

**TOWN OF TUFTONBORO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Selectmen's Meeting Final Minutes
3:45pm – Town Office**

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Present: Chairman Pike, Selectman Albee, Selectman Bob Murray, State Representative Mark McConkey, Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Ruel, Fire Chief Thompson, State Representative Katy Peternel, Road Agent Jim Bean, Town Administrator Audrey Fraizer, and Administrative Secretary Cami Wakefield and public Lloyd Wood.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION -RSA 91-A:3, II

At approximately 3:45pm, Chairman Pike made a motion to enter the non-public session per RSA 91-A: 3 II. Selectman Murray seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote: Pike – Yes; Albee – Yes; Murray – Yes.

At approximately 4:25pm, Chairman Pike made a motion to exit the non-public session and enter the public meeting to begin at 4:30pm. Selectman Murray seconded; motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote: Pike – Yes; Albee– Yes; Murray – Yes

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pike called the BOS meeting to order at approximately 4:30p.m. and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectman Murray made a motion to approve the draft minutes as written of 2.5.2024, Selectman Albee seconded, motion carried 3-0.

APPOINTMENTS

State Rep Mark McConkey talked with the Selectmen about the 10-year road plan. There was some discussion about getting us an updated red-list bridge report sent to the town. Mark

mentioned that funding of the roads has been an enormous task, and major roads have to be resurfaced every 10 years.

Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Ruel presented the following update: In 2023, the Transfer Station took in 11.3 tons of glass, 2.5 tons of plastic, 2 tons of cardboard, 5 tons of scrap metal, 600 pounds of aluminum, 22 a/c units and 26 fridge/humidifiers. Chris reported he has climbed up on the roof and there is no mold there now but if things keep going the way they are going there will be mold. The estimate of the last time the roof was repaired he thinks was either 2005 or 2008. Also, the backhoe is in for an overhaul, and he is trying to get a rental to use in the interim for like 4 weeks. Chris reported that the staff at the Transfer Station has a “uniform” now, shirts and sweatshirts that say Tuftonboro Staff. This helps to give the staff a little more respect for their job and helps people realize who is a worker there.

Fire Chief Thompson presented the attached update. He also added that the Tuftonboro Firefighters Association has again fundraised the capital needed to purchase and equip the department with a UTV & Enclosed Trailer valued at \$73,411. The trailers were previously submitted CIP but have been removed from the CIP’s list of future funds to be raised from taxes. In 2023, the Tuftonboro Firefighters Association completed a grant application through the Mark O’Connell Foundation for Lake Winnepesaukee Safety. The association was successful in the application and was awarded the grant. This project consists of a Tilt Deck Trailer valued at \$20,000. Selectman Albee made a motion to accept the funds at a public hearing on March 18th prior to the Selectmen’s meeting at 4:30pm

SIGNATURE FILE

Selectman Murray made a motion to sign the Intent to Cut for Map 41-1-4, Selectman Albee seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Chairman Pike made a motion to sign the 2024 Town Warrant, Selectman Albee seconded, motion carried 3-0.

ACTION ITEMS

Email from Police Chief Shagoury – TA Audrey will reach out to Chief Shagoury

NH Lakes – Milfoil Committee donation request – Selectman Albee made a motion to send the NH Lakes \$250.00 (-50.00 from 2023), Selectman Murray seconded, motion carried 3-0.

CORRESPONDENCE

MS-9

NRRA 1/2024 activity report

Notice of Withdrawal of Property Tax Appeal

Abutter Notice Map 38-1-50 Cow Island
Letter from FEMA
Board of Adjustment – Map 14-2-1 499 GWH
Wetlands Permit Map 24-1-1 & 24-1-3 Ragged/Little Pine Island
Wetlands Permit Map 3-1-24 Mountain Shadows
Request for Shoreline Permit Map 37-1-9 135 Cow Island

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND SELECTMEN'S UPDATE

Town Administrator Fraizer reported she has been working on the town report. She has also spent a lot of time with the DRA getting the warrant articles finalized.

Audrey mentioned that Ashley has been a huge help organizing the personnel files and cabinets in the TA office.

Audrey let the Selectmen know that she has gotten two quotes for computers, 1 for the Parks and Rec and 1 for the Transfer Station and they will be ordered after the town meeting.

Selectman Albee had nothing to report from the previous week but wanted the TA to get a hold of the contractor for the Union Wharf project and tell them to do something down at the wharf before the town meeting.

Chairman Pike fielded a few questions from towns people this past week and guided them through the website. He also spoke with some people about possible current use of their property.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION -per RSA 91-A:3 II (a)

At approximately 6:10pm, Chairman Pike made a motion to exit the public meeting and enter a non-public session per RSA 91-A: 3 II, (a). Selectman Murray seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote: Pike – Yes; Albee– Yes; Murray – Yes.

At approximately 6:50pm, Chairman Pike made a motion to exit the non-public session and reconvene the public meeting. Selectman Murray seconded; motion carried 3-0. Roll call vote: Pike – Yes; Albee– Yes; Murray – Yes.

Selectman Murray made a motion to seal these minutes, Selectman Albee seconded, motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 6:50pm Selectman Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Selectman Albee seconded, motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Cami Wakefield, Administrative Secretary

SELECTMEN MEETING

February 20, 2024

2024

Fire Calls: 15	Gas Furnace Inspection: 8
EMS Calls: 27	Oil Burner Inspection: 1
Service Calls: 17	Wood/Pellet Stove Inspection: 1
SPD: 3	Life Safety: 7
<u>TOTAL: 62</u>	<u>TOTAL: 17</u>

2023

Fire Calls: 19	Gas Furnace Inspection: 7
EMS Calls: 38	Oil Burner Inspection: 0
Service Calls: 15	Wood/Pellet Stove Inspection: 1
SPD: 0	Life Safety: 1
<u>TOTAL: 72</u>	<u>TOTAL: 9</u>

Summary of larger calls only, not a complete list of all incident responses.

01/24/2024- 11:59 AM Car VS utility pole IAO 68 GWH. The pole was broken with wires and a transformer down, blocking the roadway. Governor Wentworth Highway shut down for 2.5 hours. Car 1, Rescue 1, Ambulance 1, Engine 4 with 8 personnel. Tuftonboro Police only had one officer available, and he was committed to the accident investigation and arrest; therefore, Tuftonboro Fire companies were used to manage traffic and assist with obtaining scene images. Stewart's Ambulance, Wolfeboro Highway Department, NH Electric COOP, Consolidated Communications, and Spectrum Cable were other agencies that assisted on the scene. Traffic was detoured at Waumbec Road in Wolfeboro and Tuftonboro Neck.

1/26/2024- 11:31 AM Motor Vehicle Accident IAO 98 Sodom Road. Rescue 1, Ambulance 1 with 3 personnel to the scene, with Tuftonboro PD. Stewarts Ambulance was canceled en route as it was determined to be a non-transport. There were 5 personnel in the station for coverage.

1/28/24- 12:54 PM 525 Wansor Road Wakefield Mutual Aid for a reported tractor through the ice. Airboat, Car 1 and 3 personnel along with 3 personnel at Central station for coverage, companies were dispatched but cancelled enroute.

01/30/2024- 07:49 AM 68 GWH Unit# 9 Companies responded for a reported extinguished fire in the building. Rescue 1, Car 1, 3 personnel, Tuftonboro Code officer. This fire could have been

devastating for one whole group of condominiums if it had not self-extinguished. A condominium unit under construction was found to have had a fire. The fire started in a plastic trash can from discarded oil saturated rags. The fire was in the area of a kitchen that had been gutted on the first floor and was in the process of being renovated. An exposed pex tubing melted from the direct radiant heat, causing a sprinkler effect on the fire. When workers opened the home on Monday morning, they noticed water running in the condominium unit with smoke and fire damage. This is a prime example of where our three fire engines are critical to the effective operation of our town's fire department. In most areas of town, water is all around, yet it cannot always be easily accessed. The closest water source for this area would have been positioning a large portable pump at the lake edge (approx. 250') from road access or a pressurized fire hydrant on the Tuftonboro/Wolfboro Town line by Libby Museum (approximately a mile away) the distance of either would have caused a significant delay in water supply if this had been an active building fire.

Engine 4 with its 2500 gallons of water, at the Mirror Lake Station would have played a significant role in this fire if it had not self-extinguished. We have heard comments and discussions from several taxpayers against the replacement of Engine 4 because, as a town, we have been fortunate not to have recently had a lot of fires. There have also been conversations about wanting to close Mirror Lake Station. Folks often do not consider or may not be aware that everything after 75 Tuftonboro Neck Road would not be within 5 miles of a fire station. Our current Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of a 4/4Y would plummet to a 10. This is the worst rating that a town can have. Decreasing our rating to a 10 would not only increase property insurance premiums but also limit the number of insurance companies capable of writing a policy for a 10 ISO Rating.

2/7/2024- 2:46 PM IAO Whortleberry Island Lake Winnepesaukee for a reported stranded hovercraft unknown injury. Car 1, Ambulance 1, utility 1, Boat 2, with 5 personnel responded. No injuries and hovercraft made it to 16 Whortleberry Island once repaired.

2/19/24- 09:38 AM 101 Middle Road Working Chimney Fire. Engine 1, Engine 2, Engine 4, Car 1 with 7 Tuftonboro personnel along with Wolfboro Tower 5 and a crew of 3 handled this incident. Stewart's ambulance was staged on scene, and Tuftonboro PD assisted with traffic control. This is one of three simultaneous incidents that the department handled during the same timeframe yesterday.

The leak in the hydraulic generator system on Engine 4 was repaired at Lakes Region Fire Apparatus, and a coolant overflow reservoir was ordered due to a hole and a crack found in the top of the tank. We will get a repair cost when the job is complete.

The cable on Rescue 1's winch was replaced due to a cable failure on an incident. A synthetic rope kit replaced the metal cable to make the unit safer. The cost for the repair was \$364.99. Warn Industries for parts.

Utility 1 had several new wheel sensors installed to address a warning light that was on. Installation and parts totaled \$513.28 at 603 Motorwerks.

The administrative secretary was able to finish the outstanding cybersecurity training for 2023. Some full-time personnel need to complete the 2024 security trainings but are having issues with access. A support ticket has been placed with Lakes Region Computer and it's being addressed.

On 2/14/2024, the major annual PM on the HVAC system and both furnaces were completed at Central Station. See the attached work order for detailed info.

I would like to take a moment to clarify a few details brought up by another department head about the fire department in a previous selectmen's meeting. It was stated that the fire department doesn't necessarily need a third fire engine as "We are a part of Lakes Region Mutual Aid and pay for it and we're part of Ossipee Valley Mutual Aid and pay for it". We are NOT part of the LRMFA and we do NOT pay for it, this would be well over \$100,000 a year to become members of the LRMFA. As a member of the OVMAA, we are inherently provided the benefit of receiving mutual aid from a surrounding Mutual Aid system; however, this is not a requirement nor a guarantee and does not replace the need for having our own apparatus. Additionally, as a neighboring community to Moultonborough, we have an agreement in place to assist each other when have overcome our ability to manage an incident with our own apparatus or personnel. Again, it is not an agreement to share the workload or costs of our own community back onto our neighbors' taxpayers. This falls right back to the previous conversation about maintaining our ISO rating and the minimum three engines needed in order to do so. A selectmen's answer to that statement about fire department apparatus in comparison to transfer station equipment was that.... "none of the FD's equipment is revenue-generating, whereas your proposal for a scale is revenue-generating."

The department has been working on two large projects through the Tuftonboro Firefighters Association. The first is a UTV and enclosed trailer valued at \$73,411.00.

The second was a grant application through the Mark O'Connell Foundation for Lake Winnepesaukee Safety. The association successfully applied and was awarded a tilt deck trailer valued at \$20,000. The association worked with the Mark O'Connell Foundation to acquire, deliver, upfit, and customize the trailer. This trailer was ordered with any future airboat replacement in mind. This trailer significantly decreased the time necessary to get the airboat into operation at the time of an incident. Mark O'Connell was the operator of one of several snowmobiles that went through the ice in 2017. Mark and his friend were unable to escape the frigid waters of Lake Winnepesaukee. Tuftonboro Fire Rescue responded with our airboat to assist with this rescue and recovery in Moultonborough. Later the same day, the department again responded on Winnepesaukee, this time in Alton, to assist with another rescue and recovery mission of two snowmobilers through the ice. The old (original) aluminum boat trailer is being stored at the Quonset hut at the Transfer Station until it can be placed in the old Salt shed on Mountain Road in the spring. It will be kept so that the current airboat can be sold with it when it is replaced in the future.

The department and association would like to thank all who have donated and made these projects possible. I would also like to thank members of the department who have put countless hours into planning and making the projects a reality. A public hearing needs to be set up to accept the two projects as they cost over \$5000 each.