

**TOWN OF ACTON SELECT BOARD MEETING**

**April 10, 2024**

**6:00pm**

**MINUTES – PENDING APPROVAL**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Winchell, Jr. called the meeting to order.**

**2. WARRANTS/BILLS**

**Signed.**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Walsh made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Norwood. All in favor. Motion carried.**

**4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**Tabled.**

**5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR WEEKLY UPDATE**

A public hearing has been scheduled for Barn Lights annual liquor license. Application: Wed. April 24, 2024.

The deadline to turn in nomination papers is this Friday.

The unregistered dog list has been turned over to the Animal Control Officer for summons to be posted.

Notable Events from the Sheriffs Department: March 2024:

- Arrest made for theft of stolen yard truck and wood splitter in Acton.
- Pine Springs Road, Shapleigh – a referral to adult protective services for a 72-year-old man wandering from his home.
- March 4 – response to Hopper Road, regarding a female with a knife threatening to harm herself.
- March 6 – assist with recovery of a stolen vehicle (1931 Model A) from Grant Road, Shapleigh.
- March 8 – summons for an individual from Rochester, NH, for untruthful statements related to a crash in Shapleigh.
- March 14 – response to Milton Mills Road for a disturbance, individual charged with assault and refusing to submit to arrest.
- March 15 – arrest for felony possession of a weapon after a routine traffic stop on Route 109 in Acton.
- March 23 – response to a home on H Road, for a reported suicide.
- March 23 – investigation of a suspicious incident regarding a 12-year-old girl who was walking on French Street and was approached by a Male asking if she needed a ride. This is an ongoing investigation.
- March 26 – search for an individual in Acton for violation of a condition of release, the individual is suspected of arson.

Winchell, Jr. expressed thanks to the Sheriffs department for a job well done and specifically expressing gratitude to Deputy Sanborn, for events of assistance during the storm.

## **6. DEPARTMENT HEAD / COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES**

### **A. Recreation Committee**

Sam Singleton, Recreation Director:

Cheerleading has been wrapped up for the season and a presentation will occur at the school later this week.

Roux confirmed the status of communication between the Recreation Director and APAT, as she is aware of communication issues. Singleton advised she is communicating with the APAT Director.

A Cheer Clinic will be hosted in June (for two hours, two days a week for the month) to continue growing interest. Roux advised she will confirm dates for the hall, pending availability.

At the recent Recreation Committee meeting, there was discussion about hosting flag football in the town (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade), pending interest. Norwood questioned the interest survey that went out at the school. Singleton advised both lacrosse and flag football were of high interest. The school started a lacrosse team this year. Additional discussion occurred regarding current and potential sports and interest and hosting an in-house flag football program.

A committee member expressed interest in opening basketball through 8<sup>th</sup> grade to offer players, who got cut from the school team, the opportunity to continue to play and grow their skills. Norwood would like to see examples of programs offered through other communities to see if this type of program would be sustainable. McGurty questioned the role of the Select Board regarding the requests being made by the Recreation Committee. Winchell, Jr. indicated that the Recreation Committee needs to vote and make a recommendation and the recommendation needs to be presented to the Select Board. Winchell, Jr. confirmed if funds are available, and procedure has been followed and the committee can proceed.

Singleton questioned the process to set up a recreation newsletter, per the option to opt-in to emails from the recreation registration form. Singleton has spoken with Dan Krampetz and would like to request permission to set up a separate database of recreation emails for a newsletter to be created specifically for the Recreation department. Roux advised this needs to be further reviewed to confirm time constraints and ability on behalf of the staff involved.

William Langley, Road Commissioner:

With the winter storm last week, Langley has started clearing roads: H Road, Mann Road, Acton Ridge Road, Canal Road, Point Road, and Peacock Road. Tomorrow they will address Hopper Road and Riverview, and by no later than the following week they should complete Orchard and Godding Road. Next week a chipper will be available to chip what is left. Rick Smith will attempt to get some money back for the town for the storm clean up. Roux spoke with Smith and confirmed the town will collect the invoices for the storm to prepare for Smith.

Walsh extended a big thank you to Langley and his road crews for the work done during and after the storm.

## **7. LIAISON UPDATES**

McGurty: Municipal Management / Warrant & Finance, APAT, Cemetery

n/a

Walsh: Fire Department, Transfer Station, Lincoln School

n/a

Norwood: School Department, Conservation / Forest, Mary Grant

Last week Norwood attended the Forest and Conservation meeting.

Winchell: Roads & Road Committee, Recreation Committee

n/a

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Treasurer / Deputy Town Clerk Positions

Roux advised Treasurer position is receiving applications. The Deputy Clerk position was offered to a candidate and declined as the candidate took a position elsewhere. There was an additional round of interviews completed with Winchell, Jr.

**Winchell, Jr. made a motion to go into negotiations with applicant A; seconded by Walsh. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Maine Municipal Association Letter

Roux advised the Maine Municipal Association contacted the town to clarify legal services and who has the authority to contact the legal department on behalf of the town. Currently the Town Administrator and the Treasurer are listed. The town responded with confirmation of who the town authorizes to reach out to Maine Municipal to include any Select Board Member, the Town Administrator, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and the Treasurer.

**McGurty made a motion to authorize the letter dated April 10, 2024, authorizing certain positions to contact and deal directly with MMA regarding legal matters; seconded by Walsh. All in favor. Motion carried. Signed.**

### B. Planning Board Appointment

McGurty and Walsh met with an individual who has been on the waiting list to join the Planning Board, Roger Perrault, he will be a great addition. Sevigny was also in the interview.

**McGurty made a motion to appoint Roger Perrault to the position of Planning Board Alternate Member, until June 30, 2024; seconded by Walsh. All in favor. Motion carried.**

Norwood questioned as the town just had its annual meeting, will the position need to be re-appointed. Roux confirmed it will need to be reappointed, along with others that will be coming due. Roux continued, when there is a resignation, the expiration date remains the same.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Klosowski:

Wants to address Hopper Road: from the stop sign to Barn Lights. Along the left side the shoulders are falling apart, and the road is getting worse and worse each year. What can be done to rectify the road conditions. Winchell, Jr. confirmed the road is not in good condition and questioned Langley if there were any plans to address Hopper Road. Langley advised that there is no plan to pave Hopper Road, however, the road is included in Spring clean-up. Langley will drive down and look at the road tomorrow to view the condition and see what can be done to address Klosowski's concerns.

Klosowski also addressed a pothole at the end of road near the New Hampshire line. Langley advised it has been filled once but will fill it in again. Langley offered to speak with Klosowski after the meeting to further discuss his concerns.

John Bernier:

Questioned who represents himself directly. Roux advised that Mr. Bernier can speak with the full board at any time and attend a Select Board meeting or make an appointment during office hours. If the concern is about a particular department, Roux can direct Bernier to the specific Select Board Liaison.

Bernier also questioned what power the Select Board Members have to go to landowners and request trees be cut or cleaned up. Winchell, Jr. advised that this would not fall on the town as it is private property. McGurty confirmed this would not fall on the town. It is not within the Town's authority. Norwood continued, Sanford had a similar situation with power lines and trees, unfortunately it is out of the control of the town. Winchell, Jr. advised the power company has a responsibility as well to maintain their own lines and clear trees that would cause a problem.

Norwood expressed thanks to Teri Minihan for the Easter event and for the turnout at the Town Meeting. Norwood also expressed thanks to the Road Commissioner and the crews working during the storm.

## **11. PENDING**

**Norwood made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:49pm; seconded by Walsh. All in favor. Motion carried.**

## **12. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On Website

**13. MEMBERS PRESENT: David Winchell, Jr., Tom McGurty, Ed Walsh, Daniel Norwood, Jen Roux**

**14. ATTENDANCE: Ed Klosowski, John Bernier, Will Langley, Jon Denekamp, Joe Ruma, Sam Singleton**