

Lebanon, Maine

SELECT BOARD MEETING

Town Office Conference Room

Minutes –Meeting

January 4, 2024

 Paul Philbrick – Chairman
 Shelli Boucher – Selectwoman EXCUSED
 Michael Walsworth - Vice Chair
 Richard Harlow III – Selectman
Kevin Edwards – Selectman

For complete meeting minutes please view the meeting in full at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TownofLebanon>

6:04 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Fire Department

1. Engine 5 out of service – pump leak. Ambulance 2 out of service in Somersworth for repair.
2. Selectman Edwards spoke to the Board about the internet services available at the temporary fire quarters on what the agreement was for paying the monthly fees for the service. This was discussed by the Board and Selectman Edwards continued researching for information throughout the Board meeting. The answer was found in the signed lease, the Town had agreed to pay half of the internet service fee.
3. Vice Chair Walsworth addressed the status of Station 2 repairs. Discussion was conducted in the usage of the sign board outside of Station 2.
4. Discussion was conducted on the status of charging for providing paramedic intercepts and on how the billing would be accomplished. Selectman Edwards to follow up on the status of this proposal.

Agenda Items - None

Public Participation – None

6:20 PM

Individual Selectmen Issues

1. Selectman Harlow: Shared with the Board and the public that those who have “Zoom” for electricity instead of CMP standard offer should check their contract rate and request a lower fee for service from “Zoom”. He noted that the recent reduction in CMP rates is quite noticeable in the town’s monthly electric bill for streetlights. Selectman Harlow distributed information to the Board showing the calculations he used to determine the LD-1 limit for this year’s budgeting

purposes. Questions about the numbers and process were addressed. Selectman Harlow to provide updated revenue information for the next Select Board meeting. Selectman Harlow shared his opinion about the "auction barn" property on route 202 and what actions the Select Board should be considering. One of the primary objectives is to exit the temporary fire quarters and get the manpower and equipment back together. Various thoughts were discussed from when to hold the vote (November/June), usage of ARPA funds, funding the balance, appraisal of the property, engineering review for suitability of building a new station at the location, etc. The general consensus of the Board is to aim for placing a question on the June 2024 ballot to obtain the property if the engineering results and property appraisal are favorable.

2. Vice Chair Walsworth addressed the status of the Stream Grant. Deborah Wilson and John Bozak will be attending the training for how to apply for the grant. The application requires conservation and highway input.
3. Chair Philbrick presented Winter Road Maintenance Contracts for Board review and signature. Contracts were signed for Newton Trucking, Boucher Excavation, Fall Rd Tree.
4. A brief discussion was held in regards to a LD-1 override on the June ballot.

7:00 PM

Unfinished Business

1. Updated the unfinished business list.
2. Transfer station repairs are progressing and are near completion. Discussion was held in regards to the balance of the funds not used to date. Recycling options are being looked at by Selectwoman Boucher. Discussion was held in regards of obtaining a skid steer for the facility.
3. Removed Stream Crossing Grants and AP Policy from the list.

Review of Minutes

1. **Vice Chair Walsworth motioned to accept the December 28, 2023 Select Board Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Selectman Edwards. Motion passed 4-0-0.**

Paperwork

1. Select Board approved a leave request.
2. Select Board discussed a request for an updated laptop to be used for elections. Town Clerk Christine Torno joined the discussion. Vice Chair Walsworth to provide additional information about a possible alternative to the laptop being requested.
3. Selectman Edwards informed the Board that the installation of an outlet for the fire vehicles at the temporary fire quarters was funded by a private donation.

7:46 PM

Budgets

1. The Select Board enter into planning and discussion of the 2024/2025 town budget proposals. The focus turned to individuals' wages.
2. **Vice Chair Walsworth motioned to enter into Executive Session for Personnel Matters pursuant to 1 MRS 405(6)(A). Motion seconded by Selectman Edwards. Motion passed 4-0-0**

9:53 PM

1. **Vice Chair Walsworth motioned to exit executive session and adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Selectman Edwards. Motion passed 4-0-0.**