



*Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen*  
*145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865*

**Plaistow Board of Selectmen Minutes**

**Date:** February 28, 2022

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Select Chairman, Darrell Britton

Select Vice Chairman, John A. Blinn, Sr.

Selectman, Greg Taillon

Selectman, Jay DeRoche

Selectman, Bill Coye

Also present: Greg Colby, Town Manager and Beth Hossack, Administrative Assistant.

**Town Report Dedication**

D. Britton calls upon Dee Voss for the presentation.

D. Voss asks Mike Dorman to step to the front. She presents the 2021 Annual Town Report to him. M. Dorman thanks the Board and thanks his wife, Sheila for putting up with the many hours he was gone. He enjoyed his many years and positions working for the Town.

D. Britton states he has known Mike for over fifty (50) years and thanks him for his many years of service to the Town.

J. Blinn thanks M. Dorman for his fine work and is glad Mike is finally being recognized for it.

J. DeRoche thanks M. Dorman for all his years of service.

D. Britton thanks M. Dorman's family for attending the presentation.

**Minutes**

***G. Taillon motions to approve the February 7, 2022, minutes. Seconded by B. Coye. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.***

**Beede Waste Oil Superfund Site Discussion on Future Use**

Mike Skinner, Project Manager, Beede Waste Oil Superfund Group thanks the Board for inviting him to the meeting tonight. He begins with a brief history of the site. The Beede site has been a big challenge. When the site was in operation it was not managed correctly which led to all the contamination. The site was shut down in 1994. In 2004 the cleanup began. The cleanup group consists of a team of engineers, construction manager, project manager and thirteen (13) member companies. The cleanup group also works with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to comply with acceptable environmental standards. Safety is important to the Beede group. They keep neighbors informed and interact with them on a regular basis. M. Skinner states listening to neighbors is part of a successful cleanup. The final design phases will be based on future use of the property.

D. Britton asks for a time frame for the final phases.

M. Skinner replies, the excavation will most likely be completed in November of 2022. It could be another two to three (2-3) years to finish the final design.

M. Skinner opens the floor for questions.

G. Taillon states people want to know if something like this could happen again.

M. Skinner replies, there are a lot more protocols in place now and companies audit their work more frequently. It is possible something like this could happen again however it is much less likely.

G. Taillon asks if there are places on the site that would be safe to dig a well for drinking water.

M. Skinner replies, the water immediately under the site is still contaminated. The water plant was put in place first and the process is working well. Clean water is going back into the aquifer and the contamination in the plume is diminishing.

D. Britton asks if M. Skinner wants to know what the Board wants to do with the area.

M. Skinner replies, yes and they want to do what the community wants. Neighbors in the area have said they want it to be open space to enjoy.

J. DeRoche asks what will happen if the Town takes ownership of the site and in another twenty to thirty (20-30) years more contamination is found, who is responsible.

M. Skinner replies, it is complicated. The Beede group will continue to monitor the site into perpetuity and make sure what they did worked. As far as future liability, it is unknown.

J. DeRoche asks if it remains as open/conservation space and the Town does not take ownership then more contamination is found in the future, will the group be responsible to clean it.

M. Skinner, in that case, yes.

J. Blinn asks when the site might be ready to be used.

M. Skinner replies, if we know the final use, they can design the restoration to that use and enhance it. It might be ready in 2025-2026.

J. Blinn asks if the quickest path would be to use the site as open space.

M. Skinner replies, yes.

B. Coye asks what restrictions will be placed on the site.

M. Skinner replies, no houses will be allowed unless EPA subdivides the land and declares it clean. That could be a very long time.

G. Colby asks for some clarification. He states both he and M. Skinner received a letter from EPA. According to the letter in 2003 the Board approved eight (8) motions representing a reuse plan based on senior housing, recreation use and a community center. This does not seem to align with what M. Skinner has presented tonight.

M. Skinner replies, the letter also states that reuse at a site can be considered at any time during the cleanup process. Also, ideas may change over time. There are two (2) ways to make changes. The first way is an ESD – Explanation of Significant Difference. This process is easy and was already done to change some of the neighboring homes to attach to the potable water system. The other way to make a change is through a ROD - Record of Decision Amendment. This process is longer, requires more paperwork and bureaucracy. He is not sure which method the EPA will want to follow if a change in use is desired.

G. Colby thanks M. Skinner for the explanation and mentions the letter also states the Town requested no future liability with contaminated soil or water.

J. DeRoche asks if the buildings along the fence on the Kelley Road will come down or stay up.

M. Skinner replies, they will come down.

Richard Anthony, 4 Village Way calls into the meeting with a few questions. He asks what process is in place to protect the aquifer.

M. Skinner replies the use of fences, monitoring the surface water and monitoring the water annually at several data points.

R. Anthony asks if the Beede group works with Hampstead Water company.

M. Skinner, replies, no. Their wells are up gradient from the site and are not impacted.

R. Anthony asks if there has been an inventory of animals and endangered species done along the travel corridor.

M. Skinner replies, a formal inventory has not been done yet many species have been found in the area and all findings are shared with the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

J. DeRoche asks what the next steps are.

M. Skinner replies, there is a lot of work to do to come up with the design for the final phases of cleanup. A workgroup and community input should be involved. The current owners, an LLC will also be involved in discussions and planning.

D. Britton states the Board has work to do too.

Eric Lee, 12 Pollard Road is in the audience and would like to make a statement. He is a Pack Master for Cub Scouts. Last fall he attended the bat count with many of the Scouts. It was exciting and the Scouts enjoyed it. As a citizen he hopes to see the site become a green/open area.

D. Britton thanks him for his comment.

### **Review & Approve Old Home Day Committee Bylaws**

Jenn Gusler, Recreation Director and Haley Bush, Old Home Day Committee Chair are present.

D. Britton asks if anyone has any questions regarding the Old Home Day Committee Bylaws.

H. Bush states the committee members agree with bylaws. They held their second meeting recently. The theme for Old Home Day this year is "Friendly Neighbors."

D. Britton asks if the fireworks are locked in yet.

J. Gusler replies, no. She asks the Board if they must get three (3) quotes. It would be easier to go with the same company they have used in years past. There is consensus amongst the Board to go with the same company.

J. DeRoche asks if they need volunteers.

Both J. Gusler and H. Bush reply, yes!

J. DeRoche asks for people watching the meeting to please help to make the event great.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, March 13.

***B. Coye motions to accept the Old Home Day Committee Bylaws and Constitution. Seconded by G. Taillon. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.***

### **Election Schedule**

D. Britton states it will be best if someone comes in early and stays as long as they can. Someone should come in the middle of the day, and someone should come in the afternoon and stay until the end. Since G. Taillon and J. Blinn are running for reelection, they cannot help this year.

### **Water Grant Certification of Authorization**

G. Colby states we need an updated Certification of Authorization for the State of New Hampshire to extend the water grant program for potable water.

***G. Taillon motions to grant authority (certificate of vote of authorization) for Plaistow Town Manager, Gregory A. Colby to sign grant agreements with the State of NH Department of Environmental Services for the potable water project. Seconded by J. DeRoche. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.***

G. Colby passes out information consisting of a letter from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), and a proposal from Sanborn Head. The materials reference water contamination found by the State in some residential wells. The wells are located in the area of Kingston Road, Hill Haven Road, Hale Spring Road and Elm Street. NHDES has identified the Town as the party responsible to investigate and potentially remediate the PFOA and PFAS impacts as they believe the source is from the Fire Department. The State wants Plaistow to provide a plan for a supplemental site investigation by March 31, 2022. G. Colby reached out to Sanborn Head and would like the Board to retain them. If the Board agrees he will ask Sanborn Head to attend the next Board meeting and start the process. The cost is \$5000.00

D. Britton states that seems reasonable. He does want the Town to be cautious. A lot of assumptions have been made by the State.

G. Taillon asks if there is a plan to pay for it. He states at a previous meeting Senator Morse mentioned State funding is available for such issues.

G. Colby agrees and states the Department of Environmental Services also has funds available to assist homeowners with water contamination issues.

There is consensus from the Board for G. Colby to enter into a contract with Sanborn Head to start the planning process to address the issues determined by the State in their letter.

J. DeRoche asks what the impact to residents is. Should they drink the water?

D. Britton states the subject is difficult. What was drinkable water a few years ago is no considered contaminated. The allowed parts per million keep getting smaller.

### **Town Managers Report**

- The auditors will be here next week.
- Elections will occur next week.
- Attended several Potable water meetings.
- Household Hazardous Waste Day will be Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The solar panels on the salt shed are providing a good amount of electricity. The amount was 3.49 megawatts in December and 3.64 in January.

J. DeRoche states today is Plaistow's Birthday. The Town was incorporated on February 28, 1749.

D. Britton reminds people to get out and vote on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

As there is no further business before the Board, D. Britton adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack  
Administrative Assistant