

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN/ SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**Hybrid**

**February 28, 2024 6:00 PM**

Present – Alan Hanson, Roger Manzolini, Neal Pilson, Danielle Fillio

Honoring Town Staff – Al Hanson recognized Highway Department employees, Brett Smith and Travis Searing for their heroic efforts in an ice rescue on Richmond Pond. He thanked them and presented to each a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the Town.

Approval of Minutes – Neal Pilson made a motion to approve the minutes of November 15 and 29, December 13 and 27, and January 10, 2024. Al Hanson seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

Appointment of Alternate Wire Inspector – Al Hanson made a motion to appoint Henry Blanchard as the alternate Wire Inspector for Richmond. Roger Manzolini seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Balderdash Annual Review – Al Hanson made a motion to open the hearing for the Special Permit Annual Review. Roger Manzolini seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Christian Hanson gave an overview of last season's barn and regular outdoor events. Additionally, he presented his monitored decibel readings from all events. The Board heard abutter comments with the main consensus requesting that Balderdash continue to abide by sound regulations in the special permit. Christian asked for a one-year extension to February of 2026 as people are already requesting to book Summer of 2025 and 2026. Roger Manzolini made a motion to grant a one-year extension to February 2026. Neal Pilson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Short-term Rental Bylaw – Danielle Fillio gave an overview of the proposed bylaw explaining exactly what would be allowed and not be allowed including the rules, regulations, and licensing conditions. Danielle further explained that they are looking to approve a general bylaw rather than a zoning bylaw which would allow for easier enforcement. Following discussion from the Board with concerns and recommendations from residents, the Board asked to have some items incorporated into the bylaw and present them again next week for further review.

Discussion of Special Article for Tree Removal – The Board discussed the need to have a special article to remove dead trees. They asked Danielle Fillio to build \$25,000 into the budget for the special article for town meeting approval.

Authorization for Danielle Fillio to begin the process of Chapter 32B Section 21-22 for Health Insurance Changes – Roger Manzolini made a motion to allow Danielle Fillio to begin the Chapter 32B Section 21-22 process. Neal Pilson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Public Comment – None

Selectmen Matters – After reviewing and thinking about the piano donation offer, Neal Pilson concluded that it just would not fit where it would need to be located. After hearing from other members, he offered to reach out to Mr. Hoffman, the donor.

Neal Pilson asked if the Board planned to take any action on the Paint program. While the Board agreed it was a good idea from a recycling standpoint, they did not agree with raising the prices for consumers. The Board agreed to take no action on this program.

Al Hanson wanted to take note and give thanks to the Highway Department. He felt they have done a great job on the roads this year especially as it has been a tough winter with all the thawing and soft gravel in snowstorms. Neal Pilson took the time to remind residents if you buy a house on a gravel road it will sometimes freeze in the winter, mud in the spring, and dust in the summer. He felt that the gravel roads in town are the same if not better than many other surrounding communities.

Town Administrator Updates – Danielle gave the following updates: Town Caucus will be held on March 25 at 6:00 PM; Interviews begin next week for Treasurer/Collector position with Jody beginning part-time work on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business, Al Hanson made a motion to adjourn at 7:57 PM. Neal Pilson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.