

SANBORTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

February 19, 2020

Town Offices

The Board of Selectmen convened in regular session: in attendance were Selectman John Olmstead, Selectman Tom Salatiello, Selectman Jim Dick, Town Administrator, Trish Stafford and Administrative Specialist, Sue Smith were also present.

Pledge of Allegiance - Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business –Chair Olmstead opened the Public Hearing at 5pm to discuss the speed limits on Lower Bay Road and Bay Shore Drive. The Selectboard heard information from the Police Chief and from the Highway Director in regards to options for speed reduction.

Police Chief Hankard: Lower Bay Road needs a slow down for safety. Data was collected using the radar sign between Upper Smith, Collieson Road and lower section of Dr True. What data showed is that is that average speeds were at the speed limit. We weren't able to put sign into the first section that we are talking about between Bay and Upper Smith because the State still owns it and there was no good place to put it. We've been doing a lot more radar. Even when you go at 35 mph, it's going too fast and have hard time staying in the lane because the curves are too sharp. Twenty five (25) mph makes more sense. This is going to require more of us to enforce it more.

Johnny Van Tassel spoke about the use of speed bumps and or crosswalks to lower the speeds. He doesn't believe that speed bumps are a viable option for Lower Bay Road and crosswalks can't be installed given the line of sight needed for appropriate crosswalk placement.

Bay Shore Drive comments:

Chief Hankard: Thinks that given the layout of the road; a 15mph limit would be advised.

Selectman Dick: Thinks 15mph is a reasonable speed; but after having spoken with Bill Lambert with NH DOT, he was told we cannot enforce anything under 25mph. We could make them an advisory limit, which would require a different colored sign.

Jane Williams, 31 Lower Bay Rd -thinks that if the roads are posted with a 15pmh limit, people will still do 20mph.

Rick DuPont, Bay Shore Drive and NH State Trooper: understands that the law won't allow the officers to enforce 15mph, but something needs to be done to control the speeds

for the safety of the neighborhood.

Johnny Van Tassel discussed the plans he has plans to shim and over lay the roads and suggested temporary speedbumps for Bay Shore Drive in the summertime.

Selectman Dick asked about the use of the speedbumps in conjunction with the precautionary speed limit sign.

Public group chimed in with yes.

Selectman Olmstead- Best idea would be to put up the precautionary and put speed bumps up in the summer.

Andrew Sanborn, Quimby Rd - Also suggest town legally endorse by putting in RSA and lowering the actual speed limit and not just changing the sign. Speed limit should be 25.

Selectman Salatiello- Thinks we can do a couple things; reducing the speed to 15mph, if someone receives a ticket, he or she can take the time to go to court. Another option could be to ask our State Representatives to amend the transportation bill to authorize the elected officials to the discretion to address speed issues raised by the legislative body and give them the ability to reduce and enforce speed lowered speed limits. Selectman Salatiello supports the reducing the speed limit to 15mph.

Selectman Olmstead- next is Lower Bay, comments:

Andy Lawrence 112B Lower Bay Rd – a lot of us met a few years ago in same boat and discouraged about the traffic. Decades ago trying to address issues. Insulted when the State changed it back, Thank you for bringing this back up again. It's less than a mile with 24 driveways. Safety is important to us. People have been upset and hopefully were changing it here. Talked about signage and maybe painted sidewalks and signage especially at ferry Point. Met with Chief and very supportive. Looking for 25 mph with no parking signs. It's zoned recreational. Option was a no trucks zone sign. People need a reminder for speeds and we need signage

Judy Robertson, 92 Lower Bay Rd-I just want to say thank you for following up and for listening to us.

Colby Weisman, 136 Lower Bay Rd. Crosswalks are false safety, not a good idea. 25 mph is good and at corners suggested 20.

Johnny Van Tassel – Reminded everyone about the guidelines that you have to follow for putting up crosswalks and to be cautious about over signage. Most are set up for trucks and heavy vehicles for safety limits. Will talk to Chief and come up with something.

Andy Sanborn- Do you have enough Police to enforce this? Chief Hankard said yes, we're getting there. Do you have the budget? Chief said yes.

Public comment that some people have almost been hit by a car. It's the same cars and can name plates, come flying down the hill.

Jeannette Daniels, 100 Lower Bay Rd – Personally would like to have speed as 15 mph. We could give you license plate numbers on the same people. People are always stopping in front of the Inn. Enforcing speed limits, tickets and warnings? What's a warning can you get so many?

Chief Hankard – Depends on ticket or warning. We can bring up on the computer how many they get and the attitude or apologetic. Certain point where they will get a ticket. We'll give warnings then tickets.

Selectman Olmstead – Because of RSA 255 only way we can put down to 15 mph would be to use the non-enforceable signs- have to use the white signs at no lower than 25 mph.

Steve Malone, 130 Lower Bay Rd – what you just said makes a lot of sense. Kind of been what it was where there was at one time at 25 mph for many years and that got removed and the 30 went up instead. Concerned with kids with traffic going too fast. Same cars speeding are threatening our families. If you had precautionary at both ends with the white signs at 25 replacing the 35 that is there now. There are lot are trucks. Lots of trouble stopping. Thank you we appreciate the effort.

Joanne Adams, 106 Lower Bay Rd- I have crossed that road and have people telling me that they had the right of way. Alot of speeders. They just go bombing down there. One person stopped and told me I should be more careful, same people over and over, ive seen them and it's just crazy I don't understand it.

Conversation ensued around the State Police and enforcement of the heavier loaded trucks, raising fines for those who do speed or are in violation and that the State sets the guidelines for the fines.

Selectman Dick – We received correspondence from Fred and Debbie Cavanaugh, 59 Lower Bay Rd, in favor of lowering the speed limit, from Steve and Karen Cobb, 14 Bay Shore Rd, in favor of lowering speed limit, Virginia Thompson, 114 Lower Bay Rd. strongly in favor or lowering it, and an email from Clifford King, who wasn't opposed to it but more interested in enforcement.

Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** that the speed limit from Lower Bay Road to Upper Smith Road be set 25 mph and follow up with the Highway Director and Police Chief for appropriate signage to increase awareness and improve safety. Selectman Dick **seconded**. Any discussion of the motion. Hearing none, all those in favor. Ayes have it **motion carries**. That concludes the discussion of the public hearing for the roads.

Selectman Olmstead- Next on the agenda, Committee Appointments, one for Recreation Committee and one for Solid Waste Committee. Make a **motion** to appoint Barbara Whetstone to the Recreation Committee as a full time member, appointment term 2/19/2020 to 3/2022. Selectman Dick **seconded** ayes have it **motion carries**. Ms.

Whetstone sworn in.

Next appointment is 2 members of Solid Waste Committee Andy Sanborn and David Swanay both reappointments that expired, appointment terms 2/19/2020 to 3/2023. Made **motion** and **seconded** all in favor, ayes have it, **motion carries**. Andy Sanborn was sworn in. David will get sworn in by Town Clerk.

Maple Circle and Dr. True Road Petition

Ron and Kathy Hilbrunner, 15 Maple Circle came in to discuss their concerns with the petitioned warrant article process. They are disappointed that they weren't made aware of the correct process and procedure for placing a petition on the town warrant.

The Selectboard and TA Stafford listened to their concerns and let them know that what was submitted has to be presented on the warrant "as is"; the Town has no authority to change the wording or intent of the petition. We are only allowed to make grammatical changes. TA Stafford also inquired with New Hampshire Municipal Association to find out if we could take the petition off the warrant. NHMA's attorney stated that no, we cannot take it off.

Mr. Hilbrunner - We understand that there are problems with the petition. Neighbors want to get the roads paved. Road has issues with silt clogging drains, bringing it up to standard catch basins, culverts. Put package together RSA 39.3, got signatures of registered voters, was misinformed on the process and what information to gather in writing a petition. We were not notified of the correct process. We didn't know we had to get quotes. Can you request an engineering study? We have had car damage due to the condition of the road and it's unfair to the tax payers. Other problem is the beach with double parked cars. Selectman Dick let the Hilbrunner's know that they may want to withdraw the petition from the floor at Town Meeting. Selectmen thanked Mr. & Mrs. Hilbrunner for coming in.

Winnepesaukee River Basin Program Update-TA Stafford has a meeting on 2/20/20 and was asked if the Town of Sanbornton would like to consider being a user of the Basin Program, paying fees like a customer would. Or, would we want to consider staying on as part of the collaborative group, similar to the way the Town participates currently; except it will not be run by the State of New Hampshire after the governance change.

Johnny Van Tassel voiced concerns with taking over the system as the pipes are very old; likely made from clay, and will need to be replaced at some point. He does not recommend taking it over.

Selectman Dick- when you say take over there are 2 issues, management of the district and they are moving forward to form the district which would be self-governed by the participating towns without the state's participation. The state is not paying for anything now. The towns are paying for the maintenance already. So, from an infrastructure stand point there are a lot of things to be fixed. We are already paying for it we just don't have any authority because the state is running it. Then we have an outstanding issue with Tilton over who owns what. TA Stafford- They want us to enter into an agreement with

the Town of Tilton so if anything happened to the pipes we would enter into an agreement with Tilton to fix. The problem that is not ours to fix, it's the states infrastructure to fix. We're paying into a system as a town to treat the sewer with no say as to how it gets done. If we switch it from an advisory committee to an ownership of the basin program, then they want to know if the Town of Sanbornton wants to be a customer or stay on as we are now. If we stay on the basin program as the regional agency at least we can keep a say in the cost for the residents of the town. If not we are at their mercy. Van Tassel - if something does go wrong then the whole town is on the hook to pay for it. TA-Stafford- we are still on the hook because we are still in the program as we pay in for ops and management and funds

Selectman Dick- There is a rate sharing based on how much we use the system and if something were to happen, it's still our problem and we would have to take the loan from the replacement fund to get it repaired and then pay it back. So going forward if they change the governance, we can continue that model but at least we get to vote on upgrades and changes because they will have a governing body where 1 vote for every 500/600 residents so we would get 5/6 votes. If they decided to not buy in, they don't get to vote anymore. They would still get charged. TA Stafford-they are still trying to figure out the rate structures.

Selectman Dick- So tomorrow they most likely are going to pass a motion telling them to get going and work it out. We need to dig in with Tilton. What our equities are, the cost, etc. They will be asking us soon and will have to respond on the ownership questions. User fees only are a 10th of what we are putting into the program. Decision will need to be made once we have more information. We collectively need to sit down with someone to make sure we understand what issues need to be worked out. Selectman Olmstead doesn't feel that we have enough information to make a decision. Selectman Dick suggested a volunteer to focus on this and get a better understanding of what issues need to be worked out and if we need to negotiate. TA Stafford will get some answers at the meeting.

CCAG Solar Guidance- TA Stafford-received a letter from Cross Country Appraisal Group, LLC looking for Selectman's input on solar panels. Selectman Dick-If you take an average and apply to all systems, you're going to get 100% off your tax bill. Some people are going to want to know their specific assessment. In the end, it doesn't matter to the tax bill if 100% of the assessed value is being abated. We need to know what the cost difference is for CCAG to do individual assessments or is it the same? If it costs more, we should probably go with the average method. Selectman Olmstead also agreed there may be problems with assessments. TA Stafford-CCAG did not mention what would be the cost. I can reach out and ask them.

Transfer Station Resignation-Selectman Dick made a **motion** to accept a letter of resignation, with regret, from Corey Getman on 2/7/2020 giving 30 day notice effective March 7, 2020 Selectman Olmstead **seconded**. No discussion. All in favor. Ayes have it. **motion passes.**

Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II. Selectman Dick **seconded**.

Matters which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board unless such person requests an open meeting. The exception shall extend to any application for assistance tax abatement or waiver of fee, fine or other levy if based upon inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Role call vote to enter non-public; Salatiello, yes; Dick, yes; Olmstead, yes. Entered into Non-public session at 7.04pm. Town Administrator Trish Stafford, Transfer Station Manager Nate Douglass, and Administrative Specialist Sue Smith were also in attendance.

Discussion ensued around a personnel matter. No votes were taken.

Motion to leave non-public made by Selectman Dick, **seconded** by Selectman Olmstead. All in favor, motion passes. Left non-public session at 7.30pm.

Motion to seal the non-public minutes made by Selectman Dick, **seconded** by Selectman Salatiello. **Roll call** vote to seal the minutes: Olmstead, yes; Dick, yes; Salatiello, yes.

Selectman Dick- Advised that TA Stafford will assist in revising the job description, with essential skills and abilities required and posting the updated job description.

Transfer Station Manager updated the Selectboard on the container the town purchased; they hope to have the transaction complete before the road bans.

Old Business-TA-Doug Sarette was able to pop in and wasn't available to speak to him. He has a recommendation from the previous Tree Warden. Spoke to Guy Guinta and he's planning on attending the next meeting and he's still interested.

Town Administrator's Report-TA Stafford presented draft Town Report, and asked how the Selectboard would like her to proceed with putting the document and budget information on the website. The BOS decided to wait until the actual town report is in hand before we put it on the website.

TA Stafford reminded the Selectboard that her 6-month review was due at the end of January. The board decided to go over her performance review at next meeting and asked her to forward the document that has been traditionally used for the Department Heads.

Selectman's Report

Selectman Olmstead- I don't have anything to report, both meetings were cancelled.

Selectman Dick-The Conservation Commission was held and the trout project with the elementary school is going along very well. Sarah Fox resigned so they have an opening for a full-time member. They didn't have a chance to get the paperwork in but the Commission voted to elevate Dave Perry to the full time so we'll get him in place, he's been involved for a while now. Updated the Commission on the Belknap County

projects, everyone was interested in seeing that move forward. We had short meeting of Building Construction Committee and last one till the beginning of March. For Town meeting, the Building Committee meeting didn't have any intention of presenting anything but if the article comes up for the Life Safety Building, they are ready to be recognized.

TA Stafford mentioned that she was approached by Jackie Bonafide in an attempt to form a neighborhood helping seniors type program and looking for guidance from the town.

Selectman Dick- Couple of things 1) Informal Facebook Group, a way of helping someone needing services. I spoke with Jackie Bonafide, she's part of a group looking to put together local Angie's List for services/contractors with recommendations by residents for jobs and public service things, not to take away from things that Melanie does for public welfare. Both sound like very community minded people wanting to help. Jackie would like to get on our agenda.

Selectman Dick went over a complaint he received about the plowing on Knox Mountain Rd from Karen Bordeau. Both Selectman Dick and TA Stafford spoke to Johnny Van Tassel about the conditions. She feels that the driver is going too fast and caused chatter on the blade, concerned about the damage to the road and truck. I drove up a few roads and they are rough. I spoke with Nate and his opinion is it's just the road condition driving 10 to 15 mph. Johnny Van Tassel checked on it and it's just been a rough winter.

Selectman Salatiello-no updates.

Authorization Signatures: Payroll & the Accounts Payable Register

The Selectboard signed the payroll registers for February 16, 2020.

Review & Approve Minutes

Members of the Board reviewed meeting minutes of January 24, 2020 with any corrections. Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to approve for January 24, 2020. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion, all in favor, ayes have it and the **motion carries**

Members of the Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes of February 5, 2020 with any corrections. Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to accept the draft meeting minutes of February 5, 2020. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion, all in favor, ayes have it and the **motion carries**.

Adjournment – Selectman Salatiello made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m., Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion, all in favor, ayes have it and the **motion carries**.

Next Meeting(S) – The Board of Selectmen's next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 4, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.** at the **Sanbornton Town Offices**.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Smith, Administrative Specialist

(These minutes are in draft form and are subject to review & approval at the next regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting. Meeting minutes are not official unless they are viewed on the Town's web-site www.sanborntonnh.org or are on file with the Town Clerk.)

Selectboard Clerk _____
Approval Date 3/4/20