



# Town of Amherst, NH

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Barbara Landry Meeting Room  
2 Main Street  
Tuesday, May 31, 2022, 6:30PM

Attendees: Chairman Peter Lyon, Selectman Bill Stoughton, Selectman John D'Angelo (remote), Selectman Tom Grella, and Selectman Danielle Pray

Also present: Town Administrator Dean Shankle, and Recording Secretary Kristan Patenaude

### 1. Call to Order

Chairman Peter Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance** – led by Dan Veilleux, State Representative, member of the SRLD, and member of the Souhegan Cooperative School Board.

**3. Citizen's Forum** – none at this time

### 4. Acceptance of Resignation from SRLD

#### 4.1. Eric Hahn Resignation Letter

Chairman Lyon read Eric Hahn's resignation letter into the record.

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to accept, with deep regret, the resignation of Eric Hahn as a representative to the SRLD. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

### 5. Board Appointment

#### 5.1 SRLD Appointment – Eric Slosek

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to appoint DPW Director Eric Slosek as a representative to the SRLD. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

#### 5.2 Library Trustee Appointments, Steve Mantius as Trustee Member, Antonia Dinkel as Alternate Member

Chairman Lyon explained that the Board of Selectmen appoints alternates to the Library Trustees. The Chair of the Trustees is requesting that the Board nominate Steve Mantius as a full-time member until the next vote in 2023, and Antonia Dinkel as an alternate to fill Mr. Mantius' position.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to appoint Steve Mantius as a regular member of the Library Trustees, with an end date of March 2023.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to appoint Antonia Dinkel as an alternate member of the Library Trustees, with an end date of March 2023.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

## **6. Scheduled Appointments**

### **6.1 Steve Boczenowski, Amherst Congregational Church Town Common Use Request**

Mr. Boczenowski explained that the Congregational Church’s Racial Justice group is proposing a historical reenactment of Frederick Douglass’ 1852 speech, “What to the slave is your Fourth of July?” This reenactment is being sponsored by the Black Heritage Trail of Portsmouth, NH. Last year 13 communities sponsored speeches. 15 communities will be sponsoring the speeches this year, including Amherst. A number of readers will be reenacting the speech, which will take approximately 1 hour. This will be read from the steps of the Congregational Church toward the street. The Congregational Church is requesting to close off that portion of the street in front of the Church for approximately 3 1/2 hours on that day. There is also a request to use a small portion of the Green for seating in the shade. The application has been amended so that there is no longer a request for food to be served on the Green for this event.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to approve the application for the Congregational Church for July 1, 2022, from 11:30am – 2:30pm, for a racial justice presentation.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously

### **6.2 John Harvey, Amherst Conservation Commission, proposed trail at Buck Meadow**

John Harvey, of the Conservation Commission (ACC), stated that his request is to create a trail through the Town-owned vacant lot 2-96, which is across from Parkhurst Place on Veterans Road, to be connected to Buck Meadow Conservation and Recreation Property. He is proposing to name this the Parkhurst trail, as Howard Parkhurst served for 19 years on the ACC. The 400’ trail is intended for the convenience of Veterans Road residents, especially those at Parkhurst Place, to connect with the Buck Meadow Conservation and Recreation Property. The proposed trail will follow ACC standards and Buck Meadow rules, such as following the flattest terrain on the site and discreet signage at appropriate places. He noted that the Board will be the one to determine how Lot 2-96, through which this trail is proposed, will be managed as it is not currently managed by the ACC. In regard to comments made by residents of the Buck Meadow condominiums, Mr. Harvey stated that there are no steep slopes on the proposed trail, and the trail will be constructed in a way to promote wildlife

habitat. While the trail may generate more foot traffic in the area, this would be better than additional parking within Buck Meadow itself. The trail could have a dangerous crossing from Parkhurst Place, so Mr. Harvey is requesting that the DPW mark the crossing with warning signs.

In response to a question from Chairman Lyon, Mr. Harvey stated that it is unclear if the proposed trail crosses the Buck Meadow condominium property at any point. A detailed survey would be needed to show this. His intention is only to extend the trail on Town-owned property. Chairman Lyon explained that the proposed trail may cross a corner of the condominium's property, but the deed has a permanent easement which allows current owners of Buck Meadow and the town to utilize it for crossing.

In response to a question from Selectman Stoughton, Mr. Harvey stated that he believes the ACC would be willing to manage Lot 2-96 if asked to do so by the Board.

In response to a question from Selectman Pray, Mr. Harvey stated that creation of this trail will be funded through the ACC budget.

Town Administrator Shankle stated that he believes the condominium owners and abutters should be notified, especially if management of Lot 2-96 is turned over to the ACC. Chairman Lyon noted that the Chair of the ACC has previously stated that he would reach out to the homeowner's association to receive their input on this proposal.

Selectman Stoughton noted that there are not currently any conservation restrictions on Lot 2-96. This is not a high value property for conservation, so the Board may wish to consider other possible uses for it prior to placing conservation restrictions on it.

### **6.3 SRLD Updates**

Dan Veilleux explained that the cost of trash next year will be increasing from \$77/ton to \$90/ton, starting January 1, 2023. This is a 17% increase. It will then increase, per the contract, 4% per year. It will be important for the SRLD to find ways to save money on recycling and increasing trailer load weights. The costs per ton are increasing through tipping fees, fuel surcharges, and annual contractual increases in hauling rates. Recycling rates for Amherst in 2021 were 16.5%. In Q1 of 2022, these rates for the Town increased to 20%. In looking at surrounding towns, Brookline's rate for 2021 was 18.23% and 19.5% in Q1 2022; Mont Vernon's rate in 2021 was 15.71% and 17.5% in Q1 2022. The intention is to find ways for other towns to increase their recycling rates, along with changes in their operational practices to increase load weights. Some towns, such as Mont Vernon, do not have the compactors that other towns have in order to increase load weights. In the past, Hollis has sent out its trailers lighter than the Amherst requirements, because it is more convenient for the town. The SRLD is trying to sway towns to only send out loads when they are heavier. Approximately \$17,000 can be saved per year by increasing load weights and tonnages. This affects all towns within the SRLD.

DPW Director Eric Slosek explained that the deck at the Transfer Station needs to be treated to prevent slipping, as it isn't currently fully covered. This has led to additional costs due to the salt runoff causing rust issues with equipment. Roofing over the entire deck would help to keep the salt off. He noted that previous DPW Director Hahn has mentioned over the years different architectural designs for the deck that could be reviewed. DPW Director Slosek stated that compactor 2 needs to be refurbished. Zinc plates on the equipment could be used to deter rust. Routine maintenance is performed on Transfer Station equipment, including pressure washing and adding rust prevention. Refurbishment of compactor 2 will hopefully only take 3-4 weeks to complete, and he is confident that the other existing compactors will be able to handle the capacity while compactor 2 is down.

DPW Director Slosek stated that he has toured other transfer station facilities and believes that Amherst's facility is designed well. It is a unique facility because one can drive their car in and empty almost all trash and recycling without moving their vehicle. He noted that the DPW is trying to increase its recycling but is encountering problems due to contamination of specific kinds of recycling. He explained that glass costs \$40/ton to dispose of if it is clean, but \$150/ton to dispose of if contaminated. He asked that residents allow DPW workers to sort recycling, instead of trying to do it themselves.

Mr. Veilleux noted that the current facility in Keene which Amherst is sending its recycling to has a "three strikes and you're out" rule for contaminated recycling loads for the entire life of the business relationship. If this contract fails, Amherst will need to send its recycling to a facility in New London, likely incurring additional costs.

In response to a question from Selectman Grella, Mr. Veilleux explained that milk jugs have the highest rate of return for recyclables. The Transfer Station was only accepting limited plastics during the pandemic. All recyclable items are currently doing well in the market.

Selectman Grella suggested that the DPW update its signboard at the Transfer Station to educate residents on some of this information.

Selectman Pray asked how other towns are enticing residents to recycle. Mr. Veilleux explained that some towns use handouts. It is difficult to make changes at transfer stations because residents usually are not accepting of them.

In response to a question from Selectman Pray, DPW Director Slosek explained that Mont Vernon may send out loads that are not full to capacity due to the fact that it needs to have an empty trailer in anticipation of incoming loads. The concern in Hollis is that the access to its dumpster is located a long way across its transfer station site.

Selectman Pray stated that she would like to hear recommendations regarding the deck roofing, as this seems to be impacting the Transfer Station equipment. DPW Director Slosek stated that this will be a large and complex project, which could be done incrementally.

In response to a question from Selectman Stoughton, Mr. Veilleux stated that the breakdown of the responsibility for each transfer station between the towns and the SRLD is based on the tons of trash generated by each town. Costs of revenue for recycling are based on rates

generated by the town. DPW Director Slosek stated that Amherst's Transfer Station facility is owned by the Town itself, but the landfill itself, which is closed, is the responsibility in perpetuity by all four SRLD towns.

In response to a question from Selectman Stoughton, DPW Director Slosek stated that the Transfer Station seems to be seeing less incoming trash due to private trash services being used by residents. However, as the general population in Town increases, so will the amount of trash being brought to the Transfer Station.

Selectman Stoughton suggested that the DPW look at its upcoming capital projects and get them into the Capital Improvement Plan. If any of these projects are in response to growth in the Town, it may be possible to recoup some of the money through impact fees.

In response to a question from Selectman Stoughton, DPW Director Slosek stated that he is sure some nonresidents occasionally use the Transfer Station, however staff is trained to look for Town stickers on vehicles. This can be a hard thing to police.

Chairman Lyon suggested that the DPW continue to pursue public education through items such as handouts and social media. He believes that many want to do the right thing in terms of recycling and that it is worth considering what makes the most financial sense. He asked that will there be a report from the SRLD to the Board quarterly.

## **7. Administration**

### **7.1 Administrative Updates**

Town Administrator Shankle stated that a draft Administrative Impact Fee Policy document has been assembled by Selectman Stoughton. This will be up for discussion at the Board's next meeting. He also noted that Comstar, the Town's ambulance billing company, was subject to an information leak regarding their transports. The Town's insurance company, Primex, is working on this item.

Town Administrator Shankle stated that Cobbler Lane has had three houses test above the PFAS exceedance levels. This is important because these houses are likely tied to the previous use of foam at the Fire Station nearby. As this problem was caused by the Town, he is having Monadnock Water delivered to residents until filtering can be set up at their houses. He does not believe that it will be possible to bring Pennichuck Water down Amherst Street to Cobbler Lane at this time. This is not an item that the State PFAS remediation funding will be used for, as it is clear that it is the Town's burden.

### **7.2 PFAS Program Discussion**

Town Administrator Shankle stated that he recently spoke with Amy Rousseau, DES, and that the State has pledged to increase its PFAS remediation funding up to \$5,000 for a point of use filtration system, and \$10,000 for a service connection system. DES has guaranteed that all towns in the State will be covered under this funding. It is unclear as to when the State program will be up and running.

The Board agreed to withdraw the Town's proposed PFAS remediation funding program, contingent upon final approval of the State program.

A *MOTION* was made by Selectman Stoughton and *SECONDED* by Selectman Grella to direct the Town Administrator to inform DES upon final approval of the State's new PFAS program that the Town will withdraw its PFAS program grant application.  
Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously

## **8. Staff Reports**

### **8.1 DPW Semiannual Update**

DPW Director Slosek gave his semiannual update. He explained that he met with DPW staff to make clear the goals and directions of the Department. He explained that the utmost priority of the Department is to build a team and work collaboratively. DPW Director Slosek stated that the winter included challenging weather such as rain, freezing rain, and sleet events. The DPW was able to stay within its budget for salt. The price for salt rose from \$49.50/ton to \$72/ton last fall. The Town's per storm average of salt in tons is the lowest it has ever been, at 70.95 tons/storm. Due to the cost of salt, it is important to conserve as much as possible, leading the DPW to meticulously calibrate equipment pre and post storm events. The DPW has been effective at using a 50/50 sand/stone mix for the past few years. The State's Green SnowPro program has also been instrumental for the Town. DPW Director Slosek stated that he believes hiring outside contractors will be a challenge this year. The department will advertise for these positions early.

In regard to bridges, DPW Director Slosek stated that the Boston Post Road twin culverts were replaced in December. This project was a success and completed in under 2.5 weeks. The DPW is planning for replacement of the Mont Vernon Road bridge and the Thornton Ferry Road I bridge in 2023 and 2024. Over the winter the Town was randomly selected by the State for "Mobile" funding from the federal government for the Thornton Ferry Road I bridge project. This funding will pay for 100% of the construction and construction engineering costs. This is estimated to save the town approximately \$250,000. The Spring Road culvert repair project was put out to bid this spring, but unfortunately the Town was unable to attract any bids. He will likely put this item out to bid again in the fall.

In terms of the Department's fleet, it is comprised of over 24 vehicles and pieces of equipment. The grader recently needed extensive repairs totaling \$35,000. The current replacement plan calls to replace the grader in 2031. He believes the plan needs to be updated so that the grader can be replaced sooner in order to avoid more extensive repairs. The backhoe also needed a costly repair over the winter, at \$30,000. He would like to explore the possibility of establishing a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) for vehicle/equipment repairs.

Regarding buildings, the DPW has an ongoing project to update the Town Hall ERV system. An RFP will be put out shortly for this project. Significant progress on the new DPW mechanic's garage was made over the winter and the new building is now ready for use. DPW has also aided the Recreation Department with improving the Buck Meadow building.

Selectman Pray asked that the Board be presented with equipment and vehicle repair figures for the past five years.



In response to a question from Selectman Stoughton, DPW Director Slosek stated that plowing contractors are paid at an hourly rate and bring their own trucks and fuel. Selectman Stoughton suggested that if the Town provides fuel for these contractors at a lower rate, there may be more interest.

Selectman Stoughton noted that he is unsure if a CRF could be used for vehicle and equipment repairs, as these are operation and maintenance expenses not capital items.

Chairman Lyon noted that there will be future bridge work proposed for Brook Road in 2026 at the cost of approximately \$1M. An additional bridge on Northern Blvd may be subject to Planning Board and Zoning Board pending applications. The Board needs to think about seeking authorization to bond the Brook Road project. He noted that past DPW Director Eric Hahn had toyed with the idea of renting a grader as needed. He would also be reluctant to create a CRF for DPW vehicle and equipment repairs.

## **8.2 DPW Pickup truck purchase**

DPW Director Slosek explained that the DPW desires to purchase a new pickup truck to replace an existing truck. The new truck is a 2022 Chevy Colorado Crew cab 4x4 and would replace a 2012 Ford F250 extended cab 4x4. This truck is used by the Buildings & Grounds Foreman to support those operations. No plow equipment is needed for this truck. The planned replacement cost for this truck is \$40,000. The total cost to the town is \$23,580.20 after a \$7,000 trade-in and \$150 delivery fee. He requested Board approval to order the truck now, with the understanding that the truck will not be paid for until after July 1, 2022, when the FY23 budget funding is available for its purchase.

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to authorize the purchase of a 2022 Chevy Colorado Crew Cab 4x4 from Colonial Ford, for the amount of \$23,580.20. This purchase price includes a trade-in value of \$7,000 for our existing 2012 Ford F-250 extended cab pickup. This truck will be paid for using FY23 budget funds after July 1, 2022, from 01-4312-70-2740 New Equipment Capital. Further, to authorize the Town Administrator to sign all related documents for this purchase. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

## **8.3 New Hire - Full Time Patrolman**

Police Chief Mark Reams stated that he is requesting approval to fill the existing full-time police officer vacancy within the Department's roster (position vacant since October 2021 due to an ordinary resignation). Candidate Ryan Gallagher is highly recommended and has met all criteria for appointment to the position of full-time police officer. Mr. Gallagher is also previously certified as a full-time Police Officer.

In response to a question from Selectman D’Angelo, Police Chief Reams explained that the candidate previously worked in a security capacity for the federal government, and recently for the town of Mason Police Department.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to appoint Mr. Ryan Gallagher to the position of Full -Time Police Officer, effective June 1, 2022.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously

#### **8.4 APD Biannual Report**

Chief Reams presented his semiannual report. He explained that the Department's goals are to reduce neighborhood property crime, increase traffic safety along Town roads and through residential areas, reduce the use and availability of illicit drugs, and maintain professional policing standards and level of service.

Regarding the first goal, the Department's original goal aimed at reducing residential property crime by 15% over the course of 4-5 years. Residential property crime has dropped every year since 2015, with the exception of an uptick in 2020 attributed solely to theft or vandalism of political signs during a contentious election year. Residential property crime has decreased a total of 59% from 2015 - 2021.

Regarding increasing traffic safety, a 2021 survey showed an increase from a 75% to 80% approval rating for traffic enforcement since the previous 2019 survey. A steady officer presence is still required along the two major State roads due to enormous traffic volume. Agency efforts aimed at improving traffic safety along Town roads include an increase in enforcement presence from 10-15% by 2021. The agency was unsuccessful in reaching the goal of at least 52% Town road enforcement for 2020, due to COVID-19. The return to more routine operations in 2021 allowed for increased engagement and roadside enforcement presence along Town roads and neighborhoods achieving the desired goal. He noted that 89% of traffic stops result in warnings instead of citations.

Regarding reducing the availability of illicit drugs, the Department's drug enforcement efforts have always focused on drug resistance education and aggressive investigation/arrests of drug offenders. The Department goal was to increase major drug arrests by an average of roughly 15% each year through 2020, and this has now shifted forward to at least 2022. He explained that the County Task Force went unfunded for 2020 and its operations were suspended. The Task Force operations were resumed in October 2021 and are currently ongoing. There does seem to be a trend toward fewer drug related incidents.

Regarding maintaining professional policing standards and a level of service, a biennial community survey has been conducted in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2021. The 2021 community survey results showed a 96% approval rating for overall service of the Department. Phase I of the Police Station renovation was completed in January 2021. The contract for Phase II of the project was approved in April 2022. Build-time is expected to last 11-12 weeks, although lead times on some materials will likely extend the final completion date by several weeks. The Department’s Strategic Plan over the last two years has addressed ongoing body worn camera (BWC) discussions. State grant funding for BWC programs was implemented in August of 2021, with application guidelines established just three months ago. The Town's grant application for up to a \$50,000 reimbursement has been filed in anticipation of a July 1, 2023, BWC program implementation.



Chief Reams explained that the Public Safety Communications Center has made a steady increase in caller satisfaction rating, reflected in four biennial surveys beginning in 2013 (81%) through the most recent 2021 survey (93%). The Communications Capital Reserve Fund was established to address major repairs and long-term equipment replacement. Approximately \$95,000 was expended on major repairs over the last four years. Voters again supported a continued annual CRF contribution of \$25,000 for FY23.

Selectman Stoughton noted that the Police Department conducts a lot of traffic stops, upwards of 30/day. At the same time, the Department has achieved a 96% satisfaction rating from the public. This demonstrates the professionalism of the force. He stated that the Police Department has already been in touch with the SAU regarding school safety. He thanked the Department and noted that the Board will support any recommendations it has to keep children safe in schools.

#### **8.5 Hiring of A-EMT**

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to hire A-EMT Michelle Othot at the recommendation of Chief Matthew Conley.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

#### **8.6 Hiring of a Call Firefighter**

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to hire Spencer Wright as a call firefighter at the recommendation of Chief Matthew Conley.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

#### **8.7 COVID 19 Task Force Update**

Jennifer Stover stated that on May 19<sup>th</sup>, COVID levels in Hillsborough County rose to a high level. At one point the Town had three employees test positive all at once. The COVID-19 Task Force has been following the CDC guidance, moving toward a mask requirement in Town buildings due to the high level of COVID-19 in the county. As levels are coming down again, this may be altered within the next couple of weeks.

Craig Fraley, Director of the Recreation Department, explained that he has concerns regarding the mask mandate with upcoming summer camps. 90% of the time summer camps are outside but there is a concern if they need to be held indoors. None of the schools currently have a mask mandate in their buildings and parents seem to feel comfortable with this choice. The schools have no intention of requiring masks for the rest of the school year or for their summer programs. While he understands a mask mandate being needed while standing in line at Town Hall, he believes this would hurt the camp setting severely and many will pull their children out of the programs.

Amy Lapointe, Library Director, stated that the mask mandate is also problematic for the Library. Staff is working to get people back into the Library and requiring masks may be off-putting to many while it is not currently the norm in public. She believes the Library has been

successful in employing a model of choice in masking. She will share the recommendation of the Task Force with her staff but will not be mandating masks in the Library.

Selectman Stoughton stated that he has reviewed the CDC recommendations and reads them as advice to individuals, but not as advice to local governments to require of others. He believes that a mask mandate in Town buildings is more restrictive than what the CDC is recommending. At the current stage of COVID-19, there are tools available to the public such as vaccines, masks, and tests, which were not available early on in the pandemic. He is comfortable with letting individuals make their own choices.

Selectman Pray noted that this mask mandate requirement seems like it would be very problematic for the Recreation Department and the Library.

Chairman Lyon stated that, while he is hesitant because of the Board's responsibility to their employees, he believes individuals have the tools and knowledge in the current situation to not mandate masks in Town buildings. He encouraged the Task Force to post and repeat CDC language in Town buildings.

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella with respect to masks, that in conditions medium and high, until further action from the Board, mask use be optional and that all persons be encouraged to respect the right of others to wear/not wear masks.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

## **9. Approvals**

### **9.1 Atlas Fireworks, Application for Sales Permit**

*A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to approve the permit application from Atlas Fireworks.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

### **9.2 Baboosic Lake Community Septic Warrants**

*A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to approve and sign the Baboosic Lake Community Septic Warrants due July 1, 2022 as follows:*

*Phase I \$ 2,042.52*

*Phase II \$ 5,381.48*

*Phase III \$ 6,643.22*

*Phase IV \$ 4,729.77*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D'Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

### **9.3 Assessing**

#### **Elderly Exemption**

#### **Item A.**

The attached application has been reviewed by our Assessor and our Assessor recommends denying the exemption because the applicant failed to provide the documentation required to support the exemption.

*Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to deny the Elderly Exemption for Map 002, Lot 073-041-43 for the 2022 tax year. Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

#### ***Abatement Land Use Change Tax***

##### **Item B.**

Land Use Change Tax was assessed twice on the same property. The second bill was never sent. This abatement corrects the error in the books, but no refund is due to the taxpayer.

*Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the 2021 abatement for Map 006 Lot 0079-021 in the amount of \$13,300.00.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

#### ***Land Use Change Tax***

##### **Item C.**

The attached Land Use Change Tax has been reviewed by our assessor and our assessor recommends approval. The Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$25,000 represents 10% of the full and true market value of \$250,000.

*Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the LUCT in the amount of \$27,000 for Tax Map 005 Lot 059-036.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

##### **Item D.**

The attached Land Use Change Tax has been reviewed by our assessor and our assessor recommends approval. The Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$27,000 represents 10% of the full and true market value of \$270,000.

*Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the LUCT in the amount of \$27,000 for Tax Map 005 Lot 059-025.*

*Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously*

##### **Item E.**

The attached Land Use Change Tax has been reviewed by our assessor and our assessor recommends approval. The Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$27,000 represents 10% of the full and true market value of \$270,000.

Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the LUCT in the amount of \$27,000 for Tax Map 005 Lot 059-026.  
Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously

**Item F.**

The attached Land Use Change Tax has been reviewed by our assessor and our assessor recommends approval. The Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$20,000 represents 10% of the full and true market value of \$200,000.

Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the LUCT in the amount of \$20,000 for Tax Map 002 Lot 170-037.  
Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously

**Levy of the July 2022 Tax Warrant**

**Item G.**

Therefore, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve and sign the July 2022 Tax Warrant in the amount of \$24,887,421.00.  
Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

**Abatement**

**Item H1.**

The following abatement request has been reviewed by Vision Government Solutions Inc. and KRT Appraisal, and both recommend denial. The taxpayer did not provide any support for the abatement request. The appraiser contacted the taxpayer to discuss the request and did not obtain information to support the application.

For these reasons and the reasons set forth in the appraiser’s memo, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to deny the 2021 abatement applications for Tan Map Lot 002-166-016.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

**Item H2.**

The following abatement request has been reviewed by Vision Government Solutions Inc. and KRT Appraisal, and both recommend denial. The taxpayer sought a reduction in the assessment because of poor condition of the residence. KRT Appraisal did an onsite interior inspection and concluded the condition, and the appraisal are consistent. The taxpayer also sought an abatement on grounds unrelated to the valuation of the property and that are more appropriately addressed through exemption and other deferral requests in the first instance.

For these reasons and the reasons set forth in the appraiser’s memo, A MOTION was made by Selectman Stoughton and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to deny the 2021 abatement applications for Tan Map Lot 004-014-016.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

#### **9.4 AP, Payroll, Minutes**

##### **Payroll**

A MOTION was made by Selectman D’Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$219,299.75 dated May 19, 2022, subject to review and audit.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

##### **Accounts Payable**

A MOTION was made by Selectman D’Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$161,793.08 dated May 10, 2022, subject to review and audit.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D’Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$231,160.45.00 dated May 24, 2022, subject to review and audit. (Vendors).

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D’Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$3,037,681.00 dated June 1, 2022, subject to review and audit. (Schools )

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D’Angelo to approve the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of May 9, 2022, as submitted.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

#### **10. Action Items**

The Board reviewed its action items.

#### **11. Old/New Business**

Selectman Stoughton stated that the Planning Board was recently presented a citizen’s petition for a 1-year moratorium on all building permits and subdivision approvals in Town. If the Board votes to recommend this item, it will come before the voters in March of next year.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman Stoughton to adjourn the meeting at 9:35pm.

Roll Call Vote: Chairman Lyon – aye; Selectman Grella – aye; Selectman D’Angelo – aye; Selectman Pray – aye; and Selectman Stoughton – aye. 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

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**NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 13, 2022**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Selectman Danielle Pray*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*