

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin, and Roger Barham; Town Administrator Heidi Carlson and Police Chief Jon Twiss. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectmen handled the agenda out of order, handling the following first in the meeting:

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

At 6:30 pm Police Chief Jon Twiss came forward to discuss with the Board the Law Enforcement Surplus Program relative to vehicles that are available. He has been contacted by Kingston Police Chief Briggs regarding a Humvee that is available, which was originally in Plaistow. In 2008 it was completely refurbished by the Federal Government, Plaistow PD took possession of it, repainted it, bought new tires, a new roof and doors and it has 370 miles on it since it was redone. The vehicle has blue lights and part of a radio (Fremont has the rest of the radio to make it workable). Twiss explained that this would give the PD availability to access places like Shirkin Road, emergency situations like snowstorms and floods and such, it would also allow them to tow the existing ATV trailer, which is too big for the Department SUV's to tow.

Janvrin asked for Twiss's thought about it and he replied that he has considered it will be an added expense (maintenance, insurance) but when he saw it, felt it is a good vehicle and we would have a use for it. Twiss said that it would be a utility vehicle and not used routinely for patrol. He said there is still more to the process of obtaining it, and that Chief Briggs offered if any of the Selectmen want to go down and ride in it or see it, they are welcomed to do so.

Janvrin moved to authorize Chief Twiss to start the process of acquiring this excess surplus vehicle. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Twiss then said that the recruiting process is still ongoing, and a conditional offer was made to a candidate Twiss discussed with the Board a few months ago. The candidate is a 30 year veteran of law enforcement from the Hampton Police Department and is a retiree, eligible to work 32 hours per week. He has cleared through the background and Twiss feels the next step is to bring the candidate to the Board. He explained again that he is not adding a position, filling a vacant part-time spot.

Janvrin asked about the candidate's certification, which needs to be reinstated by the Academy. Twiss explained that full-time certification used to be valid for one year following retirement or resignation, then 90 days and now it is down to 30 days, so he will have to do paperwork with the NH Police Academy and the officer can work up to 6 months as they update his certification status. The candidate will have to go to the Academy and take the part-time agility test, and if he is recertified within one year, he will not have to redo the law package.

Twiss explained that he has completed the psychological exam and background check. The Board asked and the Chief confirmed that he will just have to complete paperwork, take the physical agility test in early August and would be all set to work after that, and that some in-house training is needed along with uniforms, and the officer would be ready to go given his long history and experience in law enforcement.

The Board agreed that Chief Twiss should bring the candidate in to a future meeting and to make the necessary appointment on the Board's calendar with Carlson.

At 6:40 pm Selectmen asked Mark Pitkin to come to the table, as he had schedule time with the Board to discuss issues on Shirkin Road. Also present were Shirkin Road Abutters and neighbors from the area Laurie Pitkin and the Pitkin Family, Timmy Bolduc, Randy & Cindy Grasso, Renee King, Arleigh Green,

Jim Watkins, Marty Stollar & Terry Eustis, Roy Tewell, Rob Kennedy, James & Sara Cloutier, and Travis & Kathy Baum. Police Chief Jon Twiss remained for the meeting, and Sergeant Jason Larochelle and Doug Brown also joined the meeting later.

Pitkin began by talking about a problem on Shirkin Road this past weekend wherein he had bullet ricochet at his house. He detailed out continual shooting problems as well as mass destruction of the road and adjacent private lands including tire ruts through the swamps, trash dumping and a variety of other illegal activity and asked for the Board's help into what we can do about it.

He said he has done research, and is hoping that the Town would consider designating Shirkin Road as an Emergency Lane. He said the Police have difficulty getting out there to do their job, and that designating it as an Emergency Lane would allow the Town to spend some Highway funds to keep it open for fire and police access. He explained that he spent \$1,000 in materials today on Shirkin Road so that the PD can get out there and do their job. He expressed his deep concern with safety, but feels the burden should not be on him alone.

He said in addition to the Emergency Lane statuts, he would also like to gate it, with everyone who has property out there having a key. He shared two large cups of shell casings that have been picked up, and said he found bullets 30 feet in a tree, on his property line. He shared photographs of the destruction, of items begin shot and blown up with guns, ruts of jeeps and other vehicles traipsing through the swamps.

He said he thought some of these properties are in the Fremont Aquifer and that Loon Pond is a beautiful resource out there.

Marty Stollar, whose Shirkin Road property abuts Loon Pond said there are ruts going through their property and that despite his attempts to protect his property, people have removed culverts, the rocks he had across his frontage, and done a variety of other destructive acts.

Janvrin said that the Galloway property is not posted, making some enforcement difficult. At the time Janvrin was Police Chief, he explained that John Galloway had given the FPD a letter saying that they could remove people from the property who were out there shooting.

Chief Twiss explained what the Police Department can do legally out there, and that they get out when they can, but further explained that Fremont generally has one person on duty at a time, and mutual aid and other agencies are needed to respond safely to many of the incidents out there. He said a Class 6 road is a public way, but once they are on private property, they need permission. He said when they get shooting complaints, they identify the people, check them, and document it as a warning for trespassing. Each time they keep track, they know if there are repeat offenders, and additional penalties can be enforced. Those who are operating ATV's and trucks without landowner permission can be cited.

Janvrin said that people who go to Walmart in Epping to buy ammunition can be coached by clerks there about where to shoot, and they will draw a map to get to Shirkin Road. This was felt to be unacceptable to all.

Mark Pitkin said Galloway gave him permission last weekend to put up warning signs so that they are not near the Pitkin house. There were questions asked about whether the Town could put up signage, leading to extensive discussion about what was legal or not, and what can be enforced.

Marty Stollar said he has tried rocks and cables and all have been removed or destroyed over time. He noted fire pits out there as big as this meeting room, and that they have cut a swath to the pond and done extensive damage, worse than he has ever seen in the 15 years of his ownership on the road.

Beede Road resident Roy Tewell said that the shooting is going on day and night, and you can't safely be out in the woods any more at all.

Rob Kennedy said he has noticed a lot of trucks out there, had someone borrow a ratchet at one point to fix something, and drove the fellow back out there, and said he has never seen so much destruction; all Massachusetts plates.

He said we should take a page out of Epping's book, who turned Birch Road into a Class A trail and installed steel guardrail all along the edges of the trail, using RTP grants. He provided contact information relative to NH DRED for this designation, later explaining that these are trails programs and often eligible for grant money (RTP Grants), similar to what the snowmobile clubs use to improve trails.

Marty Stollar said that he has seen vehicles parking out on Route 101, trailering in ATV's and riding throughout the private property in the area. He said they have ripped out culverts at the Loon Pond end of the road, and that activity is out of control with always a truck or 4 wheeler out there.

Terry Eustis added that with the amount of alcohol use mentioned, and she was concerned about this with guns and other vehicular traffic and the safety of it.

Chief Twiss said that the PD will be out there with Fish and Game in the coming weekends on directed patrols.

Arleigh Greene and James Watkins representing Hard Rock said that they are horrified by what they see out there, it is a mess and they want to be part of the solution.

Randy Grasso cited NH RSA 231:21-a in part, asking about access to any gate, and the statute was consulted and read aloud by Carlson:

231:21-a Uniform Provisions Governing Class VI Highways. – All class VI highways, whether such class VI status resulted from a layout pursuant to RSA 231:21, a discontinuance subject to gates and bars pursuant to RSA 231:45, or by the failure of the town to maintain and repair such highway in suitable condition for travel thereon for 5 successive years or more as set forth in RSA 229:5, VII, shall be subject to the following provisions:

I. All such highways shall be deemed subject to gates and bars; provided, however, that any gates or bars maintained by private land owners shall be erected so as not to prevent or interfere with public use of the highway, and shall be capable of being opened and reclosed by highway users. The selectmen may regulate such structures to assure such public use, and may cause to be removed any gates or bars which fall into disrepair or otherwise interfere with public use of the highway.

II. Even though, as set forth in RSA 231:93, class VI highways are not subject to any municipal duty of care or maintenance, the municipality shall have the same regulatory authority over such highways as is the case with class V highways, including but not limited to the authority to regulate their use pursuant to RSA 41:11 and RSA 47:17, VII, VIII and XVIII, to regulate the excavation or disturbance of such highways pursuant to RSA 236:9 through 236:11, to regulate driveways and other access pursuant to RSA 236:13, and to establish weight limits pursuant to RSA 231:191. **Source.** 1999, 113:1, eff. Aug. 9, 1999.

Several property owners in the room said they would want access, as did some neighbors.

It was clear from all present that they are interested in a solution to the problem. Mark Pitkin then played an audio of the activity over this past weekend, in which repeated gun shots can be heard.

Renee King added that this type of shooting activity happens 8-10 hours a day on weekends, and often at other times, with shooting all hours of the day and night. She said that they are drinking and then getting out of the pit and driving somewhere.

Travis Baum, resident at 522 Beede Hill Road said that they live at the corner of Beede and Shirkin and would be glad to assist with appropriate and large signage in the area alerting people to the Class VI road status, no shooting, etc as a warning.

Carlson explained the status of a Class VI road and that it is believed Shirkin Road was also voted closed subject to gates and bars. The Class VI road status means that the Town can't spend money on maintenance, but that if the designation of Emergency Lane as proposed by Mark Pitkin, could be undertaken, that then the town would be allowed to spend minimal money to ensure access for public safety emergencies (fire, police, EMS).

Randy Grasso said he remembered a time when Bob Kelly (Seacoast Farms Compost) had a gate there. There was discussion about the Town changing the roads designation, which is possible only with a Town Meeting vote. Carlson further explained that money was also an issue because the Town is dealing with a default budget for 2016.

Doug Brown reiterated the safety issue and said he doesn't dare let his kids play outside either.

Janvrin stated that previously John Galloway had given the police permission to enforce trespass on his land, and Chief Twiss stated that was still in effect. If all private property was posted, he felt that the Police Department could possibly address more issues.

There was further discussion about declare it as an emergency lane, placement of very large boulders along private property access as ways to deter the activity.

The Town will do more research on the gates and bars, as well as the classifications.

Given the audience, Carlson informed everyone at the meeting that the Galloway Site Plan Review hearing (unrelated to this discussion) scheduled to take place before the Planning Board on Wednesday May 4 at 7:15 pm will be recessed to Wednesday June 1, 2016 at the request of the applicant.

Selectmen thanked everyone for attending and pledged to continue to work on this issue for follow-up throughout the coming weeks. Neighbors and abutters and PD representatives left the meeting at approximately 7:43 pm.

Department Heads – Chief Butler remained for a few minutes to update the Board on Tank 4 repair work, which is due to begin the second week of May, and he anticipates the truck out of service for 4-6 weeks. He will have some arrangements made for automatic mutual aid during the repair.

He then made a request for use of the Town Credit card for a \$342.00 ID purchase identified in PO 2016-004 for purchase of Fire Rescue Department updated ID badges. Janvrin moved to authorize use of the Town credit card for this purchase. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Chief Butler left the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Parks & Recreation Commission member candidates – Nicole Cloutier plans to bring Rita Mudawar in next week.

Chairman Cordes then read through the announcements as follows:

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. This meeting is live broadcast on Channel 22 and will be rebroadcast throughout the week ahead.
2. Spring Bulky Day will be held on Saturday May 7, 2016 from 8:00 am to 12 noon. Volunteers are needed and anyone interested can contact Jeanne or Heidi in the Selectmen's Office to sign up.
3. Exeter Hospital will host its bi-annual sharps collection on Saturday May 14, 2016 from 8:00 am to 12 noon on the Hospital Campus at 3 Alumni Drive.
4. The Annual Memorial Day Parade and Services will be held on Sunday May 29, 2016. Anyone interested in participating should contact Jeanne Nygren in the Selectmen's Office as soon as possible.
5. Ellis School Field Day will be held at the Town's ballfields on Friday June 10, 2016 (Raindate Monday June 13, 2016) and the fields will be closed for the day while events are held.
6. There are currently openings for a cleaning position at Town Buildings, as well as maintenance and lawn care. Any interested persons should check the website for postings or contact Heidi Carlson in the Selectmen's Office.
7. On Wednesday May 4, 2016, there will be a public event focused on the wise use of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and neonicotinoids by the Great Bay-Piscataqua Waterkeeper and Exeter's Healthy Lawns-Clean Water Committee. It will take place at the Exeter High School from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. Local lawn care vendors will be present to showcase eco-friendly products as well. This information is helpful to all communities dealing with the MS-4 permitting, and reduction of source and non-source point pollution in local watersheds.
8. The Town has advertised for sale by sealed bid a 2000 Sweepster Tow-Behind power broom. The ad can be seen on the Town's website and more information or an appointment to view it can be made by contacting the Road Agent.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

04/26/2016 Zoning Board of Adjustment – Janvrin reported this was a work session with no cases scheduled. The Board worked on development of a checklist with Casey. Doug Andrew was reelected Chair and Dennis Howland was voted as Vice Chair. The Board had not recently had a Vice Chair in place.

04/26/2016 Energy Committee – Cordes reported a short meeting which reviewed the Planning Board's draft of the Energy Chapter of the Master Plan. The Committee also talked further about changes in net metering solar arrays, and that the legislature has expanded the number of megawatts that can be developed under net metering plan.

The Committee has been in contact with a solar energy company who may come out to a Town sight and make some recommendations.

It is noted that the Planning Board has not yet set a date for the Master Plan updates. It is likely to be combined with the Public Hearing for the CIP and Zoning Ordinance Recodification.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectmen reviewed the minutes of 21 April 2016. Motion was made by Barham to approve the minutes as amended to include fixing of a space typo under New Business Item # 8. Janvrin seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed the Audit Representation letter for the 2016 Treasurer Recommital. Motion was made by Janvrin to approve the recommital letter for the auditor. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

2. Carlson advised the Assessing RFP is just about complete but had not been printed. It will be emailed out for the Board review as well as send to DRA for review prior to posting.

3. The Personnel Policy revised draft has been circulated to all. Barham presented a couple of sentences to be used to revise the previously discussed Weapon section. This led to a discussion on weapons and what the Town hoped for safety for its employees. After further discussion this section was re-written and will be inserted for review and a final approval next week.

4. Town Hall basement updates: An email was reviewed from Bob Meade regarding inclusion of framing for interior doors between offices. The Board agreed that if Meade felt this was best, to leave that option in.

Carlson advised that she had the oil tank removed Wednesday 04/27/2016. The work of putting that new tank at the Historic Museum was also scheduled. The tank at the Historic Museum is very old and in need of repair, including a pad for it to be properly seated.

The second egress door is in and due to be delivered next Monday. Bob Meade and Mike Paradie will continue work on the floor patch from the removal of the raised pad from the old furnaces.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed the accounts payable manifest \$39,276.66 for the current week dated 29 April 2016. Barham moved to approve the accounts accounts payable manifest \$39,276.66 for the current week dated 29 April 2016. Janvrin seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

2. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence.

3. Carlson discussed proposals from Secondwind Water Systems for annual maintenance of water systems at the Fremont Library and Safety Complex. The Library Trustees met last night and were also due to discuss this, and Board members deferred action until learning the Trustees thoughts.

4. There was discussion about the summer meeting scheduling. June was left as is, and only two meetings would be held in July: Tuesday July 12 and Thursday July 28 to avoid other schedule and vacation conflicts.

5. Selectmen reviewed a request from Marie Roderick on behalf of the Ellis School 8th Grade parents to use the second floor of the Town Hall for several weeks for decorating materials for their end of year festivities, Monday and Thursday evenings from 7-9 pm through June 4th. Selectmen agreed so long as any paint products used with ventilation (or outside); that they cover floors and walls; and they are

responsible to secure any materials stored here. With said conditions, Janvrin moved to approve the usage. Barham seconded and the vote was 3-0.

6. Veteran Credit applications for review - The following applications meet criteria and are ready for approval:

03-015.001.106	Roger Vets
03-015.001.082	Kenneth Kleiner
03-015.001.074	Ronald Cross
04-045	John Hennessey
02-105.022	Alan Dunn
07-002	Leonard Wolf

Janvrin read aloud the list above and moved to approve the six Veteran Credits as read. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

8. Selectmen reviewed the Pole License PSNH 65-0558 on Scribner Road which was reviewed and found to be in compliance by Jeanne Nygren. Motion was made by Barham to approve the Pole License PSNH 65-0558 on Scribner Road. Janvrin seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. The Town is looking for interested volunteers for the following positions:
 - a. Zoning Board of Adjustment Member (usually meets once per month)
 - b. Rockingham Planning Commission Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Advisory Committee member representative (usually meets bi-monthly)
 - c. Planning Board Alternate (meets twice per month)

Anyone interested could begin by contacting Heidi Carlson for more information or attend an upcoming meeting.

2. Selectmen were reminded to begin working on their speeches for Memorial Day Ceremony, and a brief overview of the needs of the day were discussed.

IX. NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A

At 9:00 pm Janvrin moved to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss the hiring of individuals as Town employees. Barham seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved: Cordes – yes; Janvrin – yes; Barham – yes.

At 9:25 pm motion was made by Janvrin to return to public session. Barham seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved: Cordes – yes; Janvrin – yes; Barham – yes.

Motion was made by Janvrin to make conditional offers of employment to Melissa Olms for Director of Camp Fremont and three Assistant Directors for Camp Fremont Kimberly Dyer, Hannah Kimball and Carrie Parenteau. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday May 5, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – by 9:00 pm

With no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Janvrin to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator