

TOWN OF EATON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03832

EVANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

May 20, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen took place on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at the Evans Memorial Building. Present were Greg Grinnell, Dick Fortin and John Schmerfeld. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

The Selectmen traveled to the Snowville Cemetery to review plots and how to measure and mark the plots. The Board returned to Town Hall at 1:55 pm.

The Board reviewed checks and signed the Accounts Payable manifest for \$296,290.07 for 17 items. The Payroll Manifest and checks were also reviewed and signed.

Tom Rose, Robin Nuccio and Bethany Hicks joined the Board and reviewed draft plans for secure office space. John Schmerfeld explained that the plan is for security but still leaving open space for Town Meeting. John Schmerfeld stated that this may be a temporary fix, depending on future needs of the Town. Discussions ensued regarding possible configurations and needs for privacy and storage. The Board will confer with David Pandora regarding the required number of bathrooms and code requirements.

The Board reviewed the Minutes of May 6 and 7, 2025. ***John Schmerfeld made a motion, seconded by Greg Grinnell, to adopt the Minutes as written. Motion unanimously carried.***

Signature items included correspondence, Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Conway for Recreation Services, Agreement and Release for Michael & Joan Choremi (R01-001-A) and Cemetery Deed for Jennifer Malvesta.

The Board reviewed applications for voluntary changes of address from Barry Hill Living Trust and Craig & Sharon Hill on Libby Mountain Road. **John Schmerfeld made a motion, seconded by Dick Fortin, to approve the changes of address. Motion unanimously carried.** The Board signed the applications and correspondence to the property owners.

Jay Hastings submitted a Building Permit application to Renew Permit #2023030 for a single-family residence at 83 Hatch Hill Road (R04-004-A). The Building Permit application was reviewed and approved as all requirements of the 2025 Zoning Ordinance have been met. The Permit was signed by the Board of Selectmen (Permit #2025005).

Susan Carlson submitted a Building Permit application to strip the barn to the framing and then restore the barn with new sheathing, siding, roofing and floor boards at 2 Hampton Lane (R07-005). The Building Permit application was reviewed and approved as all

requirements of the 2025 Zoning Ordinance have been met. The Permit was signed by the Board of Selectmen (Permit #2025006).

The Board reviewed the draft Warranty Deed for the Town Hall property. The Board noted that the date of Town Meeting should be updated to reflect the business meeting date.

The Board reviewed information from Nancy Spaulding of NHDOT. The Board requested that additional information be provided to Ms. Spaulding regarding the rock at the Storms property and to request that she meet with the Board once her schedule permits. Dick Fortin requested that Ms. Spaulding be thanked for her efforts in having white lines painted at the four corners.

The Board reviewed an email from John Hatch of Action Ambulance Service. The Board requested that a meeting be scheduled to meet with Eric Gagne, who is replacing John Hatch.

The Board reviewed an email from June Garneau regarding the 2010 EOP files and updating the Plan.

The Board reviewed Legislative Bulletins #18 and #19.

The Board reviewed the status of the Kent property and requested that securing final approvals is pursued.

Quddus Snyder and Bjorn Sage joined the Board to discuss the issue of tree damage on Youngs Road. Quddus Snyder explained that the road was voted to change from a Class VI to a Class V road beyond his driveway and that the road was upgraded and a turn-around installed. Quddus Snyder noted that most of the trees are along that stretch of road. Quddus Snyder stated that during large rainstorms roads get washed out and then the Highway crew digs deeper ditches and gets into the tree root systems. Quddus Snyder noted that rehab to the trees will involve bringing back topsoil and questioned where the road ends and what his rights are as a property owner. Bjorn Sage reviewed the submitted photographs and noted that soil has been removed and that roots are exposed. It was noted that the plan is to replace the gravel with loam and compost, which means that the area cannot be disturbed again. Greg Grinnell questioned what happens if there is erosion due to heavy rains. Bjorn Sage noted that above the farm the ground is fairly level so it should not be an issue. Quddus Snyder stated that he does not mind paying for the work but wants to make sure that the area will not be disturbed by road work in the future. Quddus Snyder stated that he understands and supports the Road Agent but that his priority is to protect the trees and wants to know where the boundary of the road is located. Greg Grinnell questioned what would happen if the ditches are filled in and the road washes out. Bjorn Sage stated that replacing gravel with compost should not change the ditches. Quddus Snyder stated that the roads are becoming wider with the ditches and that he wants the road to remain narrow. Dick Fortin questioned whether Quddus is happy with the current width of the road. Quddus Snyder stated that the damage is done by ditching and that if he moves forward with the remediation plan, he wants the roads to be narrower. Bjorn Sage noted that he would like to add 2 to 3 feet of materials from the tree trunk to the edge of the road. John Schmerfeld noted that if there are issues, that if a

private person performs maintenance on a Class V road, they may be liable for damages if it occurs. Quddus Snyder stated that it does not make sense that a road with no houses needs to be wide. Dick Fortin explained that Legal Counsel has indicated that the Selectmen need to first establish the width of the road, which will require some research. Quddus Snyder noted that remediation of the trees will not take place until the width of the road is established. Dick Fortin stated that the Board will research the road and report back to Quddus Snyder with the findings.

John Schmerfeld stated that the posts installed are taller than 6-feet and, therefore, require a Building Permit and must meet setbacks. Dick Fortin noted that the pillars cannot interfere with traffic. Quddus Snyder stated that they are located on his lawn. Dick Fortin stated that the issue of the pillars will be addressed once the width of the road has been established.

Dick Fortin explained that Mike Brownell has offered to fix some of the headstones for the Town at no cost.

Dick Fortin stated that Ryan Harvey has submitted a cost estimate for fixing the granite stone at the Eaton Cemetery. Dick Fortin noted that he is pursuing a cost estimate to cut the white ash tree at the Cemetery, which will put off repair of the stone.

Dick Fortin gave an update on the Conservation Commission and an overview of the finances. Dick Fortin stated that the blueberry contract requires a Certificate of Insurance and noted that this year would not be profitable for the harvester. The consensus of the Board is that a Release of Liability would be acceptable this year and that Liability Insurance would be required for next year.

John Schmerfeld noted that the Town does not have a policy on plowing and that he will research the issue and bring information back to the Board.

The Board will begin their next meeting at 1 pm and will begin reviewing the Safety and Procurement Policies.

Greg Grinnell made a motion, seconded by John Schmerfeld, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Boelzner

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