

TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Select Board

Approved Minutes for Meeting of February 4, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Town Offices, 15 Mechanic Street, Alstead, NH 03602

SELECT BOARD PRESENT: Joel McCarty, Chair, Gordon Kemp (via Google Meets), and Matthew Saxton.

STAFF PRESENT:

Name	Position	In Person	Google Meet
Misty Gratacos	Town Office Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shelley Steuwe	Recording Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Murrell	Police Chief	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jesse Moore	Director of Sanitation, EMS & Grounds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Julie Bacon	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: **In person:** Barbara Viegener, Joe Levesque, Marge Noonan, Judith Willis; **Google Meets:**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. McCarty called the Select Board meeting to order at 5:02 PM and then proceeded with leading the agenda-based discussion.

GUESTS:

ACTION ITEMS: Review & sign Payroll Manifest (\$33,858.13); review & sign Bills Manifest (\$63,726.26); review & sign Tax Liability manifest (\$6,779.72); review & sign Solar Exemption; review notice from NHDOT; review letter from SAU#60; review email with Bridge cost information

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS: 1/14, 1/21, and 1/23 meeting minutes were reviewed, amended and approved as amended by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Washed-out glass** – No updates.
- B. **Thayer Brook bypass** – No updates.
- C. **Bridge projects** – No updates.
- D. **Dams** – No updates.
- E. **Status of property at M11 L2 (abuts Town Hall)** – No updates.
- F. **Model T MOU** – No updates.
- G. **Fire Dept Policies** – No updates.
- H. **Pine Cliff Rd info/updates** – No updates.
- I. **210 Gilsum Mine Road land merger talks** – No updates.
- J. **Complete Streets Information** – Mr. Levesque reports that there is \$30 million available in grant funding, and the applications submitted total about \$50 million.
- K. **Ambulance Revolving Fund** – No updates.
- L. **Department & Board**

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. McCarty requests to review the changes made to the Warrant Articles at the 2/1 Deliberative Session. Those changes were discussed and Mr. McCarty asked Mr. Saxton and Mr. Kemp if they had additional changes to be made to the Warrant Articles. The only change made by the Board is to amend the Board support of Warrant Article #26 from 3-0 to 2-1. Mr. McCarty says he will connect with Ms. Bacon to review and finalize changes made to the Warrant Articles and Budget.

OTHER ITEMS:

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police Department – No updates.

School Board – Mr. Levesque reports that the School Board is preparing to put together a timeline/outline to look at what they need to do to change Fall Mountain to just grades 9-12 (removing grades K-8). This is on the condition that none of the towns pass the Warrant Article to complete the district-wide study assessing the impacts of Walpole's withdrawal from the district.

Transfer Station, Ambulance, and Parks –

Director Moore reports that:

- Ambulance – They have received 33 calls to date. Ambulance 2 is in the garage for engine repairs and should be finished by Monday or Tuesday. The Board discussed the two private donations and when they can be used. Mr. McCarty moves that the \$10,000 be deposited now, since it was discussed in Public Hearing, and that the \$5,000 donation be discussed at the 2/11 meeting, and deposited thereafter. There is unanimous agreement from the Board.
- Parks – No updates.

- Transfer Station – No updates.

BOARD REPORTS:

Mr. Kemp – No updates.

Mr. McCarty – Asks the group how much the 2/11 Public Hearing regarding the Warren and Vilas dams should be publicized. After group discussion it was decided that a notice will be posted at the Transfer Station in addition to all the usual places – the Library, Post Office, and the meeting place (in this case, the Town Hall). A postcard notification will not be sent, due to staffing bandwidth.

Mr. McCarty also asks Mr. Saxton and Mr. Kemp who they think should write the Selectman’s letter and Selectman’s report. The Board unanimously agrees that Mr. McCarty should do both. Mr. McCarty asks when the Selectman’s letter is due, and Mrs. Gratacos says by 3/4.

Mr. Saxton – No updates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

INFORMATIONAL:

EXECUTIVE SESSION/S: RSA 91-A:3. II (c) and RSA 91-A:3, II (a)

On a motion made by Mr. McCarty and seconded by Mr. Saxton, ***the Board voted by roll call (Joel – y; Matt – y; Gordon – y) to enter non-public at 5:39 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) compensation.***

On a motion made by Mr. McCarty and seconded by Mr. Saxton, ***the Board voted by roll call (Joel – y; Matt – y; Gordon – y) to enter non-public at 5:45 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3. II (c) reputation***

On a motion made by Mr. McCarty and seconded by Mr. Saxton ***the Board voted to leave the non-public session at 6:12 PM. The motion passed unanimously.***

On a motion made by Mr. McCarty and seconded by Mr. Kemp ***the Board Chair adjourned the public meeting at 6:18 PM.***

Important Upcoming Events/Meetings

Date/Time	Subject	Location	Notes
February 5 at 6:30 pm	FMRSD School Board Deliberative Session	High School	
February 10 at 6:00 pm	FMRSD School	High School	2nd Monday of each

	Board Meeting		month
February 11 at 5:00 pm	Public Hearing re: Vilas and Warren Dams update Public Hearing re: \$5,000 anonymous donation	Town Hall; 9 Main Street	Selectboard meeting to follow
March 11 8:00 am - 7:00 pm	Town and School Voting Day	Town Hall; 9 Main Street	

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Steuwe

Recording Secretary