paid for by the town, the town's insurance would still be covering the officer, etc. The team is fully insured through Primex as well.

Dave Nault asked Chief Remillard for his thoughts. **Chief Remillard** said that this is something he has wanted their town to participate in for quite some time and feels that it would be a great resource for their town especially in terms of their recreational areas.

Dave Nault asked what their role would be in an active shooter incident at their school. **Chief Shaughnessy** explained that the response to the incident would be their local police patrol. Their role in a situation like this would be to come in and help clear the building, crowd control, etc. **Chief Remillard** added that having a member of their department on the team is an asset in this situation because of the additional training this person would receive.

The BoS discussed their thoughts regarding the presentation. **Dave Nault** is in support of it. He feels that there is a benefit to the town, and he understands that Chief Remillard has been thorough in researching this opportunity. **Bob Martel** feels that it would be a shame to not take advantage of joining only to find out they should have when an incident occurs. **Mike Kaminski** is in support as well.

Chris Remillard followed up with the BoS regarding the body-worn cameras he is pursuing a grant for. The BoS confirmed that this was discussed at their last meeting. they are in consensus for him to proceed with this purchase.

Town Meeting Discussion

Town Clerk Linda Landry and Town Moderator pro tem John Trottier joined the BoS to discuss preparations for the upcoming town meeting.

Covid-19

There are some people who are concerned about the most recent mask guidance and possibly having a separate enclosed area for people who would prefer to wear masks or who are immunocompromised. John Trottier said that he recently attended a moderator workshop where they said it is up to each town to decide on their policy regarding masks. He feels they should certainly be courteous and strongly encourage people to wear them, but to have a separate area would require a second moderator and proper technology to recognize anyone who wanted to speak at the meeting. Jon Wiggin agreed that they can encourage masks and space the chairs.

Lee Martel noted they should expect a larger crowd this year with the larger ticket items being discussed.

Discussion continued regarding spacing using the chairs and the bleachers.

Sue Bracey cautioned that there are people in the community who are immunosuppressed that will not come to the meeting if there is not a separate area set up. John Trottier said that he is willing to offer a separate area of seats that are spaced out for people that would prefer to sit apart from the general seating area. **Line Comeau** suggested they mention on the town website that they are offering a separate seating area for people that would prefer it.

Setup

Linda Landry said they can begin setting up as early as 2:45 on Monday March 7th. She spoke with Woody Bowne who said his crew can begin set up at 3. Linda will be helping with set up as well.

Election Day Details

Linda Landry is coordinating lunch and dinner with Constantly Pizza. The BoS will bring donuts and coffee in the morning.

Discussion occurred regarding a table for Wreaths Across Dunbarton. Don Larsen noted that he is coordinating with the Boys and Girl Scouts of America to possibly share his display table with them to sell their flags.

Fred Mullen commends this Board for all of the work they put in on the elections.

Article 4 Amendment

Line Comeau presented the BoS with the amendment to article 4 (change to the Library budget due to a payroll error).

Fire Department Discussion

Brief discussion with Jon Wiggin regarding the installation of the sprinkler system at the library/town hall.

There was general discussion on the septic repairs. Jon Wiggin stated that it has been working okay but they are still trying to address the septic alarm because a separate alarm is required by code. Jon said he was told to check the switch outside and found that the switch had been turned off. Jon said that he installed a block to prevent the snowfall from setting it off again.

Jon said that there has been some ground settling around the new septic tank that was installed. He said that the company should be able to address this in the spring when the frost is gone. Dave Nault asked if the electrical panel work had been done that the Board approved. Jon replied no that he was told the sewer pump needs to be on its own circuit, but they found that there were too many things running on the same circuit. Jon stated that getting the sewer pump working, was a priority before the electrical panel could be replaced.

Jon Wiggin informed the Board that he would be taking down the sign on the front of the Safety Complex. He said has received complaints from residents asking when it was going to be repaired because it is in such poor condition. Jon stated that the sign is over 25 years old and was paid for by the Association and didn't feel that the responsibility of the Association to replace it. The Board was in consensus that the town would pay for the cost of a new sign.

Jon also told the Board that their 10-foot bay door is no longer adequate for larger trucks. He stated that the fire department responded to a fire on Robert Rogers Road, and the mutual aid responding to our aid was not able to get into the bay and had to stay outside in 5° weather with their truck running because it's a newer model. Jon stated that this will also be the case if we are hoping to get a new truck in the near future. Jon stated that there is room to raise the door header and it would be a good idea to look at enlarging the door to accommodate a larger truck sooner than later while the sign is down.

Line Comeau and the BoS reviewed the estimated debt schedules received from the NH Bond Bank.

Mailbox Items

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

- Recommendation from Planning Board Chairman for an appointment to the Planning Board. *Tabled to next meeting.*
- Email from Donna Dunn with questions about the warrant article and what the work will entail on Gorham Pond because of the culvert problem near her driveway entrance. **Dave Nault** said they will review this with the Road Agent at a future date.
- RTN request from Joel Shroades from Smart Procure in Florida
- Update for town report printing: delivery will be delayed, printing firm confirmed that the order will be delivered to the town office by Monday. RSA 41:14 states that the town has to have the report published in pamphlet form at least 7 days prior to annual meeting. (Tuesday March 1st) Because of the delay, a notice on the website will be required that town reports will be available for pickup and able to be viewed electronically on the town's website, but then will be delivered.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

Line Comeau noted that the Town Office may be closed tomorrow, 2/25/22 due to the incoming winter storm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Bob Martel, seconded by Dave Nault to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: (2-0).

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

Signed:

David Nault, Chair

Michael Kaminski, Selectman

Robert Martel, Selectman