

## SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Present: Jeanne Gervais, Heather McElroy, Mike Testut, Greg Manning, Pierre Gervais, Joel Cope, Doug Brent, Anne Brudrewicz, Jamie Budrewicz, Gwyn Worthington, Drake O'Connell, Nick Bingham, Michael Strait, and Teresa DeBonville.

Attending virtually: Bruce Webster, Mercedes Manning, and Brittany Frizzell.

Chairperson, Jeanne Gervais called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Update Agenda: Ethics Procedure update, and Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

Public Comment: Jamie Budrewicz asked if the separation agreement of the Town Manager was public comment. The board will consult with legal counsel to see if this is a public record and will get back to Mr. Budrewicz as soon as possible. Jeanne Gervais will contact legal counsel on February 20, 2025, and as soon as she gets a response, will let Mr. Budrewicz know.

Gwyn Worthington asked if there was any update on her property damage claim with the insurance company. The board told her that they have no updates at this time.

Snowmobile Complaint letter: In response to the letter sent to the board about snowmobiles, the Brighton Snowmobile Club has taken care of the issue and have put up signs in the center of town. The board recognizes that the Brighton snowmobile club has done everything in their power to keep riders from going onto roads that they are not supposed to, and parking on sidewalks. Pierre Gervais will contact the Essex Country Sheriff's department to let them know that this weekend is winter carnival weekend, and that their presence in town would be greatly welcomed. Mike Testut has responded to Ms. Lefebvre on the outcome of the letter.

Plowing property damage complaint: The board responded to the property complaint that Drake O'Connell sent to them. The board told Mr. O'Connell to keep track of all the damage, and document as much as possible, and in the spring, they would follow up, once the snow has melted to see the level of damage done by plowing to his property and put in a claim to the town's insurance company. Mr. O'Connell has talked with Nick Bingham, and they have come up with a solution on where to put the snow throughout the remainder of the winter season so that no further damage to the property is done.

Caution light for sidewalk plow: Pierre mentioned to the other board members that a citizen mentioned to him that the sidewalk plow should have a caution light on the top of it so that it can be seen from the side when plowing. The board agreed that this would be a good idea and will have Bruce put one on his tractor. Pierre also mentioned to the board that a citizen mentioned to him about the handicap parking in front of the laundry mat building, and the snow plowing up there. The board mentioned that there is a parking ban in this area from November to April, and the building owner should accommodate their tenant with alternate parking if available.

East Brighton Road Damage: Nick Bingham has put fill in the holes on Rt. 105 East Brighton Road to help with the problem.

Resolution or town planning grant: Pierre Gervais motions to sign the resolution for the town planning grant. Heather McElroy seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Appoint a temporary zoning administrator: This item cannot be done by the select board.

Municipal vehicles use policy: The board received a copy of the policy to look over. A motion was made by Heather McElroy to move forward with adopting the policy and revisit this item again at the next meeting. Pierre Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor so carried.

Town Lease agreements: The board was given copies of all lease agreements for their records to look over and have on hand in case any issues occur.

Overweight permits: Tabled.

Pay orders: The board reviewed and signed the pay orders for the road department accounts and the general accounts.

Approve Minutes from the previous meeting: The board reviewed the minutes of the February 5, 2025, meeting. A motion was made by Greg Manning to approve the minutes as printed. Pierre Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: Heather McElroy updated the board on the Ethics Rules and regulations. All board members, and town department heads need to take mandatory training before May 1, 2025. Heather suggested to the board that All town employees take the mandatory training. Pierre Gervais motions to have all town employees and board members complete the training in the time frame given. Greg Manning seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Drake O'Connell asked if the town could plow the sidewalks further up on Mountain Street, as there are several children that need to walk in the road because the sidewalks are not plowed and also asked who was responsible for keeping the fire hydrants cleared out. The

board will investigate policies on both of these issues to see who is responsible, if anyone and let Mr. O'Connell know.

Pierre Gervais brought up the email received by the board on the broken water main on Cross Street, and the damage that was caused to a vehicle. The citizen will get all documents to the town clerk to send to the town's insurance company.

Heather McElroy updated the board on what the town employee departments have been working on, and anything that the departments needed. Nick Bingham just asked if a letter could be drafted and sent to property owners about plowing snow into the road. The board received a draft of the letter to review, and Nick will work with the town clerk when there is an issue, and the town clerk will send out the letter when needed.

A motion to go into executive session at 5:55 PM with the members of the select board, Joel Cope, and Michael Strait to discuss a personnel issue was made by Heather McElroy. Pierre Gervais seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

A motion to exit executive session at 6:49 PM was made by Mike Testut and seconded by Greg Manning. All in favor, so carried.

No action was taken.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Greg Manning and seconded by Mike Testut. All in favor, so carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM.