

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, February 5, 2025
4:30 PM Town Hall



Present: Matthew Riiska, Sandy Evans, Henry Tirrell, Barbara Gomez, Ruth Melville and Kathryn Boughton

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Minutes: January 8, 2025

MOTION S. Evans to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2025 meeting as presented.
Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Reappointments: Conservation Commission & Friends of the Meadow Committee

M. Riiska presented the following individuals for reappointment:

- Conservation Commission – Elizabeth Borden, Susannah Wood, William Ticineto (alternate) and Rebecca Eaton (alternate) all terms to expire 2/17/28
- Friends of the Meadow Committee – Lisa Atkin and George Cronin with terms to expire 2/1/28

MOTION S. Evans to reappoint all individuals listed above with terms as stated.
Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

MOTION S. Evans to add a Planning & Zoning Commission appointment to the agenda.
Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

MOTION M. Riiska to move Steven Landes from his current position as a Planning & Zoning Commission alternate to fill the regular member vacancy left by Tom Fahsbender with the term to expire 11/20/29. Second S. Evans. Carried unanimously.

Budget

- M. Riiska reported that we have received a number of budget requests from outside organizations that we support and roughly half of the departmental budgets that are due. Because the Board of Finance would like us to review the budget with them at their March 11th meeting our next Board of Selectmen Meeting (March 5th) will include the budget. H. Tirrell reported that an informal Regional #7 budget presentation is scheduled for February 26th at 6:30 p.m. at Botelle School.

Selectman's Report

- River Place Bridge - M. Riiska reported that the new NBT Bank loan funding was approved and closed for the River Place Bridge on Tuesday, 2/4/25. Payments to New England Infrastructure and WMC were made today. The bridge is on target to be completed by 4/30/25. The Town will need to do some paving on the road because of the deterioration from the truck traffic.

Selectman's Report (continued)

- School Consolidation - M. Riiska has been emailing with Ginger Prisco and they have arranged a meeting at Botelle School on Thursday, February 20th at 7:00 p.m. Norfolk and Colebrook residents are invited and it will be publicized in both towns. This will be an information collecting preliminary meeting and no decisions will be made. The next step will be to set up a committee with members from both towns including a moderator. M. Riiska will contact Jonathan Costa from Ed Advance to attend.
- Smith Road Bridge – M. Riiska will be meeting with the Smith Road residents next week. The completed applications for a temporary bridge have been submitted to the State of CT DEEP and the Army Corp of Engineers. Once approved culverts are ready for installation of a one lane temporary bridge which will allow quicker access and make the area safer.
- Route 44 Wall Project – A State trooper is on site during the week to alleviate drivers running the light at the one lane access points. M. Riiska will be meeting with the DOT on Friday.

MOTION S. Evans to adjourn at 5:08 p.m. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Gomez, Secretary