**Selectboard Meeting Minutes April 8, 2024 Zoom Teleconference 5:30 pm**

**Call to Order**: Andrew Baker called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Others present: Selectboard member Rick LaPierre and Town Administrator Terry Narkewicz.

A motion was put forth by Rick to approve the minutes of March 25, March 27, and March 28. This was seconded by Andrew. Roll call vote: Rick – yes; Andrew – yes. Motion passed 2-0-0.

**Department Liaison Reports:**

**Veterans Service Center** – The Veterans Service Center will be holding a town hall meeting, along with the VA, at GCC, on April 29. Topics will include health care enrollment, transportation, VA claims processing, and an introduction to the PACT Act.

**Emergency Management Committee** – Rick reported that the committee will be meeting quarterly.

**Pocket Park** – Andrew said the Franklin Tech students are at work on the pavilion. An early May completion is expected.

**Memorial Hall** – The elevator broke during the weekend movie night. It has since been repaired.

**Highway Department** – The crew is working on spring clean-up. There was some flooding damage to Little Mohawk Road, which is being repaired. A complaint was received that Baker Avenue had not been adequately plowed during the last storm. It was an oversight.

**Appointments:**

**5:45 pm John Taylor, Herb Guyette Terry Dun & Jim Wholey RE: EMS Services in Shelburne** – John said changes were coming to EMS and he thought the Selectboard should be aware. While EMS is generally taken care of by the Shelburne Center and Shelburne Falls Fire Departments and their Prudential Committees, the Selectboard has the ultimate legal jurisdiction. John said there were several potential models for the future of EMS in Shelburne including regionalization, privatization, and several others. John and Herb thought there should be a general meeting and discussion involving the towns of Shelburne and Buckland and the three EMS groups that serve the two towns. Getting everyone going in the same direction will be the key. All agreed that a meeting of all the involved parties would be a good place to start. Rick said the board was willing to help move this forward. Terry will coordinate a meeting with Buckland Town Administrator Heather Butler for some time after Town Meeting.

**6:00 pm Lynne Feldman, Meg Ryan & Phoebe Walker RE: Age-Friendly Action Plan** – After working on this for three years, the Age-Friendly Community Action Plan has been finished. Andrew asked for an itemized list of things the Selectboard could do to help implement the plan. The plan focuses on eight domains of livability. First is outdoor spaces and buildings, with the goal of improving access for everyone. Next is transportation, including getting people to know what is already available. Hosing is the third domain. More housing that is accessible to older adults is needed. Domain four is social participation to reduce isolation. Respect and inclusion is domain five, with programs about dementia awareness, technical assistance, and anti-bias education. Domain six is civic participation and employment. Some towns have a senior tax write-off program. The seventh domain is communication and information. Towns should be encouraged to use multiple channels of communication. Town newsletters are especially welcomed and are very helpful. Domain eight is health services and community support. This includes making sure elders have digital literacy. Also, there should be support for residents with access and functional needs during emergencies. Phoebe said it is the hope that all of these areas could be addressed in the next five years.

**Old Business:**

**RFP for Proposed Solar Array for Highway Pole Barn Roof** – The project is ready to go out to bid.

**Roselli, Clark & Associates RE: Offer to Meet GASB 34 Compliance** – The Finance Committee voted to appropriate $10,000 for FY’25 to bring the town into full compliance. Members of the Selectboard would prefer to wait until after the FY’23 audit is complete and the third Board member is elected before making a decision.

**Police Services Advisory Committee Representation** – Shelburne and Buckland each need a representative from the Selectboard, one from the Finance Committee, and a member-at-large. Buckland has its three members. The Finance Committee has voted to appoint Todd Dubreuil as its representative to the committee. Rick would like to be the Selectboard representative. With only two Board members, the rule of necessity was invoked so that Rick could vote for himself. A motion was made by Andrew to appoint Rick as the Selectboard representative to the Police Services Advisory Committee. This was seconded by Rick. Roll call vote: Rick – yes; Andrew – yes. Motion passed 2-0-0.

**New** **Business:**

**Planning Board RE: Proposed Town Bylaws** (John Wheeler, Planning Board Chair) – John said the Planning Board was bringing two zoning bylaws to Town Meeting. The first formally explains that the ZBA is the special permit grating authority for the town, unless otherwise specified. The Board supported the proposed bylaw. The other change would be the removal of the bylaw regarding municipal and non-profit trails. This bylaw is not well defined and has not been enforced. If it is removed, existing trails will not be affected and new trails would not need to go through the special permit process. The Board was supportive of removing the trails bylaw. The bylaw concerning food trucks was discussed and the Board and John agreed it wasn’t ready for Town Meeting. The ZBA and the Health Agent had also expressed concerns with the bylaw. It will not be going on the Town Meeting warrant this year. The last proposed bylaw was defining the role of the Planning Board. Rick said no other board or committee had such a bylaw. It was felt that perhaps placing the wording on thee Planning Board’s web page would be the best idea. That bylaw will also not be going on the Town Meeting warrant.

**Chief Greg Bardwell RE: Disposition of Surplus Gym Equipment** – a few pieces of exercise equipment have been stored at Cowell Gym for many years. The equipment is very old and is no longer usable. It needs to be removed. A motion was put forth by Rick to authorize the disposal of old exercise equipment, which is presently stored at Cowell Gym. Roll call vote: Rick – yes; Andrew – yes. Motion passed 2-0-0. Rick noted that there is also a lot of “stuff” in the attic of Cowell Gym which should be removed. He said the materials would need to be moved before work on the attic windows could begin. A motion was put forth by Rick to authorize Cowell Gym Director John Walsh to remove the accumulated debris from the Cowell Gym attic. This was seconded by Andrew Roll call vote: Rick – yes; Andrew – yes. Motion passed 2-0-0.

**Any Other Business:** None.

**Next Meeting** – The next Board meeting will be on April 22, at 5:30 pm via Zoom. Annual Town Meeting will be on May 7, at BSE, starting at 6:30 pm.

**Correspondence:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Adjournment**: At 7 pm a motion was made by Rick to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Andrew. Roll call vote: Rick – yes; Andrew – yes. Motion passed 2-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Whitney, Recording Secretary