

**Draft**  
**Strafford Selectboard Meeting Minutes**  
Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 6:00 pm  
Strafford Town Office

Members present: Brian Johnson, Toni Pippy, Jeff Solsaa, David Paganelli

Others participating: John Freitag, Greg Colling, Calvin Benjamin, Curt Albee

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

1. Public Concerns. Curt Albee informed the Chair that he had spoken with architect Tom Bachman to gauge his interest in working with the town to update the feasibility study done in 2019 for the town office restoration project. Tom said that, if the Selectboard asked for his help, he would be willing to do the work. He volunteered to meet with the Selectboard at the Board's convenience. Toni suggested that he attend our meeting scheduled for 5-18-22. Curt was doubtful that he would be available on that short a notice, but agreed to check with him.
2. Calvin Benjamin, Strafford Forest Fire Warden attended the meeting after seeing his name in the agenda. He explained that he has authority to grant burn permits for brush and natural wood only. If someone wants to burn something other than that, they need to request a permit from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). If they obtain the permit from DEC, then they need to obtain a burn permit locally, from Calvin, so that he can notify Hanover Dispatch that there will be a fire in Strafford on that particular day. Calvin explained that after he issues a burn permit, he notifies Hanover Dispatch. If someone else on the Fire Department, or any member of the public sees smoke or a fire they should call 911 to report it and Hanover Dispatch will notify them if there is an existing burn permit.

The Selectboard offered Calvin congratulations for 10 years as Strafford Forest Fire Warden and thanked him for his volunteer service to the town.

3. Town Road Crew, Highways and Equipment Update
  - a. Nothing to report regarding the search for a new road crew member.
  - b. Bridge 30: Discussion regarding design and repair of the bridge. It was suggested that barrels could be placed along the damaged side of the bridge to restrict traffic to a single lane and keep cars away from the damaged rail. This would be a short-term safety effort until we know if we have grant funding to repair the bridge, and local citizens have presented a historically appropriate design for Selectboard consideration. Jeff agreed to talk with the town crew about placing barrels on the bridge. Toni made a motion, seconded by David, to give the Bridge 30 Neighbors permission to research designs and make a presentation to the Selectboard at our June 8, 2022 meeting. Motion passed 4-0.
  - c. Tyson bridge quote was reviewed and not accepted. Toni made a motion, seconded by Brian, to put the Tyson Bridge containment, cleaning and painting out to bid. Motion passed 4-0.
  - d. Town crew is seeking quotes for painting the crosswalk and a no parking area near the school, where there is presently a jersey barrier. It was suggested that a half barrel with flowers might be installed to block access into the no parking area.
  - e. Ongoing search for a representative to the TRORC Transportation Advisory Committee.
  - f. Town Highway Access Permit request at 163 Robinson Road, for Sarah Mather, was investigated on site by Brian. He recommended that the permit request be approved. Toni

made a motion to approve the Town Highway Access permit for Sarah Mather at 163 Robinson Road, seconded by Brian. Motion passed 4-0.

4. Motion to approve the minutes to the April 27<sup>th</sup> regular meeting made by Toni, seconded by David. Motion passed 3-0 with Brian abstaining since he did not attend that meeting.

5. General Correspondence – Reviewed with no action taken.

6. Liaison Updates – No information was available on town committee vacancies so this was tabled until a future meeting.

7. Other:

a. Kelly Hall has informed the town that he will not be available to mow for the town this year. He has been mowing the townhouse lawn, the common, the rec field, recycling center (near the road) and the lawn behind the Red Barn. Motion was made by Toni to put our mowing out to bid, seconded by Brian. Motion approved 4-0.

b. The Chair has scheduled a Special Selectboard Meeting for Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office. Main topic will be a discussion of the town office, and a meeting with attorneys regarding a legal matter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Paganelli