

**Town of Boscawen**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
Final Minutes  
Wednesday, May 16, 2019 at 6:30pm

In attendance: Edward Cherian, Lorrie Carey, Kevin Wyman, Tim Kenney, Dean Hollins, Nicole Hoyt, Kellee Easler, Alan Hardy, and Sarah Gerlack

Chairman Edward Cherian opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance at 6:30pm and a moment of silence.

At this time Town Administrator Hardy asked if there was anything to take off the consent agenda. Chairman Cherian asked to remove the meeting minutes from May 2, 2019 off the consent agenda for further discussion.

**Chairman Cherian made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. Selectwomen Carey seconded. All in favor.**

David Scott and Bill Saffian from NH Department of Transportation came to speak to the Board and the public about the maintenance and preservation of the bridge on Tremont Street and the bridge on US Route 4. Scott and Saffin presented two different ways the projects could work. On the Tremont Street bridge option #1 would be full closure of the bridge and have a detour through Eel Street and it is estimated to take 10 weeks to complete the project. Option two would to keep the bridge open with alternating two way traffic with signals and is estimated to take 16 weeks. The US 4 bridge work has one option that will be done in two phases with a barrier put up for construction, with this lane closure it will require for the slip lane in the roundabout to be closed and it estimated to be completed in 18 weeks. DOT has presented two ways the projects can be done either consecutively which is estimated to take 30 weeks or work on them concurrently which is estimated to take 20 weeks. Saffin read aloud a statement from The Bureau of Environmental Services of the NH Department of Transportation reassuring that this project will have no effect on the historical or archaeological resources in the area and if there are any concerns from the residents they can call the Environmental Manager at 271-3226. Scott and Saffian opened discussion with the residents several residents voiced concerns concerning road closures and the detour to Eel Street. Infinite Health Care business owner Dr. Sam expressed his concerns for the traffic if the bridge was to close for the restoration and his concern for the business if access was to be cut off from them. The project is set to be bid on in the fall of 2019 and the work is set to be done in the summer of 2020. The Board will send DOT their recommendation based on feedback from today and what they think will be best suited for the residents of Boscawen.

**Scheduled Speaker's**

From the Boscawen Congregational Church Ron Reed, Pastor Dave and Linda Patton came to speak to the Board. Ron stated that there has been a change of hands at the food pantry in the director and that is now a dual position with Co-managers Linda and Joyce Knowlton running it. Ron mentioned that the food pantry director would like to continue to work with the Police Department and the Welfare Administrator since they are the first ones that would know who was in need. Ron mentioned that he has spoken with Town Administrator Hardy about getting a 2<sup>nd</sup> key for the Town Hall for the use of the facilities during the Food Pantry hours. Hardy mentioned that the church currently holds two keys. It was found that one key is used for the maintenance of the Town Hall

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and the 2<sup>nd</sup> is kept locked up. Hardy suggestion was to have one of those keys available during the hours of the food pantry for use. It is the town's policy for any organization that uses the town hall that they have no more than two keys due to miss handling of keys in the past. On a weekly basis, we have four to five organizations that rent the Town Hall and all come to check out a key from the town office the day prior or day of their weekly event and then sign it back in the same day said Administrative Assistant Gerlack. Ron mentioned that he hopes that the town will still help with the holiday baskets and the thanksgiving baskets. Welfare Administrator Gerlack mentioned that if there was a monetary donation request for the Thanksgiving baskets to submit it to her in writing as she asks others to do.

**Chairman Cherian made a motion to allow for Town Administrator Hardy to sign the contracts on behalf of the Board for the NH-DES Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund Application and Underwood Engineering Service Contract. Selectwoman Carey seconded. All in favor.**

Cherian mentioned this is for an assets management program that will hire engineers to document water pipes, sewer pipes and underground infrastructure.

**Old Business**

Hardy received the draft agreement for Boscawen, Canterbury and Salisbury from Penacook Rescue. The Board has asked Hardy to send them an electronic copy and they will read it over and add it to the agenda for the next meeting.

Public Works Director Hollins and Town Administrator Hardy attended a class that the Department of Transportation held on crosswalks. If DOT moves forward with the plan for the crosswalks that would mean moving the one at Depot Street and adding the lights and the other two crosswalks would be removed. The Board does not think this is a responsible solution. DOT mentioned that the River Road crosswalk is not far enough away from the street lights for someone to be able to see a pedestrian and stop for them there it would have to be moved up higher. DOT is willing to update their data and recommendations from the Town. Bill Lambert from NH DOT gave some insight on the crosswalks and stated that a lot has changed over the years and having just a crosswalk does not make it safe and some pedestrians tend to walk without waiting thinking everyone stops for a cross walk and indeed that is not so true anymore. So DOT has required for the units, similar to the ones currently working on North Main Street for Boscawen Elementary School, to be in place. With engineering the systems can cost up to \$25,000.00 per crosswalk. Selectwoman Carey mentioned that the crosswalks are in a Walk to School safe zone and was wondering if school dedicated impact fees could be used. The Board wants to keep the sidewalks and the Town will have to commit to maintaining them. The Board will send a letter to the state and explain why it is important to keep them.

Planning and Community Development Director Easler presented the Board with the Superior Court decision regarding Mary Weeks Family Trust v. Town of Boscawen. The Superior Court found in favor of the Planning Board on all counts. The court decision is available on the Town of

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Boscawen web site on the Planning & Community Development page.

Hardy mentioned that they had received a donation request from the Northern Rail Trail. The Board has asked to defer on the donation at this time.

The Board invited Water Commissioner Bruce Crawford to the table to discuss the agreement between the Town and the Water Precinct concerning the clearing of the fire hydrants. The Board has asked to have Bruce be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Bruce asked if he could have a cop emailed and he will redline the areas of concern.

**Chairman Cherian made a motion to sign the Municipal Work Zone agreement for the bridge preservation work, Selectwoman Carey seconded. All in favor. The agreement was signed by the board members present.**

The Board discussed the state sidewalk agreement for the Tremont Street Bridge with Public Works Director Dean Hollins. Hollins has doesn't believe the sidewalks in that location can be properly cared for due to location over the river, and the lack of a sidewalk connecting the bridge to the Concord sidewalk further down the street.

Police Chief Wyman wanted to let the Board know that something may have died over at the Police Department and was wondering if they could have pest control come to investigate.

Chairman Cherian mentioned that Selectman Sanborn wanted to move the meeting to 6pm instead of 6:30pm. This will start for the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Board would like to have the staff present their proposals after the consent agenda, if there is not a speaker that they will need to stay for. The department heads at this time will be able to leave.

Hollins suggested that Eel street should be posted as a "No through for trucks". For this to be changed and adopted there will need to be a public hearing. Hardy mentioned that he will schedule a public hearing at a future meeting.

**Chairman Cherian made a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 8:45pm. Selectmen Sanborn seconded. All in favor.**

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Gerlack.