

TOWN OF JAFFREY
Jaffrey, New Hampshire
Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2023

Chairman: Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.

Selectmen: Kevin Chamberlain, John E. Belletete (via Zoom)

Town Manager: Jon Frederick

Staff: Director of Planning & Economic Development Carr, Facilities Director Croteau, Administrative Assistant Zola

Others: Karen Fitzgerald - Toole Design, Ashley Saari - Monadnock Ledger

A. Call to Order – 6:00pm

B. Public Hearings

Issuance of Bonds or Notes exceeding \$100,000 for the purpose of funding PFAS and Manganese Treatment and Remediation of the Turnpike Wells.

Chairman Sterling opened the public hearing at 6:00pm

It was explained that the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) recently lowered the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of both Manganese and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Because of these new rule changes, Turnpike Well is out of compliance with drinking water standards. Constructing and installing treatment alternatives that remove the contaminants to a safe level will allow us to continue to utilize Turnpike Well, one of our oldest and largest drinking water sources. The total project cost is estimated at \$10 million. The Town has applied for funding through NHDES Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, Emerging Contaminant Loan, and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Remediation Grant and Loan Fund. It is the expectation of the Select Board to fund this project with a minimum of \$5,951,305 in grants and principle forgiveness. \$37,132 may come from the water fund if grants and loans do not cover the full \$10 million. No more than \$4,011,563 will be indebted for the project through the NHDES revolving loan fund. Loan amounts will be lowered if additional grant funding is received. Town funding for this project will be provided 100% from water user fees and will have no impact on property taxes. By applying for these bonds, there is no obligation for the town. Applying now gets us in the que for funding. The State is requiring the town to treat/remediate the PFAS even if the well is off-line. This well only had one elevated report. Cold Stone Springs could be a back up water source, but the State engineers are stating it would have a seasonal restriction, although our engineers don't confirm that. Ashley Saari asked what caused the elevated result and it is thought to have come from fire foam from the Fire Station as it was the well closest to the building and she also asked if the \$10 million was for remediation and filtration and it is.

Having no other public comments or questions, Chairman Sterling closed the hearing at 6:15pm.

C. Appointments

Toole Design Group – Route 202 Downtown Concept Design (PowerPoint Presentation is attached to these minutes)

Karen Fitzgerald from Toole Design showed a Power Point detailing the phase one concepts for the downtown project. There will be an interactive story map made available to residents to see virtually what the plan would look like and to give feedback. From the feedback so far, different colored or textured pavement in the slip lane onto Stratton Road was suggested, raised crosswalks, improved path/trail by Rite Aid was mentioned. Sculptures/plantings were popular for the middle of the roundabout and they are working on a design element for the bridge. Main Street would be a 2-way street with no bike lanes, but larger sidewalks with plantings and trees. There would be a 3-foot buffer for parked cars to be able to open their doors. The Chamber parking lot could be made with different materials and even have a mural painted on it. They would retain their parking spaces and there was a suggestion of upgrading the pathway on the side and behind the building and the addition of a patio/sitting area to overlook the river. Since this is private property, the State would have to partner with the Chamber for these changes. There would be a Welcome Plaza/Kiosk in the old Lab N Lager area at the trailhead, that could be used for any community events. Materials were discussed as far as native plants that would bloom in all seasons, trees, cobblestones, granite and permeable concrete pavers and angled planting to provide storm water drainage. The plan would now go to the State as a “wish list” of what the Town would like and to determine what the State would cover, which is slated for the Fall. Phase 2 design, which is River Street to the Roundabout and to School Street is due to be done in April or May. The plan ends at the 4-way intersection, but a plan to have an archway/gateway on Mainstreet at the 4-way was suggested.

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Hearing Minutes of February 1, 2023 were approved (3-0).

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Minutes of February 9, 2023 were approved (3-0).

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Minutes of February 13, 2023 were approved (3-0).

E. Consent Agenda

1. Payroll and Vendor Manifests
2. Solar Exemptions
 - a) Rosemary Poole - 831 Mountain Road
3. Acceptance of LCHIP Stewardship Grant
 - a) \$300 - Meetinghouse 2022 Monitoring Report

4. Tax Collector's 2nd Cycle Water & Sewer Commitment Warrant
 - a) \$160,194.08 - Water
 - b) \$185,767.00 - Sewer
5. Tax Collector's 2nd Cycle Septic Haulers Commitment Warrant
 - a) \$3,476.00
6. Shelter from the Storm Raffle Requests
 - a) Taste of Monadnock - July 30, 2023
 - b) Antiques Roadshow - October 29, 2023
7. Meetinghouse Requests
 - a) #2023-1 - TEAM Jaffrey - Concerts on the Common Rain Dates - 7/5 -8/16 (Wed. Nights)
 - b) #2023-2 - Project Shakespeare - Rehearsals - Weekdays 10am-5pm - June 26-30, July 5-25

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented (3-0).

F. Old Business -None

G. New Business

Red Gate Road Class VI Waiver of Liability for Road Maintenance – Todd Croteau explained his memo, stating the waiver will be good for 2 years and a building permit will be required in 18 months. Mr. Baez will be contacted to come in to review memo and sign the waiver. On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Waiver of Liability was approved (3-0).

Posting of Town Roads for Weight Limits- Thaw cycle came early this year. On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Road Weight Limits were approved (3-0). These will be posted on the Town Website and Facebook page.

NH DOT Route 124 Project at Perkin's Pond Detour Meeting, March 2, 2023- This is a Zoom meeting regarding the causeway repair/replacement on Route 124 at Perkins Pond. This will be a huge traffic problem with detours needed. The Jaffrey residents on the other side of the causeway will be served by the Marlborough Fire Department.

Resolution #2023-5 - Authorize Entering into an ARPA Grant Agreement with DES for \$1,700
This grant is to replace thermostats at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. TM Frederick with be authorized to sign documents on the BOS's behalf. On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, Resolution #2023-5 was approved (3-0).

RFP - Professional Appraisal Services for Water and Wastewater Systems – This is to see what options are available to the town for running these systems. There are liabilities of PFAS treatment of the Turnpike Wells and an aging system to be considered. On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the RFP for Professional Appraisal Services was approved (3-0).

H. Reports to the Select Board

Selectmen's Reports

Sterling – HDC met as well as the Budget Committee public hearing.

Chamberlain – Attended Planning Board for Belletete- Red Gate road was discussed, merging of lots on Turnpike Road and Knight Street conceptual was presented. Jo Anne Carr did a TIFD presentation. A Natural Resource Inventory will need to be updated and they are in contact with a vendor, last one done was 15 years ago. They are continuing to work with the New England Wildlife Trust for the Children's Woods easement. They will be having weekly activities in April to go along with the Jaffrey 250th. There will be guided hikes. Carolyn Garretson is stepping down as Chair and will be transitioning to Treasurer, Thomas Ahlborn-Hsu will be the new Chair and Fran McBride will be the Secretary.

Ashley Saari would like to meet with him and the Community Power Committee, a tentative date of Thursday, March 2nd at 1pm at the Town Office will be confirmed after looking at the Conference Room Calendar.

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Belletete - No meetings attended

Town Manager's Report

- Candidate's Night is this Thursday, 7pm at the Fire Station, in person and Livestreamed.
- BOS Meeting is March 13th, Voting is March 14th, Volunteer Dinner is March 16th and Town Meeting is March 18th.
- Rotary Meeting will be a joint presentation with the Rindge Town Administrator about the state of both towns.

I. Other Business

J. Non-Public - None

K. Adjournment

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain to adjourn 7:22pm (3-0).

Submitted:

Attest:

Judith A. Zola
Administrative Assistant

Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.
Chairman

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