

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2023

Present: Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White (by phone). No others were in attendance.

The meeting began at 9:05 a.m.

The minutes of September 7, 2022 and September 21, 2022 were approved as written on motion by Terry and seconded by Derry.

Terry reported that there were no petitioned articles to change the funding formula submitted to the 2023 NASD Warrant. Ongoing endeavors regarding the relationship between B-HVD and NASD were discussed.

The Profit and Loss Report was discussed. We are in good financial shape. The bond will be paid off after one more payment this year. Legal costs (\$12,190.83) were higher than budgeted as a result of the NASD funding issues. It appears that the executive payments for 2021 were recorded in early 2022. This should get rectified during the audit. The fund surplus for 2022 currently is \$33,335.05. The ESSR Fund reimbursement of \$24,458 helped add to the surplus.

A discussion ensued regarding the chimney. The new boilers operate at a lower temperature than the old ones, which has caused some issues. Granite State Plumbing will be hiring a subcontractor to assess the problem. We might need to install a stainless-steel liner this summer. It was noted that the new boilers are using substantially less oil and are saving NASD a considerable amount in fuel costs.

Hogan & Company plans to do the shed repair sometime this winter or spring.

The manifests were reviewed and signed.

It was noted that we need to start preparations for the budget and annual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. on motion by Derry, seconded by Terry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2023

Present: Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White (by phone). No others were in attendance.

The meeting began at 9:10 a.m.

The minutes of January 11, 2023 were approved as written on motion by Bill and seconded by Terry.

The manifests were reviewed and signed.

The 2022 Profit and Loss Report was reviewed. We are in good financial shape. The bond will be paid off after one more payment this year. The fund surplus for 2022 currently is \$33,316.10.

It was noted that our 2022 Annual Report plus our P&L need to be sent to Karen Sanborn by March 31 for the Hebron Town Report. Derry already has the Annual Report and Terry will get the P&L (Excel and PDF formats) to Derry to email to Karen.

It was noted that our legal costs in 2022 were higher than anticipated because of counsel services regarding recent issues involving the relationship between B-HVD and NASD. Given that we should expect more legal needs in 2023, our budget should reflect this. The group felt that we should add \$20,000 more than last year's budget to accommodate for this and possibly some other line items. Terry will email a draft for the proposed budget to the board to review.

A discussion ensued regarding several upcoming maintenance issues as follows.

The first issue discussed was the chimney. The new boilers operate at a lower temperature than the old ones, which has caused some substantial condensation problems. Granite State Plumbing plans to hire Armstrong Duct and Vent to install a liner to address the problem and will get us an estimate. An engineering plan will need to be drawn. Granite State has asked for information regarding the specific engineer from Rist, Frost and Shumway who did the original designs for the building so they could reference this when contacting them.

The second maintenance item coming up regards the Simplex fire alarm system panel needing updating, which could cost around \$30,000. Two of the sensors in the gym need replacing as well, with an estimate of about \$7,000.

The third maintenance issue involves the sewer ejection chambers, which need some upgrades. That is estimated to be \$20,000-\$25,000.

To address these three larger repair/maintenance needs, the group agreed that we should include an article for an \$80,000 two-year bond on this year's warrant.

Our budget hearing is set for March 28 at 5 p.m. We should post this as soon as we can. Terry will email the draft of the warrant based on the above to Derry and Bill ASAP.

Our annual meeting is April 11, with 5-7 p.m. elections and the 7 p.m. business meeting. Terry is up for re-election as commissioner. The clerk and moderator positions will also be on the ballot this year as well.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. on motion by Derry, seconded by Bill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner

Corrections of minutes will be reflected on the next meeting minutes.

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Budget Hearing Minutes
March 28, 2023

Board Members Present: Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle
Others attending: Jennifer Laroche, Bill Luti

The meeting began at 5:00 p.m.

The MS-636, the budget summary, and the proposed warrant were distributed and reviewed.

The surplus from 2022 was \$33,316.10.

Warrant Article #2 involves an \$80,000 bond to address needed chimney repairs, fire alarm upgrades and the installation of sewer ejection chambers.

It was noted that after one more payment this year the bond will be paid off for the roof and boiler.

Derry moved to close the hearing with a second by Terry. Vote in the affirmative.

Terry moved to adopt \$240,700 for the 2023 Warrant (\$80,000 for Warrant Article #2 as described above plus \$160,700 for the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District 2023 Operating Budget). Derry seconded and the motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m. on motion by Derry and seconded by Terry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry J. Riddle, Commissioner

**Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Annual Election & Meeting
April 11, 2023**

The Annual Bridgewater-Hebron Village District Meeting opened at approximately 7:00 pm. Present were Moderator Matthew Denton, Commissioners Derry Riddle, Terence Murphy and Village District Clerk, Colleen Kenny with approximately 9 residents.

After the Pledge of Allegiance led by Moderator Denton, the results of the election were read as follows:

Article #1: “To choose a District Commissioner and other officers for the ensuing years.” This was done by paper ballot of which there were 30 ballots cast. Votes cast were as follows:

Office of Commissioner (3-year term):

Terence Murphy – 30 votes

No Write-Ins

Village District Moderator (2-year term):

Matthew Denton – 30 votes

No Write-Ins

Village District Clerk (3-year term):

Colleen Kenny – 30 votes

No Write-Ins

Article #2: “To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,300 to offset costs of maintenance upgrades to the fire alarm system, chimney repairs and sewer upgrades and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$57,300 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon not to exceed a two-year payment; Further to raise and appropriate \$22,700 for the first year’s payment on the bond. Note: This appropriation is in addition to Warrant Article 3, the Operating Budget. Recommended by the Commissioners (3/5 ballot vote required).” Commissioner Murphy moved this Article as written which was seconded by Commissioner Riddle. Commissioner Murphy explained how this \$80,000 will take care of capital items and legal fees that will be coming with the potential removal of BHVD from SAU 48. Commissioner Murphy further stated that the payments required for the boiler and roof will be paid off in June.

Due to the fact this Article #2 requires a ballot vote, the polls remained open for one hour to allow any additional voters that might appear at this meeting.

Article #3: “To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$160,700 which represents the Operating Budget. Said sum does not include amounts appropriated

in other warrant articles. (Majority vote required). Recommended by the Commissioners. Commissioner Murphy moved this Article as written, which was seconded by Wesley Morrill. Commission Murphy spoke on the Operating Budget comparing 2022 to 2023. Commission Murphy further stated that as the school ages more repairs will be needed. Right now, the chimney/firebox needs to be replaced which will require engineering and with a cost of .17+ for Hebron and .22+ for Bridgewater for 2 years. No further discussion. All in favor.

Article #4: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.” Commissioner Murphy spoke on the proposed legislation to remove BHVD from the SAU. We have 18 months till July 1, 2025 to remove ourselves. Much discussion to come between the Towns and the SAU. Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton would have a 3-member Board with Bristol, New Hampton, Alexandria and Danbury having a 4-member Board. The details on students moving to the high school and how that would work as well as the associated cost is yet to be determined. Plymouth High School has the same model as well as several other SAU’s in NH. The legislature is promoting more choices. Teachers would stay and their tenure would continue, etc., but would just transfer to the BHVD. Commissioner Murphy said this went through the Senate with good support, the House Education Committee moved forward with 200+ for and 9 against (online). The Executive Session is next week then on to the Senate. A change of apportionment would dramatically increase the tax rate by another \$2 -\$3. Interest rates are high and there is a lot of uncertainty in the market. Bonding now is not a good idea.

Resident Robert Williams asked if the Senate had voted yet. The Execution Session is next week then on to the Senate. We should know more by the end of the month. The House did put this move on the consent list which is a good sign. Commissioner Murphy stated that Carroll has been trying to do this for 10+ years and hopefully if this passes it will make it easier for other towns to move forward as well. Right now, Carroll, NH pays \$45,000 per seat while other towns in the same county pay \$6,000 per seat. In our SAU right now, everyone pays the same per seat. If we stay with the SAU and they are allowed to change the ratio we will see the same type of scenario in Bridgewater and Hebron. More communication to come on this issue. The Towns would like to work with the SAU and hopefully come to some agreement on this effort.

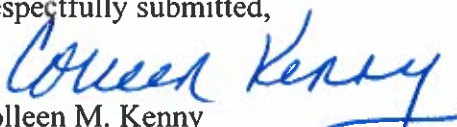
The results of the tally count for Article #2 were as follows:

Bridgewater: Yes 9 votes No 0
Hebron: Yes 8 votes No 0

Yes: 17 No: 0

8:05PM - Motion to Adjourn brought by Commissioner Murphy and seconded by Skip Jenness. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen M. Kenny
Bridgewater Hebron Village District Clerk

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2023

Present: Amy Cunningham, Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White. No others were in attendance.

The meeting began at 9:05 a.m.

Derry made a motion to reappoint Terry as chair, Bill seconded and the motion was approved.

The minutes of March 9, 2023 were approved as written on motion by Terry and seconded by Bill.

The Profit & Loss Report was distributed and reviewed. Financially we are in good shape.

Some of the maintenance/repair issues were discussed as follows.

Rowell's Services does not want to install a pitless adapter in the septic system. They are concerned that cutting the hole might weaken the tank. Instead, we will put together a parts list for the future to expedite any repairs in case they are needed. It was noted that there are two pumps and failsafe methods already in place.

We are still waiting for an estimate on the chimney repair. The delay seems to be in obtaining an engineering plan, which Rist, Frost & Shumway does not want to do (it appears to be too small a project for them).

We are also still waiting to hear back from Simplex (Johnson Controls) regarding an estimate for the fire alarm panel update. Thankfully the system is still working.

Given the above, we might not need to borrow the \$80,000 this year as approved in the warrant. But we still can if needed.

The shed repairs are still forthcoming by Hogan & Company Builders. The project has been delayed in part because of the weather.

HB349 as amended has been approved by the NH Senate and House and is now off to Governor Sununu's desk to be signed. Once the governor signs the bill, the first step will be for the three town selectboards (Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton) to appoint a steering committee. Among the tasks of that committee will be informing the public about all the aspects of the formation of the new school district. We anticipate that B-HVD will incur higher legal expenses this year given the start-up costs associated with this plus the writing of a new lease agreement.

We need to buy a new dumpster for about \$2,000. We will ask to be reimbursed by NASD for half the cost. It was noted that the B-HVD saves NASD money by processing the trash so they don't need to hire an outside contractor.

The manifests and vendor approvals were reviewed and signed.

The last payment (\$21,279.23) was made on the bond for the roof and boiler.

Our next meeting will be a walkthrough at the school on Thursday, July 6 at 1 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m. on motion by Derry, seconded by Terry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner

Corrections of minutes will be reflected on the next meeting minutes.

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2023

Board Members Present: Amy Cunningham, Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White
Others in Attendance: Julie Converse, Bill Luti

The meeting began at 10:03 a.m.

Some maintenance/repair issues were discussed as follows.

Johnson Controls is currently working on fixing the fire alarm system to ready it for the opening of school. They will be replacing/updating the system as soon as they are available.

We are looking into completing the alert system for the refrigerator and freezer.

The chimney repair is being coordinated by Granite State Plumbing. We might not need the draft inducer at the top of the chimney since the new liner will run hotter more quickly, plus there will be a better draft.

The fields are doing well due partly to the considerable rain we've had this summer. The Merrills are working on the walking path. Amy noted that the path has been used a lot recently.

Hogan & Company Builders completed the shed repairs.

The minutes of June 29, 2023, were approved as written on motion by Terry and seconded by Amy.

The Profit & Loss Report was distributed and reviewed. Financially we are doing well.

We had an issue with check fraud attempts recently. Northway Bank caught them and notified us. We have switched to Positive Pay, a check verification system, at no cost to us because of the fraud attempt.

It was noted that we have not yet received the \$1,250 from NASD for their half of the dumpster cost.

The manifests and new vendor approvals were reviewed and signed.

HB349 allowing Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton to establish their own three-town school district has been signed by Governor Sununu. The creation of this is contingent upon a majority vote in each of the three towns at their 2024 annual town or special meeting. A document written by the newly formed Bridgewater, Hebron & Groton Steering Committee (now known as the District Organizing Committee) was distributed. On August 23 this group met with two NASD School Board representatives, the superintendent, and the business manager. Some teachers and others were also in attendance. The District Organizing Committee requested a confirmation from NASD as to their willingness to work with the new school district to find common, mutually beneficial opportunities. They also asked for

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information on points-of-contact regarding the various aspects of this. The committee would like to get as much info as early as possible ahead of the three towns voting on this in the spring. It will be important to educate the voters on all aspects of the endeavor, costs and otherwise, prior to the adoption vote. Amy offered to be the B-HVD representative on this committee.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the next steps in the process of forming the new school district.

Terry will contact our attorney, Dean Eggert, on the “how and when” regarding our lease agreement with NASD. The current lease expires on June 30, 2024. We will probably need to consider a one-year extension to coincide with the July 1, 2025, start of the new school district, but we will check with Dean regarding the specific process.

It was noted that should the new school district become a reality, B-HVD will still be a separate municipal entity and would enter into a lease agreement with the new school district.

The meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m. on motion by Terry, seconded by Bill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2023

Board Members Present: Amy Cunningham, Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White

The meeting began at 10:20 a.m.

The manifests were reviewed and signed.

The group went over B-HVS's enrollment by town. There are currently 155 total students in the building with two preschool and kindergarten classes each. The majority of preschool students are from Bristol. It was noted that 22 students enrolled in the kindergarten are from Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. Terry mentioned that it was a "bubble" year partly due to COVID and more young families moving here as full-time residents.

The minutes of August 24, 2023, were approved as written on motion by Terry and seconded by Bill.

A discussion about a lease agreement extension ensued. The current lease expires on June 30, 2024. We will check with our attorneys as we get closer as to how best to proceed.

The Profit & Loss Report was distributed and reviewed. The school repairs have been expensive this year. We have not taken the \$80,000 loan yet. We have a little over \$100,000 in the maintenance reserve. The bills are all paid and up to date. We have about \$4,400 in our operating accounts. In December we will be receiving the income (tax revenue) from the two towns.

The fire alarm system has been updated and cost about \$16,000.

The septic system is OK for now.

The chimney repairs are ongoing, and the cost estimates have gone up and down through the process. It was recently discovered that a section of the top of the chimney needs to be rebuilt. Granite State Plumbing has been great to work with and has split some of the extra costs. Hopefully the repairs will happen soon. The total cost is estimated to be around \$40,000. This will likely come from the maintenance reserve.

We still might not need to take the loan. Derry asked if we can still borrow the money in 2024 if needed. Terry thought we could. He will check with the DRA regarding the interpretation of warrant article #2 from our annual meeting. The DRA is who gave us the wording for the article.

The alert system on the refrigerator/freezer was completed.

The shed still needs to be painted. Terry has someone in mind and will look into this.

Corrections of minutes will be reflected on the next meeting minutes.

The door on the handicapped accessible stall of the main girl's bathroom was replaced but then the door handle broke. The part is in to fix it which Terry will do. Some spare parts were also purchased for future repairs.

The floor in one of the bathrooms in the east wing needs repair where some tiles had broken. It was decided to install epoxy flooring in both bathrooms in that area and consider doing this during winter vacation.

A door lock alarm system was installed this summer allowing the office to monitor the status of the exterior doors. Terry will research possible vendors to support the video surveillance system.

The playground needs to be replaced. We also are considering an additional smaller play space for the youngest students at the back of the western wing. Derry contacted GameTime, who we purchased the current one from over twenty years ago. A representative from the company will be meeting with us at the site on Thursday, October 19 at 3:30 p.m. Derry will invite the building principal Stacey Giles to join the meeting. Terry met with the Rooke family recently regarding obtaining a grant for the cost of at least some of this. We will need to put together information and cost estimates to present to them.

The Merrills have repaired some of the fences. NASD would like to install a fence near the back of the west wing where the younger children play. It is estimated to cost \$4,500 to put a split rail fence there. It was decided that if NASD gives us the money from their ESSR funds we will do this.

It was noted that we received \$1,300 from NASD for their portion of the dumpster cost.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. on motion by Derry, seconded by Bill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District
Meeting Minutes
October 30, 2023

Board Members Present: Terry Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White
Others In Attendance: Stacy Giles, Richard James, Steven Nilhas, Erick Piper

The meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

The commissioners reviewed and signed a document dated 10/30/2023 Re: Bridgewater-Hebron Village School Lease Agreement – Expires June 30, 2024. The document provides notice to the Newfound Area School District that the Village District is willing to extend the term of the lease until June 30, 2025. Terry pointed out that either party could terminate the lease with written notice of not less than a full school year. If the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton adopt the provisions of HB 349 at their 2024 annual meetings, the lease would terminate effective June 30, 2025. It also states that any subsequent arrangements will need to be negotiated with the planning committee and the newly formed Special Purpose School District and would be in the form of a tuition agreement or tailing out agreement. The signed notice was given to Steven Nilhas, NASD Interim Superintendent to present to the SAU4 School Board.

Terry noted that this is mainly to let the school district and teachers know the lease will be extended for both party's best interest. He mentioned that the Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton Steering Committee is open to keeping the NASD Pre-K program at the school in addition to other cooperative arrangements.

Erick Piper, a member of the steering committee, said that he doesn't think the NASD School Board's HB 349 subcommittee appears to view themselves as a negotiating committee. There have been some problems communicating with their committee regarding proposed agreements, etc. It was suggested to copy Steven at the superintendent's office as well as Robin Reinhold, the business administrator, on the steering committee's correspondence with the school district's subcommittee.

The minutes of October 12, 2023, were approved as written on motion by Bill and seconded by Terry.

Terry has been in contact with Jonathan Gould of Union Bank regarding an application for borrowing \$57,300 for the chimney repairs, etc. This would be a two-year loan, although we expect to pay it off sooner. We should hear from him regarding the terms, etc. this week.

A discussion ensued about replacing the existing playground and adding a small one for the youngest students near the kindergarten/Pre-K wing. Derry presented some plans and cost estimates from Travis Armes of MRC Recreation, the GameTime equipment distributor. The cost would be \$219,285.13 which includes the equipment for the two playground areas, the new swing seats (seven standard and one zero-G chair) that will be installed on the current structures (painted to match the new playground), freight, installation, the rubber areas for accessibility, and a discount of \$33K. The price does not include site prep, excavation, removing the old equipment and wood fiber chips, or the cost of the new wood fiber. We would need to hire someone to disconnect the components. The metal can go to the

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Bridgewater refuse facility for recycling. We would need to cut up the plastic parts. The concrete will also need to be removed. The current wood fiber chips could be moved aside and used as a base for the new playground with new wood chips placed on top of them. All of this would involve additional costs.

Derry called Travis Armes so the group could ask him some questions. Derry asked about price breakdown. He said the rubber areas for better accessibility are \$23,000 but otherwise the equipment and freight are basically priced together as a package. He will attempt to break it out and get back to us with an idea when he has the numbers in front of him. We could save \$40,000 if we did the installation with their supervision. The group felt it would probably be best to have them do the installation. Travis also mentioned that this price is good through at least mid-2024. He also said they need a lead time of 9-10 weeks. The equipment installation is guaranteed for one year. Given that the posts do not have concrete footers, Terry was concerned about their durability in our NH climate. Travis said that they have installed many playgrounds in northern New England without any issues. Derry asked him for a list of some in our area so we could check them out.

Terry said we should hear back later in November regarding a grant for a portion of the cost of the playground. Derry suggested sending them the plans and info that Travis sent us.

The chimney is being fixed with the staging going up today. The boilers will be turned off tomorrow, and hopefully turned back on by Wednesday, the following day. They should be finished initially by the end of the week. The permanent cap will be installed in a couple of weeks.

Terry installed the new hardware for the handicapped accessible stall door in the girls' bathroom. The boys' bathroom door hardware also needs replacing. Terry ordered that hardware as well and will install it soon.

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m. on motion by Derry, seconded by Terry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Derry Riddle, Commissioner