

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
April 22, 2025
MINUTES

Present: Shawn Talbot (Chair), Jason Somero, Lou Alvarez, Debbie Deaton (Town Administrator)
Also present: Alan Doyle

5:00 Open Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

Below is the link to view the meeting on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/96PNdVJ9DHI?list=PLzGryVtWOBk8maGIwV0C7-1OgfqwrDljQ>

5:05 Police Department-Chief Abel:

Chief Abel stated the Selectboard had requested to revisit picking up shifts to cover vacancies that was approved in February. He informed the Board he had covered 17.5 hours since then. He said there are 3 weeks in May that will need to be covered due to vacations. He feels most of those shifts will be covered by either part timers or other officers. He shouldn't have to pick up too many shifts. Shawn added it seems to be working well and appreciates him checking in on this.

PD status update: Chief Abel added the new officer, Cooper Redding is doing field training at the moment and is going through the New Hampshire law package because he was an officer in another state. This is a long process and Officer Redding won't be able to be on his own until he is certified by New Hampshire.

The last officer candidate is close to the end of the process and will hopefully complete everything. This candidate would go to the academy in September with a graduation in December.

Jason asked how the speed radar sign is working. Chief Abel replied the sign was placed in the 200 block of Timbertop and has been there for approximately 1 month. The average speed today was 32 MPH. Chief Abel is able to view the busiest times of day, high speeds, low speeds, etc. It seems the radar is working to slow vehicles down.

Chief Abel said he has made several calls to the State regarding the stretch of Turnpike Road between Warwick Mills and Mill Street to see if they can get another 30 MPH speed limit sign because that area lends itself to high speeds. He may end up moving the radar to that area if he continues to get no response from the State.

Jason would like to look into getting signs at the town borders stating "speed limit 30 MPH unless otherwise posted"

5:15 Timbertop/Hubbard Pond Intersection:

Debbie informed the Board that Peter is on vacation and Keegan was unable to make it tonight. The Board will reschedule this conversation to May 6th.

5:17 Currier Road-permission to cut trees:

The Board reviewed the RSA's regarding cutting trees on scenic roads. Peter Somero sent an email (attached) requesting to cut down trees on Currier Road due to a failed culvert that is creating a sinkhole which will cause safety issues.

☪ Shawn made a motion to approve a total of 10 trees that are 15" in circumference or more on both sides of Currier Road per authority of RSA 231:145 and 231:158. Jason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5:27 Town owned property:

The Board reviewed the list of town owned property (attached). Any Town owned property that is in conservation has been removed.

The Board asked Debbie to compile the deeds for the Antique Fire Brigade Building (Map 11/177, 36 Main St) for their review. Previous deeds had stated the building can only be used for Fire Department purposes however, the building has been used for various purposes including a police station.

The Board decided to potentially auction the following properties:

Map 7/69	Wheeler Road	1.1 acres
Map 13/87-6	Andrew Drive	1.27 acres
Map 11/183	Manley Road	1 acre
Map 15B/25	Highbridge Road	1 acre
Map 11/50	Turnpike Road	.3 acres
Map 1/7	Turnpike Road	.3 acres

Debbie will contact the auctioneers regarding this for terms and availability.

6:45 Round Table Discussion:

- Shawn said he had asked the Road Committee if they wanted to be more involved in the road maintenance process. This will be brought up again in the fall.
- The Requests for Proposals have gone out for tree cutting and drainage on Old Wilton Road as well as the 2025 Paving bid. Sealed bids are due to the Town Administrator no later than May 5th at 3pm. The bids will be opened by the Selectboard on May 6th at 6pm. The Road Committee will review and award the bids on May 14th at 3pm.
- Shawn asked Debbie to send an email to John Root letting him know the paving bids have gone out.
- Jason is wondering if we have any gravel available at the Transfer Station to save some money. Shawn will ask Peter when he returns from vacation.

7:00 Non-public RSA 91-A:3, II (c)- Shawn made a motion to go into Non-Public under RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Lou seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. At 8:40, Shawn made a motion to return to public session. Jason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. No decisions were made.

8:40 Round Table Discussion continued:

☪ Jason made a motion based on the recommendation from the Heritage Commission to nominate Michelle Hammaan as a member. Shawn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Jason asked Debbie to mention to the Cemetery Trustees that a wall is coming down at the Center Cemetery.
- Jason also said the Patriotic Purposes Committee are planning on doing fireworks for the 4th of July. Debbie will check with Primex for liability.
- Jason added the Memorial Day Parade will be on the Sunday before Memorial Day (May 18th).
- At the meeting on April 29th, Jason would like to discuss having meetings every other week for the summer.
- Jason and Shawn feel it is important for department heads to get familiar with the BS&A accounting software.

At 9:04, Jason made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shawn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Deaton
Town Administrator

Minutes approved by BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Shawn Talbot, Chairman:



Jason Somero:



Lou Alvarez:





TOWN OF NEW IPSWICH

661 Turnpike Rd, New Ipswich, NH 03071

Department of Public Works



April 16, 2025

Dear Board of Selectmen,

I, Peter Somero am asking permission to remove around a total of 10 trees that are 15" in circumference or more on both sides of Currier Rd which is a scenic road. The trees are marked and are located about 165ft from Turnpike Rd. The reason for cutting these trees down is for an emergency culvert replacement. There is a sink hole on the side of the road from the failed culvert.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 603-878-2447 or email dpw@newipswichnh.gov.

Best regards,

Peter Somero
dpw@newipswichnh.gov
(603) 878-2447

TITLE XX

TRANSPORTATION

CHAPTER 231

CITIES, TOWNS AND VILLAGE DISTRICT HIGHWAYS

Scenic Roads

Section 231:158

231:158 Effect of Designation as Scenic Roads. –

- I. As used in this subdivision, "tree" means any woody plant which has a circumference of 15 inches or more at a point 4 feet from the ground.
- II. Upon a road being designated as a scenic road as provided in RSA 231:157, any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work done with respect thereto by the state or municipality, or any action taken by any utility or other person acting to erect, install or maintain poles, conduits, cables, wires, pipes or other structures pursuant to RSA 231:159-189 shall not involve the cutting, damage or removal of trees, or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, except with the prior written consent of the planning board, or any other official municipal body designated by the meeting to implement the provisions of this subdivision, after a public hearing duly advertised as to time, date, place and purpose, 2 times in a newspaper of general circulation in the area, the last publication to occur at least 7 days prior to such hearing, provided, however, that a road agent or his designee may, without such hearing, but only with the written permission of the selectmen, remove trees or portions of trees which have been declared a public nuisance pursuant to RSA 231:145 and 231:146, when such trees or portions of such trees pose an imminent threat to safety or property, and provided, further, that a public utility when involved in the emergency restoration of service, may without such hearing or permission of the selectmen, perform such work as is necessary for the prompt restoration of utility service which has been interrupted by facility damage and when requested, shall thereafter inform the selectmen of the nature of the emergency and the work performed, in such manner as the selectmen may require.
- III. Designation of a road as scenic shall not affect the eligibility of the town to receive construction, maintenance or reconstruction aid pursuant to the provisions of RSA 235 for such road.
- IV. Designation of a road as a scenic road shall not affect the rights of any landowner with respect to work on his own property, except to the extent that trees have been acquired by the municipality as shade or ornamental trees pursuant to RSA 231:139-156, and except that RSA 472:6 limits the removal or alteration of boundary markers including stone walls.
- V. A town may, as part of a scenic road designation under RSA 231:157 or as an amendment to such designation adopted in the same manner, impose provisions with respect to such road which are different from or in addition to those set forth in this section. Such provisions may include, but are not limited to, decisional criteria for the granting of consent by the planning board or other designated municipal body under paragraph II, or protections for trees smaller than those described in paragraph I, designated for the purpose of establishing regenerative growth along the scenic road.
- VI. Any person who violates this section or any local provision adopted under this section shall be guilty of a violation and shall be liable for all damages resulting therefrom.

Source. RSA 253:18. 1971, 455:1. 1973, 586:2. 1981, 87:1. 1983, 122:2. 1991, 134:3, 4. 1992, 160:2, eff. July 5, 1992.

Town Owned Property

	Map/Lot	Location	Acres	Date Acquired	Abutters/Purpose	Notes	
A	1/7	Turnpike Rd	0.3		1/7A-18, 1/6, 1/7F		
	1/8	Turnpike Rd	138	8/12/1987		Landfill	
	5A/3	Binney Hill Rd	0.1		5A/4-1, 5A-2	John Low abutter-interested	no deeds on file
A	7/69	29 Wheeler Road	1.1	2019-Tax Deed		squatter	
	9/21	Binney Hill Rd	7.2			Cemetery Easement	
	9/53-9	Perry Rd	0.28	6/13/1989	9/52-1, 9/53-5, 9/53-11		
	10/11-A	Stowell Rd	1		10/14, 10/18, 10/25		
	11/16	661 Turnpike Rd	19.02	1997		Town Office	
	11/16-1	Turnpike Rd	0.78	1998	11/19	strip behind DPW bldg	
A	11/50	Turnpike Rd	0.3	2/16/1935	11/47, 11/48, 11/49, 1	no access or frontage	
	11/56	30 Temple Rd	12.5			Town Field	
	11/90-6	Old Tenney Rd	7.49	2015		Lease to Harrity/Jones	Can't be sold-soccer field only
	11/97	497 Turnpike Rd	1.5	10/23/1964		Old Highway Garage	multiple people interested
	11/130	490 Turnpike Rd	1.1	6/23/1971		Fire Dept	
	11/140	Main St	0.159	1/26/1953		Parking lot for library	
	11/168	Porter Hill Rd	2			Porter Hill Cemetery	
	11/177	36 Main St	0.06	2002		Antique Fire Brigade	Title search?
A	11/183	Manley Rd	1	11/18/1869	11/176		
	11/91A	Old Tenney Rd	10.654	2015		Lease to Harrity/Jones	Can't be sold-soccer field only
	11/99A	Tricnit	0.05	1994		Pump house lot (removed)	?
	11/165A	Main St	0.17	5/7/1993		parking lot - next to AFB	
	12/9	157 Main St	0.03			Old Town Hall	
	12/11	Main St	14			Center Cemetery	
	12/91	Preston Hill Rd	0.2		12/77, 12/78, 12/90		owner unknown-last deed 209-619
A	13/87-6	Andrew Drive	1.27	2023		tax deeded-Ed Dekker	abutters interested
	15B/10	Highbridge Rd	0.04		15B/11, 15B5, 15B/18		owner unknown-no deeds since 1905
A	15B/25	Highbridge Rd	1	12/9/1992	15B/24, 15B/20, 15B5		
	16A/3	Highbridge Rd	0.2	2013	16A/2, 16A/25		
	16A/4	4 Highbridge Rd	0.2	2013	16A/2, 16A/25		
						used town property	
		sell to abutters?					