

**Town of Auburn
Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
Stritch Meeting Room
July 24, 2023
Draft Minutes
7:00 PM**

Selectmen Present: Keith Leclair, Michael Rolfe and Tom Carroll

Others Present: Mike DiPietro, Dan Carpenter, Jim Thompson, Town Administrator Chris Sterndale and Recording Secretary Nancy Hoijer

I. Call to Order

Mr. Leclair called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Public Comments

Mr. Leclair asked if there were any comments from the public at 7:00 PM and there were none.

III. Appointments with the Board

A. Jim Thompson, Cemetery Trustee and Dan Carpenter, Historical Society

Mr. Thompson reported the Cemetery Trustees voted at their last meeting to move the Hearse House which was built in 1855. They approached the Historical Society who agreed to accept it and use it for storage.

Mr. Carpenter indicated the Historical Society needs storage space. The building is 150-175 years old and the Historical Society is willing to preserve it. It has a dirt floor but they will put a good floor underneath it.

Mr. Rolfe motioned to approve the Town donating the Hearse House building to the Historical Society with the understanding that they will safely move and preserve it. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

IV. Manifests

Highway Accounts Payable 7/26 – \$25,617.50

Mr. Carroll motioned to approve the Highway Payable Manifest dated July 26, 2023 in the amount of \$25,617.50. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion. A vote was taken, Mr. Rolfe abstained, Mr. Leclair voted aye and Mr. Carroll voted aye. The motion passed 2-0-1.

V. Consent Agenda

Mr. Leclair read out loud, and offered for inspection, the Consent Agenda dated July 24, 2023 which consisted of a payroll manifest dated July 19, 2023 in the amount of \$69,894.25, an accounts payable manifest dated July 26, 2023 in the amount of \$261,549.88, and a raffle permit for gift baskets at the Duck Race.

Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for July 24, 2023. Mr. Rolfe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

VI. New Business

A. Griffin Mill Bridge

Mr. Sterndale reported the total cost would be \$874,283.59. The Town's portion would be \$30,778.35 which has had a long rolling encumbrance for that.

Mr. Leclair asked the timeframe for starting work to completion and Mr. Sterndale estimated a contractor would be selected in the fall and hopes the work will be accomplished by next summer.

Mr. Leclair asked about off-site improvements such as a parking area and shrubs. Mr. Sterndale was not sure how much would be covered by the state but noted that Manchester Water Works would contribute to labor for brush clearing. Mr. Sterndale noted the Scenic Byway Committee would be doing some beautification in the area next Memorial Day.

Mr. Rolfe motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the "First Project Agreement" with the NH Department of Transportation and authorize the Town Administrator Chris Sterndale to sign all documents related to the project. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

B. Boston Post Cane

Mr. Sterndale provided a brief history of the Boston Post Cane presentation over past years which is presented to the oldest living person in town. He reported that the Town Clerk has researched who she believes may be the oldest person now living in town and hopes to publicize the award at the Duck Race. Mr. Sterndale will approach the Historical Society to see if they will present the award.

VII. Old Business

VIII. Committee Reports

Mr. Carroll reported that Parks & Recreation met and discussed the budget. Auburn's new firefighter, Steve Davis has started work with them.

IX. Minutes

A. July 10, 2023 Public Meeting Minutes & Non-Public Meeting Minutes

Mr. Rolfe motioned to approve the July 10, 2023 public meeting minutes and non-public meeting minutes. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Rolfe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 PM. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary