



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

**Plaistow Board of Selectmen Minutes**

**Date:** April 25, 2022

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:32 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Select Chairman, Jay DeRoche - Excused

Select Vice Chairman, Bill Coye

Selectman, John A. Blinn, Sr.

Selectman, Darrell Britton

Selectman, Jonathan Gifford - Absent

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

**Minutes**

***D. Britton motions to approve the April 11, 2022, minutes. Seconded by J. Blinn. There was no discussion on the motion.***

***The vote was 3-0-0.***

***Motion carries.***

Town Manager, Greg Colby states he would like to add two (2) items to the agenda. The items are 1) sale of police cruisers and 2) donation of the fire truck, which was discussed at the last meeting. B. Coye agrees.

**Public Comment**

None

**Public Hearing to Consider the Acceptance of a Water Bond/Grant up to \$100,000**

B. Coye opens the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.

He states the hearing is to consider accepting an Asset Management Grant which will be used towards the water project.

G. Colby states the State of New Hampshire often puts out grants for water and wastewater.

Underwood Engineers recommended Plaistow apply for a grant and they assisted with the paperwork. We have been awarded a grant of up to \$100,000. The grant will help with inventory of the current system and the purchase of software. The software can be used for other applications as well.

***D. Britton motions to accept the Asset Management Grant of up to \$100,000. The grant is awarded by the State of New Hampshire, from the federal government through the Department of***

***Treasury from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Seconded by J. Blinn. There was no discussion on the motion.***

***Vote: 3-0-0.***

***Motion carries.***

***D. Britton motions to grant authority (certificate of vote of authorization) for Plaistow Town Manager, Gregory A. Colby to sign grant agreements with the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for the potable water project. Seconded by J. Blinn. There was no discussion on the motion.***

***Vote: 3-0-0.***

***Motion carries.***

**Discuss the use of ARPA Funds Towards the Ladder Truck**

G. Colby states he has been working with the Bond Bank on amortization schedules. The payments will be level funded as much as possible. If we borrow 1.5 million for 3% the payments will be in the range of \$98,000 to \$120,000 per year. This is about a seven (7) to nine (9) cent increase per 1000 of valuation on the tax rate. If we use \$250,000 of ARPA funds towards the ladder truck the payments will be in the range of \$81,000 to \$100,000 per year. By borrowing money with a bond, the tax burden is not a large increase. G. Colby states we can use some of the ARPA funds, some of the capital reserve and/or some public safety impact fees. We also need to remember the transport vehicle which will cost close to \$300,000.

D. Britton asks how much money is in the capital reserve account for fire equipment.

G. Colby states including what just passed in March there is roughly \$500,000.

D. Britton states if we use \$400,000 from the capital reserve account and \$400,000 from ARPA funds it will pay for almost ½ of the truck.

B. Coye states we need money from the capital reserve to pay for the ambulance (transport vehicle).

G. Colby states we can borrow up to 1.5 million. It is better to borrow money when inflation is high.

J. Blinn agrees with G. Colby and borrow money at a low interest rate.

Discussion continues. No matter what is decided we need to pay for the truck.

G. Colby states the fire truck has a 30-year life expectancy and by borrowing with a 20-year bond we can use ARPA funds on other items with a shorter life span. Since the fire truck has a longer life span it helps more people.

B. Coye recommends using \$250,000 of ARPA funds, \$100,000 from the capital reserve account and \$30,000 from impact fees. That will leave enough money in ARPA funds for other needed items. It will also leave enough money in the capital reserve account for the transport vehicle.

***B. Coye motions to direct the Town Manager to use \$250,000 of ARPA funds, \$100,000 from the capital reserve account and \$30,000 of impact fees to put towards the fire truck. The remaining amount will be financed through the bond bank. Seconded by D. Britton. There was no discussion on the motion.***

***Vote: 3-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

### **Discuss Memorial Day Plans**

B. Coye states there will be a parade from Pollard School to the Elm Street Cemetery and back to Town Hall.

D. Britton volunteers to say a speech if needed.

J. Blinn offers to be the MC if needed.

B. Coye states it will be discussed again at the next meeting. He wants selectmen to start thinking about it.

### **Two Police Vehicles**

B. Coye states there is a memo in tonight's packets from Sgt. Jason Mazza to Town Manager Greg Colby regarding two (2) police vehicles. The department would like to dispose of the vehicles through a public auction. One vehicle is a 2007 Dodge Charger SE with 73,291 miles. The other is a 2008 Dodge Charger with 96,943 miles. Both vehicles have been in the department for over fourteen (14) years. Their condition has deteriorated over time, and they are no longer useful to the department.

G. Colby explains the State of New Hampshire is hosting a State Surplus Auction in May. The vehicles can be sold there or online through St. Jeans Auctioneers.

***D. Britton motions to authorize the Town Manager, Greg Colby to sell the 2007 Dodge Charger SE (blue) and the 2008 Dodge Charger (black) via an online or in person auction. Seconded by J. Blinn. There was no discussion on the motion.***

***Vote: 3-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

### **Donation of Tanker Truck**

At the last meeting Chief Knutsen state there was a need in Sevierville, TN for fire equipment. The Board decided to see if any New Hampshire towns needed our old tanker truck. D. Britton reached out to some New Hampshire towns including Chatham however no one was interested.

***D. Britton motions to donate the 1993 tandem axel Pierce, 2500-gallon tanker truck to Sevier County Volunteer Fire Department in Sevierville, Tennessee. Seconded by J. Blinn.***

***Vote: 3-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

### **Approval of Prior Nonpublic Minutes**

***D. Britton motions to approve and unseal the nonpublic session minutes of March 28, 2022.***

***Seconded by J. Blinn. There was no discussion on the motion.***

***Vote: 3-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

### **Potable Water Project Update**

G. Colby states the bid opening for Contract P4 occurred last Wednesday. Contract P4 is for the connections from the water mains to the houses/businesses impacted by MtBE contamination. Two (2) bids were received, and Underwood Engineers is reviewing them.

The work on the Arbor Road bypass will begin soon.

The system will be flushed and disinfected before the water is turned on. So far everything is on schedule.

### **Town Managers Report**

- The ARPA reporting document is done.
- Working on finalizing the paperwork for the ladder truck.
- Recently held a Joint Loss Committee and Department Head meeting.
- Plaistow had another house fire recently. He thanks the fire department for their quick response and commendable job in putting out the fire. The 24/7 coverage has made a big help. The fire department budget was level funded and payroll may get tight.

D. Britton asks if there are any escalation costs involved with the new ladder truck.

G. Colby replies, no.

B. Coye mentions all selectmen are invited to attend the Arbor Day Nature Walk with the fifth graders. Please refer to the email from Conservation Commission Chair, Jill Senter.

### **Selectmen's Reports**

D. Britton – nothing to report.

J. Blinn – nothing to report.

B. Coye

- Attended the toddler and regular Easter egg hunts. Both events were great with a lot of participation.

### **Events**

- Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day – April 30. G. Colby thanks Methuen Construction for allowing Plaistow to use their driveway for the Household Hazardous Waste Day.
- Plaistow Fish & Game Club Kids Fishing Derby – May 7 (note there will be a second one for special needs children on May 14)
- Town Wide Yard Sale – May 14
- Recreation Dept. Cher Show (limited tickets) – June 5 (contact Rec. Director Jenn Gusler)

### **Other Business**

None

As there is no further business before the Board, B. Coye adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack, Administrative Assistant