



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

**Plaistow Board of Selectmen Minutes**

**Date:** January 29, 2024

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:01 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

Select Chairman, Bill Coye – Present  
Select Vice Chairman, Jay DeRoche – Present  
Selectman, Darrell Britton – Present  
Selectman, Jonathan Gifford – Present  
Selectwoman, Tammy Bergeron – Excused

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

**Public Comment**

George Barnes, 19 North Ave speaks about speeding on North Ave. He states recently he was almost killed by a speeding motor vehicle. Mr. Barnes states he called the Police Department and was told only one (1) officer was on duty. He has taken notes and watched traffic and is very concerned. Mr. Barnes does not feel enough is being done to curtail speeding.

Town Manager G. Colby states he will organize a meeting with the Highway Safety Committee. Mr. Barnes wants to be informed about the meeting so he can attend.

Police Chief Santoro states there are always a minimum of two (2) Officers on duty. Also, two (2) electronic signs have been placed on North Ave. One is on a pole. The other is on a trailer and can be moved. The display on the trailer does not work however it does record speeds and the department is able to access the data. The last time it was checked a high percentage of traffic was recorded at or below the speed limit.

**Swearing in of New Police Officers**

Police Chief Santoro is happy to announce that two new officers started today. They are here tonight to be sworn in. The officers are Christopher Maguire and Benjamin Farrell. Officer Maguire is a New Hampshire certified officer with ten (10) years of service in the town of Newton, NH. He is a Field Training Officer with a background in investigation. Officer Maguire is ready to hit the ground running. Officer Farrell is a new recruit who will attend the Police Academy beginning February 12. He is a NH National Guard Member and is trained as a Combat Medic. He will be an asset

especially for emergency medical services. Officer Farrell is also well versed in firearms and has worked at Sig Sauer Academy.

Both officers were sworn in by Town Clerk Martha Fowler and welcomed to Plaistow.

### **Highway Truck**

Highway Supervisor, Dan Garlington and Foreman, Dana Rabito are present to discuss the issues with the 2012 F-550 Ford Pickup Truck with 64,000 miles. It has a front plow and a wing on it. Last summer during regular maintenance a crack was found in the frame. They had it repaired by a local vendor. Last week Dan noticed a noise and asked Dana to drive it. Dana noticed the frame was broken again in the same place. They decided to have it looked at by Jeff Peabody since he specializes in fabrication. Mr. Peabody stated that type of a crack is generally only a onetime fix. Trying to fix it again causes the frame to become more brittle. Dana turned the truck on and lifted the plow to show Mr. Peabody. He said he would not recommend driving it. Dan got prices on similar trucks. The Ford F-550 is 19000lbs. Dan found a 23000lbs truck for a good price. It comes with a wing plow, a sander, and it is under coated. There is no extended warranty. The price is \$165,641.18.

Selectman Britton states he saw the truck and the crack is very large.

Selectman DeRoche asks when the Ford F-550 was due for replacement according to the CIP. Town Manager G. Colby states in the year 2024.

Selectman Gifford asks if we can repurpose the wing plow.

Foreman Rabito replies, not really. It is old and they do not make that kind anymore.

Town Manager G. Colby states at the end of 2022 the State of New Hampshire gave all towns & cities extra funding from bridge aid. They did it again in 2023. The amounts are lower however the funds can be put towards a new truck. Plaistow's portion is \$112,216. There is also \$170,00 available in the highway capital reserve fund and we would not need all of it. He recommends the Board make a tentative agreement to purchase the truck.

***Selectman DeRoche motions to purchase a highway truck in the amount of \$165,641.18. Funds of \$112, 216.71 are from unanticipated highway funds, \$7500 from Roadway Impact Fees and the withdrawal of \$45,924.48 from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund. This is a tentative agreement. The unanticipated Highway funds will be accepted at a future meeting. Following the acceptance of the Highway Funds this agreement will become final. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.***

***Vote: 4-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

Highway Supervisor Dan Garlington gives a big thank you to Foreman D. Rabito. He has saved the Town a great deal of money. He is very proactive and not reactive. He takes care of the equipment and finds and fixes issues often. He is a leader with equipment care and repairs. Highway Supervisor Dan Garlington also thanks the Board for supporting their equipment needs.

The Board thanks both D. Garlington and D. Rabito for all their hard work keeping the roads in good condition.

### **Re-Adopt the Investment Policy**

Town Manager G. Colby states it is a requirement per NH RSA's that the Selectmen adopt an Investment Policy. It must be reviewed and re-adopted annually. Town Manager G. Colby had staff review the current policy against the RSA's. No changes are recommended. This is basically a formality.

***Selectman DeRoche motions to re-adopt the investment policy reviewed at the January 29, 2024 Board meeting. Seconded by Selectman Britton.***

***Vote: 4-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

### **Prepare for Deliberative Session**

Chair Coye states the Deliberative Session will be held on Saturday, February 3 here at Town Hall beginning at 9:00 A.M.

The Selectmen determine who will read and explain each warrant article.

Article P-24-02 Operating Budget – General Fund will be read by the Budget Committee Chair, Katie Knutsen.

Article P-24-03 Operating Budget – Water Department will be read by Select Chair Coye.

Article P-24-04 Collective Bargaining Agreement – Police Union will be read by Selectman DeRoche.

Article P-24-05 Special Town Meeting for Defeated Collective Bargaining Agreement will be read by Selectmen DeRoche.

Article P-24-06 Contingency Fund will be read by Selectmen Gifford.

Article P-24-07 Deposit to Highway Department Equipment Expendable Trust Fund will be read by Selectman Britton.

Article P-24-08 Deposit to Building Expendable Trust Fund will be read by Selectwoman Bergeron.

Article P-24-09 Deposit to Library Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Select Chair Coye.

Article P-24-10 Deposit to Energy Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectman DeRoche.

Article P-24-11 Deposit to Police Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectman Gifford.

Article P-24-12 Public Safety Communication And Information Technology Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectman Britton.

Article P-24-13 Discontinue the Police Department Communication Radio Dispatching System Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectman Britton.

Article P-24-14 Deposit To Fire Department Radio Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectwoman Bergeron.

Article P-24-15 Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Select Chair Coye.

Article P-24-16 Deposit to Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectman DeRoche.

Article P-24-17 Deposit to Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund will be read by Selectman Gifford.

Article P-24-18 Deposit to Old Home Day Expendable Trust Fund will be read by Selectman Britton.

Article P-24-19 Plaistow Historical Society will be read by Selectman Gifford.

Article P-24-20 Expendable Trust Fund Transportation Program will be read by Selectwoman Bergeron.

Article P-24-21 Conflict of Interest Ordinance will be read by Select Chair Coye.

Select Chair Coye reminds everyone that the Deliberative Session will be held this coming Saturday, February 3 on the second floor of Town Hall at 9:00A.M.

### **Approve Consent Agenda**

#### **Item Description**

1. Accounts Payable Manifest week of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
2. BOS Draft Minutes January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.
3. Commitment Letter – Household Hazardous Waste Collection in Danville (date – TBD)

***Selectman Britton motions to approve the consent agenda and add on the Warrant for Water Consumption Fees in the Amount of \$39,407.51. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.***

***Vote: 4-0-0***

***Motion carries.***

### **Town Managers Report**

- Working with the Highway Department on securing a new truck.
- Busy closing the end of the year (2023) and the end of the month (January 2024).
- Work is ongoing at the leach field for the Safety Complex. The police side is almost complete. The State inspection will take place tomorrow followed by the electrical inspection. Then work will move to the fire side.
- A condo association in Town is having an issue with PFAS. They will join the potable water system in Town. This is near the route 108 side of Town. It is good news as far as expanding the water system is concerned. It may not happen until 2025.
- All the required documents for voting were posted today as required by law.
- The 2023 Town Report is being finalized.
- Preparing for Deliberative Session.

## **Selectmen's Reports**

Selectman Gifford

- Attended elections. Voter turnout was very good.

Selectman Britton

- Thanks the Plaistow Fish & Game Club for hosting elections for the Town.
- He only heard one (1) complaint regarding voting. It was hard to see with the Sheriff's car in the road.

Selectman DeRoche

- Attended elections and everything went well.
- He states residents can still apply to run for an office through Friday, February 2. The Town Clerks Office will be open on Friday from 3-5 P.M. to accept sign-ups for candidacy.

Select Chair Coye

- Nothing to report other than attending elections.

George Barns, 19 North Ave speaks again. He states he was told by a dispatcher there was one (1) officer on duty yet the Chief claims there were two (2) officers on duty. He does not like the discrepancy. Another issues is, if someone requests a report it does not state what time an officer left an area. For example, what time an officer left North Ave.

As there is no further business before the Board, Chair Coye adjourned the meeting at 7:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack,  
Administrative Specialist