

**TOWN OF BRADFORD**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MINUTES**  
**Thursday, June 22, 2023**

**Item 1. Open meeting: 6 pm**

**Attendance:** Errol Hanson, Edward Nevells, Julie McCarthy, Carlene Oakes, Levi Surette

**Pledge of Allegiance** – commenced

**Item 1. June 5, 2023 minutes- Motion made** by Selectman E. Nevells and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Errol Hanson to accept minutes as presented

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**June 12, 2023 minutes- Motion made** by Selectman E. Nevells and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman Errol Hanson to accept minutes as presented

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**Item 2. Review of Treasurer's Warrants: 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 Motion made** by Selectman L. Surette and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman E. Hanson to accept warrants as presented.

**Discussion:** C. Oakes asked about the wasp spray and plywood charges. It was explained by E. Hanson, he was told by C. Arrants that there were wasps at the Fire Station playground so he picked up some hornet spray and L. Surette was going to take care of it. L. Surette noted he looked all over the area but could not find the wasps.

The plywood was for a cemetery sign. E. Hanson was informed by B. Hanson that a sign needed repair. There was a text message sent out about the plywood from E. Hanson and he volunteered to pick it up. J. McCarthy noted she didn't respond to the text for it wasn't emergency. C. Oakes said she wasn't included in this. The discussion then proceed to C. Oakes wasn't included for she doesn't turn on her cell phone or return phone calls. It was noted that a few citizens were given permission to clean stones in the cemetery and paint the signs so they had permission to spend town funds without requesting them through the town manager.

**Vote 3 in Favor 2 in the Negative (E. Nevells, C. Oakes)**

**Item 3. Open Session:**

B. Hanson presented 2 checks for a total of (\$3,390.19) from a group of citizens referring to themselves as Friends of Bradford. They raised money to go towards the new sounds system/ projection screen in the community center.

**Motion made by Selectman L. Surette and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman C. Oakes to accept the gift from the group referring to themselves as Friends of Bradford to be put towards a sound system/ projection screen for the Town Community Center.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

#### **Item 4. Committee Reports:**

- a. **Planning Board / CEO:** written report was given
- b. **Future Fire Station Committee:**
- c. **Recreation Committee/ Bradford Days committee:** no report
- d. **Fire Department:**
- e. **Road Commissioner:** Reeves Rd. was graded today 06/22/23 by Engstrom. J. McCarthy watched him grade and he wasn't going very deep.

**Motion made by Surette and seconded by McCarthy to call Viking and order culverts. Carried 5-0.**

- f. **Town Manager:** Have had a lot of zoom meetings dealing with general assistance, local health officer, on different topics and changes. Attend the school budget vote. There was one citizen from Bradford in attendance. The reaffirmation vote, 17 voted 4 were working there that day, 12 came into vote. A lot of different activity going on in the office meeting many new residents. DMV activity is still very high.

J. McCarthy -would like the T.M to inform the different committee about having their minutes up load on to the web site.

Asked about painting the parking lines information by August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting

Auditor- RFP ready for July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting

T.M. needed the signatures of the Selectmen for 2 Quit claim deeds from a lawyer doing a closing on property in Town. The liens were from the early 2000's.

#### **Item 5. Old Business:**

- a. **Ethic policy-** J. McCarthy
- b. **Selling of the tables-** sold for \$500.00 and were picked up
- c. **Agenda & Minute Policy-** J. McCarthy- Board signed an updated copy motion was made on 6/12/2023. J. McCarthy asked for this new policy be sent to the Committees & Department our new updated Agenda & Minutes policy
- d. **Purchasing of CD's-** J. McCarthy & E. Nevells-
- e. **Schedule Bridge Ranger D.O.T-** came out on July 19<sup>th</sup>- gave a presentation then looked at a bridge with some of the Selectmen.
- f. **Food Sovereignty Ordinance- J. McCarthy**
- g. **Letter for the Town Attorney- J. McCarthy**
- h. **Friends of Bradford Committee: Dissolvment of Select Board Incidental- J. McCarthy**
- i. **Develop Road Grading Specs-** E. Nevells- Rock raking- J. McCarthy spoke with P. Coughlin of Local Roads- rocks need to be pushed down with a rock roller and called a few grader operators it was one use a rock rake and the other one doesn't.

E. Nevells asked about rock raking with the town truck and using the rock rake that we still have to help save on the cost. Timing and availability of help would be an issue.

**Motion made by Selectman E. Nevells and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman J. McCarthy to accept the Grading Specs with the up dated version to what was discussed.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**j. Discuss Paved Rd. Pothole Repair- E. Nevells**

**k. Finalize 2023 Gravel rd. projects -**

**l. Finalize Roadside Mowing Bid, timing of bid- The State has mowed their roads remove State Rds. from the bid package and no start date, end date the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.**

**Motion made by Selectman E. Nevells and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman J. McCarthy to accept bid package with the modifications made this evening.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**m. Advertisement of the T.M. Position – J. McCarthy- Motion made Selectman J. McCarthy and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman E. Hanson to place the Advertisement write up for the T. M position by J. McCarthy be placed in the lock box for future reference.**

**Discussion: E. Nevells- this should be looked as a draft copy with suggestions when it is needed.**

**C. Oakes- should have road knowledge and have them go to the classes**

**L. Surette – put it in as a draft for future use.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**n. Newsletter- J. McCarthy- added a paragraph to the Selectmen’s newsletter article. Motion made by Selectman J. McCarthy and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman E. Hanson to accept the new paragraph to the selectmen news article.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**o. Keyless entry – Motion made by Selectman E. Nevells and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman J. McCarthy to have Hanson & Son Earthworks to put in the lock box and keyless entry per direction of the T.M.**

**Vote 4 in Favor 0 in the Negative 1 abstention (E. Hanson) family conflict**

**p. Cleaning of the parking lot – Motion made by Selectman E. Nevells and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman J. McCarthy to have E & E Powerlines to clean the parking lot (blow it off) per direction of the T.M.**

**Vote 4 in Favor 0 in the Negative 1 abstention (E. Hanson) family conflict**

**q. Garage Sale / trailers in the grass E. Hanson- to get someone to move the trailers out of the grass. Where to put them with Bradford Days.**

## **Item 6. New Business:**

- a. **Discuss Tax Commitment/ Surplus Usage-** E. Nevells
- b. **Committees to upload minutes-** J. McCarthy
- c. **Town Lawyer & Answers from MMA regarding Executive Sessions & Legal Counsel- J. McCarthy-** J. McCarthy was not happy with the responses from the meeting held on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. She felt there was bias and would like to switch law firms. She has called 3 different firms-

- 1. Charles Hobson a friend private practice \$250 an hr.
- 2. John Pottle from Eaton Peabody \$200 an hr.
- 3. Rudman and Winchell- they will assign a lawyer once they take you on as a client \$225 an hr.

C. Oakes mention the name of the law office of Tanous & Snow for Snow is local.

E. Nevells mention that once a document is in an email it is a public document.

Will wait until July 6<sup>th</sup> to choose a new firm to work with and not to send the letter until the town has new representation.

- d. **Discuss Cemetery Mowing & Maintenance-** E. Nevells- observation on the cemeteries. J. McCarthy- they look good
  - L. Surette- things look good when driven by- haven't gone into them but if someone talks about it he will
  - E. Nevells- By accident Smith Cemetery was over looked once pointed out it was taken care of quickly. Hillside lots of trimming missed and branches not picked up
  - C. Oakes – lots not weeded, where the zero turn can mow is good but not so on the trimming. Did receive 2 citizen complaints
    - 1. Perennials were mowed – don't know if they were fenced in
    - 2. Lots chewed up. Took a picture of it

Perpetual lots need to be marked better. E. Nevells and L. Surette will go and mark out the perpetual care lots then give the contractor a month to take care of them.

E. Hanson stated there is no law on veteran lots and the height of grass. My comment about no law on the height of cemetery grass was in response to torri stating there was a requirement of height by state statue please add this to the minutes and bring a copy of the statue for the July 6th meeting and discussion about employees bringing people to work was left out . I will have my recollection of what happened on June 9th to discuss at our next meeting

- e. **Selectmen Communications-** E. Nevells
- f. **Town Manager Hours-** E. Nevells
- g. **ADA Door openers-** C. Oakes- has noticed lately there has been many residents coming into the office and struggling with the 2 sets of entrance doors. **Motion made by Selectman C. Oakes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman E. Hanson to have the T.M. to**

**looking into having the doors A.D.A. accessible and to come back to the Board with information by August 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**h. Open Bids- Culvert Project/ Oil**

**Culvert Bid-** only 1 bid submitted Hanson & Sons Earthworks in that 1 bid there was 2 bids 1 with flaggers on all roads \$ 6,950.00 and 1 without flaggers on all roads \$ 6,450.00

**Motion made be Selectman J. McCarthy to accept the \$6,450 bid with limited flaggers.**

**No 2<sup>nd</sup> motion was heard.**

**Motion made by Selectman C. Oakes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman L. Surette to accept the bid of \$6, 950. for the culvert bid package.**

**Vote 4 in Favor 0 in the Negative 1 abstention (E. Hanson) family conflict**

**Old Culverts** – if functionable S. Lawson and A. Miller would like one and so would the ATV Club.

**Oil Bids- 2 Bids AE Robinson \$2.75 locked in and Dead River \$2.84 locked in price**

**Motion made by Selectman E. Hanson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman J. McCarthy to accept AE Robinson locked in bid of \$2.75 a gallon.**

**Discussion: E. Nevells asked L. Surette if he had an ear for this. He believed \$2.75 is a good deal.**

**E. Nevells had done some research- projection for a record year on production- Ukraine is stabilized. \$75 a barrel now, it could go down to \$50**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

**i. July 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting- Motion made by Selectman J. McCarthy and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman E. Hanson to move the July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to the 6<sup>th</sup> of July.**

**Vote 5 in Favor 0 in the Negative**

- j. There was a motion made by Errol that all Select Board members have the right to go into the town hall and view the cameras whenever they would like to. I seconded that motion to discuss it and stated that there would have to be accountable if this happened and that it should only happen during business hours and that if I ever participated in it, that I would only do so while being recorded. It was tabled due to time but there is no mention in the minutes.

**Item 7. Correspondence- none**

**Item 8. Request for additional Agenda Items:**

**Item 9. Executive Session: non requested**

**Item 10. Adjourn: 9 pm**

Submitted by with email edits by Julie McCarthy and Errol Hanson

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Vittoria J.B. Stevens

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Selectman Errol Hanson

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Selectman Julie McCarthy

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Selectman Edward Nevells

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Selectman Carlene Oakes

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Selectman Levi Surette