

# Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Tuesday September 17, 2024

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Snowdon, Bill McGahie and Mark Terry

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by John Snowdon.
2. Approval of Minutes: September 3 2024. Motion was made by Mark Terry, seconded by Bill McGahie to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests: Nathaniel Kahler
  - Recently purchased property on Esty Road (R11-34) which is located on a Class VI road. Land not buildable under current ordinances (Section 402 - No land development may be permitted on lots, which do not have required frontage on a public road, which is Class V, or better.) Kahler is seeking a waiver to build on the property.
  - Snowdon - The state has RSAs that allow waivers. The selectmen would not support a waiver not only because the Town voted not to allow building on Class VI road, but also because of the emergency personnel who would have to put themselves at risk on an unmaintained road to fulfill their duty to act even if a waiver is in place.
  - Unless granted a variance by the Zoning Board, to build on the property owner would be required to bring up the road to a Class V using Town road standards to include 300' frontage on property.
4. Old Business
  - A. Tower Grant - Project completion date extended. Motion made by John Snowdon, seconded by Bill McGahie to accept the terms of the Emergency Management Performance Grant amendment as presented to reflect the change period of Performance dates from August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.
  - B. Title Change - Selectmen agree that the Zoning Administrator title is confusing to residents and agree as of today to use Land Use Administrator in its place.
  - C. Building without permits letter to residents. McGahie proposed multiple revisions to the letter written by the Town Administrator to include more information and will rewrite the letter with revisions for next meeting.
  - D. Ted Ferguson - Purchased property from the Town in 2018 which cannot be sold since it did not have a clear title. The Town has not been taxing the property per agreement Ferguson requested that the town find out from either Town Attorney or Municipal Attorney when the property could be sold. Selectmen agreed to ask NHMA.
  - E. River Road Bridge -Jim Hollar from Cold River met Selectmen at the River Road bridge. Hollar suggested replacement of the bridge and either closing until replaced or potentially making one lane. Also suggested an engineer examine the bridge for further safety suggestions and replacement options. Meeting set for Thursday September 19th at 11:30.

- F. NHDRA 5 year reval - DRA suggests that the Town do a total revaluation in 2025 rather than wait until scheduled 2026. Cost of total reval will be approximately \$75,000. Selectmen agree since only one year it would be better to do it as scheduled. Motion made by Mark Terry, seconded by John Snowdon to do reval in 2026 as scheduled. Motion passed 3-0.
- G. Speeding on Route 63 - Henry Underwood from SWRP suggested a 3 way stop at South Village and Route 63 and will get selectmen a point of contact to discuss this option. Selectmen all agree this option should be pursued as a possible way to slow traffic down coming around the corner into the village. If this is not an option selectmen agree radar "Your Speed Signs" should be purchased and posted at each end of the village if State allows. Signs on sale 3 for \$10,000 and could be budgeted into next year's highway budget unless enough money remains from this year's budget. Snowdon wants to talk to Senator Donovan Fenton about traffic issues and seek assistance with safety issues on state roads.
- H. Speeding Mt Gilboa - Multiple residents have complained about the speed on Mt Gilboa and want the 35 mph speed limit reduced. Road agent agrees dirt roads should be 25 at most. Motion made by Mark Terry, seconded by Bill McGahie to purchase and place 25 mph sign on Mt Gilboa Road. Motion passed 3-0.
- I. Bump Road - Property owner, Scott Fifield, to be in compliance and have the tenant removed from the camper on property by October 31st. Selectmen agree they would like to request Fifield attend the meeting October 1 for an update on the situation.
5. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by, John Snowdon seconded by Mark Terry to approve Manifests for: General Fund \$41,286.77 Motion passed 3-0.

## 6. New Business

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll 9/17/2024	Amazon \$79.21	General Journal
Payroll Taxes 9/17/2024	Ford of Claremont \$275.25	#870 Restitution
Invoice Cloud \$18.40	Eversource \$300.28	

- A. The selectmen thank everyone involved in assuring the primary election ran smoothly and successfully. Another excellent example of how our volunteers and officials work so well together.
- B. United "Brick" Church requested permission to use Town Common to host movie nights for the community. The church plans to have events monthly on the common while weather permits. All selectmen agree to allow this use of the common as long as all trash removed and common left clean.
- C. NHDES - Received compliance alert letter from NHDES. Landfill inspection has to be done and Report for Inactive Facilities needs to be completed. This report is an annual report the Town has not done before. The inspection can be done by a town official. Mark Terry will do inspection with Ron Fish and complete the form for NHDES.

- D. Selectmen to schedule a work session October 2nd to work on Complete Streets Grant and Review Employee Handbook. McGahie to schedule an information session with Harrisville Recycling Center the same day if possible. Times for both sessions to be determined.

7. Correspondence:

Town Attorney Gary Kinyon notified Selectmen that an Evidentiary Hearing date for Town of Westmoreland vs Desruisseau had been set by the 8th Circuit Court for September 27th at 9am. Chairman John Snowdon and Health Officer Scott Talbot to attend the hearing

8. 8:30pm Motion by John Snowdon, seconded by Bill McGahie to adjourn meeting. Motion Passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jodi Scanlan  
Town Administrator

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY OCTOBER 1, 2024 1:00PM  
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED  
SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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John Snowdon, Chairman

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William McGahie

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Mark Terry