

**Town of Nelson**  
**Selectmen's Meeting 7:00 PM**

January 30, 2020

Public Hearing and Presentation

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Maury Collins, Gary Robinson, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: Public Attendance

At 7:00 PM David Upton reviewed the Public Hearing and Presentation agenda.

- At 7:04 PM David called the Public Hearing to order and referred to Warrant Article #2 as presented to the audience in a handout. He noted that the Select Board does not recommend the purchase. He then turned the floor over to Road Agent, Mike Tarr.
- M. Tarr presented his thoughts on why a new Grader should be considered for purchase at this time:
  - Age of the current grader – 34 years
  - High Cost of constant repairs
  - Concerns over contaminants now showing up in oil (monitored by Highway Dept.)
  - Lack of available parts
  - Improved fuel efficiency of new grader
  - Due to current State equipment needs the State Bid price will be available to Towns thus realizing a savings of approx. \$40,000
- David began his presentation of the environmental impact of Diesel Fuel vehicles and equipment and informed the audience of a Study committee appointed to consider future vehicle options. (Dave Upton, Gary Robinson, and Dave Hazelwood)
- Questions, concerns, and points to consider filtered in from the audience:
  - ❖ How old should a grader be before being replaced
  - ❖ How many grader hours are used annually
  - ❖ How long before an electric grader is available
  - ❖ Request that unbiased individuals be added to the Vehicle study committee
  - ❖ Can Bio-diesel be used for fuel without voiding the warranty
  - ❖ Is there an abutting Town "Sharing plan" in place in case of equipment breakdown
  - ❖ Isn't it true that newer vehicles are far more fuel efficient
  - ❖ What is the tax impact
  - ❖ What year is the goal for 0% diesel use
  - ❖ If 2050 (30 yrs.) is the goal does purchasing equipment with a 30 yr. life meet the goal  
Since 100% electric vehicles and equipment will likely be readily available in 30 yr.

With no further comment, David closed the Public Hearing portion of the evening's presentation.  
8:00 PM

For January 30, 2020

---

David Upton, Chair

---

Maury Collins, Selectman

---

Gary Robinson, Selectman

Informal Public Presentation of Article #4

● At 8:00 PM David began with an overview of Article #4, the Purchase and installation of a Grid-Tied Solar Array. He continued with a Power Point presentation of the project and how it has developed as well as the global need for action.

● With nothing further, David adjourned the presentation.

8:50 PM Presentation Adjourned.

For January 30, 2020

---

David Upton, Chair

---

Maury Collins, Selectman

---

Gary Robinson, Selectman