



Town of Amherst, NH

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Barbara Landry Meeting Room
2 Main Street
Monday, January 28, 2019

1 **1. Call to Order**

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3 Chairman Dwight Brew called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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5 Attendees: Chairman Dwight Brew, Selectmen John D'Angelo, Tom Grella, Peter Lyon,
6 and Reed Panasiti. Also present: Town Administrator Dr. Dean Shankle.

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8 **2. Pledge of Allegiance** – Whitney Plasket, Environmental Engineer for Arcadis USA,
9 Inc., led the pledge.

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11 **3. Citizens' Forum** – none

12
13 **4. Town Administrator's Report**

14 Town Administrator Shankle stated that he will be meeting with Bill Drescher, the town's
15 attorney, on Thursday afternoon. The two will then immediately meet with members of
16 the Board and the town moderator, to discuss the town meeting.

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18 Town Administrator Shankle explained that one of the granite posts near the Green was
19 broken due to a minor accident during the recent ice storm. It will be fixed shortly by the
20 DPW.

21
22 He also reviewed a letter he received from Pennichuck regarding fire protection and the
23 number of hook ups needed set up after the meter in local homes.

24
25 **5. PUBLIC HEARING**

26 *This item was tabled until its scheduled start time of 6:40 p.m.*

27
28 **6. Annual Financial Audit update**

29 *This item was tabled until later in the meeting.*

30
31 **7. Arcadis USA, Inc. – TCI Workplan Review**

32 *This item was tabled until later in the meeting.*

33
34 **8. Administration**

35 **Tree Removal Bid – DPW**

36 Town Administrator Shankle stated that there are four (4) maple trees on Chestnut Hill
37 that need to be removed. Two (2) of the trees are dying and the other two (2) don't appear
38 to be healthy. All of the trees are within 2' of the pavement, between stonewalls and the

pavement. While part of Chestnut Hill Road is a scenic road, the area in which the trees are located is not. There were three (3) bids received for this work and Town Administrator Shankle agrees with the bid recommended by DPW Director, Eric Hahn.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman Lyon to award the tree removal bid for 4 trees, determined to be hazardous, on Chestnut Hill Road, to Carlson Tree Service, LLC being the lowest qualified bidder in the amount of \$1,300 for all 4 trees.
Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

9. Approvals

9.1 Assessing

A MOTION was made by Selectman Lyon and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve and sign the Timber Tax Levy/Certification of Yield Tax for:
Property Map/Lot 003-032-003-001 in the amount of \$217.78
Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Lyon and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti to approve and sign the All Service Veteran's Tax Credits for:
Property Map/Lot 005-016-034 in the amount of \$500.00
Property Map/Lot 005-016-038 in the amount of \$500.00
Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Lyon and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti to approve and sign the Veteran Tax Credit for:
Property Map/Lot 003-044-002 in the amount of \$500.00
Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

5. PUBLIC HEARING: Speed Limit Regulation

Pursuant to RSA 41:14-b, the Amherst Board of Selectmen shall hereby give notice and announce the convening of two public hearings for the following proposed ordinance for the purpose of regulating traffic (NH RSA 31:39):
Speed Limit Regulation: Establish Ordinance to set the speed limit on Border Street to 30 MPH.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti to open the public hearing at 6:41 p.m.
Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Brew reviewed the memo from Chief of Police, Mark Reams, regarding the traffic data from Border Street reviewed by the Amherst Public Highway Safety Committee. The data supports a speed limit of 30mph.

Members of the Ways & Means Committee entered the meeting: Peter Moustakis, Elaina Bedio, Michael Facques, and Scott Tuthill.

85 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Lyon and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to close*
86 *the public hearing at 6:43 p.m.*
87 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.*
88

89 Chairman Brew stated that the Board will take action on this speed limit regulation
90 request at their next meeting.
91

92 **6. Annual Financial Audit update**

93 Town Administrator Shankle stated that the town's new auditor for this year is Roberts &
94 Greene. Their original goal was to have a draft of the audit to the town in November.
95 Unfortunately, due to a variety of reasons, this didn't come to pass. The current hope is
96 that a draft will be completed by Friday. If this doesn't happen, Administrator Shankle has
97 told the auditors that they will need to explain exactly why this deadline can't be met.
98

99 **7. Arcadis USA, Inc. – TCI Workplan Review**

100 Whitney Plasket, Engineer; Jim Luker, Project Manager; and Alan Horneman, Technical
101 Expert of Arcadis USA, Inc. explained that Arcadis was engaged by TCI in the fall of
102 2018 to prepare a workplan. DES approved the plan and it can now be implemented. They
103 presented the plan to the Board.
104

105 Chairman Brew explained that this has to do with the PFOAs discovered in the Route
106 101A area in town in 2016. The state has become involved and this workplan will require
107 approval to test samples in Amherst town right-of-ways.
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109 Mr. Horneman stated that they will be drilling into the ground at seven (7) sites near the
110 former TCI facility, in order to better understand the transport of PFOS and also to
111 understand the groundwater flow issues in that area. Ms. Plasket explained that, per the
112 results of this drilling, up to three (3) of these sites will be turned into wells to allow for
113 better regulation of access and samples to understand flow.
114

115 Ms. Plasket stated that these drillings will be off the road and not on private property, but
116 in the town's right-of-ways. Selectman Lyon explained that the Board can't grant Arcadis
117 authority for the state highways, only the town's right of ways.
118

119 In response to a question from Selectman Lyon, Ms. Plasket explained that the overall
120 objective of the plan is to evaluate how PFOS relate to the environment, collect samples of
121 soil and groundwater, refine the groundwater flow direction, inform a groundwater
122 monitoring plan, and look at seepage velocities.
123

124 Mr. Horneman stated that TCI has been identified as one culprit of PFOS but there are
125 other potential sources from the environment. Arcadis would like to understand the
126 amount moved from TCI to the water well that's nearby.
127

128 In response to a question from Selectman Lyon, Mr. Horneman stated that all of the
129 findings and documents relating to this issue can be found on the NH DES database. It can
130 also be made available on the Amherst Town website.
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Mr. Horneman stated that, as a secondary part of this plan, Arcadis would like to investigate and understand soil concentrations. To do this they would like to collect a number of shallow samples covering a greater area in town. They will use an auger drill to drill down about 1' to get these samples. They are requesting the ability to access town-owned land to gather these samples, so that they don't need to go onto private property. Ms. Plasket explained that this will involve about twenty (20) drillings in the right-of-ways around town and ten (10) drillings in undeveloped locations.

In response to a question from Selectman Panasiti, Mr. Horneman stated that they know which PFOS components came from the TCI facility, so they should be able to look at the chemistry and flow from these wells to better determine how local areas were impacted.

Selectman Lyon provided the group with the NRPC map that shows which areas are town-owned and which of those areas are conservation land. He explained that the group should get in touch with the Community Development Office to work through any concerns.

In response to a question from Selectman Grella, Ms. Plasket stated that the holes will be filled in after the samples are taken and restoration efforts will also be made.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti to give the Town Administrator approval to grant access to town-owned land and conservation land, once approval is granted by the ACC.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

Chair of the Ways & Means Committee, Peter Moustakis, explained that the Committee reviewed the one (1) new warrant article, and the reduced operating budget warrant article, and four of the members have voted in support of both items 4-0-0.

9. Approvals

9.2 Payroll

*A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Lyon to approve one (1) FY19 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$0.00 dated January 16, 2019, subject to review and audit. *** This was a payroll return from the bank & re-issue to employee. ****

Voting: motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti to approve one (1) FY19 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$212,258.35 dated January 17, 2019, subject to review and audit.

Voting: motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

9.3 Accounts Payable

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti, to approve one (1) FY19 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$28,545.74 dated January 17, 2019, subject to review and audit (Town Clerk Transfers to the State of NH).

Voting: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti, to approve one (1) FY19 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$195,797.80 dated January 23, 2019, subject to review and audit.
Voting: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

9.4 Concentration Account

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Panasiti, to approve one (1) FY19 Concentration Account Manifest in the amount of \$575.83 dated January 24, 2019, subject to review and audit.
Voting: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

9.5 Previous Meeting Minutes – December 10, 2018 (Non-Public #1); January 7, 2019; and January 14, 2019

A MOTION was made by Selectman Panasiti and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo, to approve the Board of Selectmen Non-Public meeting minutes of December 10, 2018 (1st Non-Public session of the evening), as presented.
Voting: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Panasiti and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo, to approve the Board of Selectmen public meeting minutes of January 7, 2019, as amended.
Voting: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Panasiti and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo, to approve the Board of Selectmen public meeting minutes of January 14, 2019, as amended.
Voting: Motion passed unanimously, 5-0-0.

10. Action Items

There were no action items to review at this time.

11. New/Old Business

Chairman Brew explained that SAU 39 and the three (3) districts that comprise it have the goal to create a strategic plan within the next 90 days for all of the schools. The first meeting of this planning group will be on Wednesday, and Selectman D'Angelo will serve on it as the Board's liaison.

Selectman D'Angelo informed the Board that he will be helping to mentor a local Girl Scout troop trying to earn their Silver Award. Their proposal is to put in dog waste station somewhere in town. Chairman Brew suggested the group contact the DPW in order to see what the landfill requirements for this are.

12. Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.
Voting: 5-0-0; motion passed unanimously.

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NEXT MEETING: February 11, 2019 - Monday

SIGNATURE ON FILE

02.11.2019

Selectman Reed Panasiti

Date