

**Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting
3:00 PM**

October 26, 2022

Executive Board Attending: Brenna Kucinski, Al Guida, Michael Blaudschun, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: M. Tarr, P. Beffa-Negrini, L. Sieverts

Brenna called the October 26, 2022 meeting of the Nelson Select Board to order at 3:00 PM.

● Al made a motion to approve the minutes for October 19, 2022 as recorded.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike made a motion to approve the manifest for October 26, 2022 as presented.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Following a review of the plans and placement on the property, Mike made a motion to approve a Building Permit for K. Rich for the construction of a roof extension on the side of an existing shed.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● The new heating system in the Town Office continues to have issues due to lack of air circulation to the furnace. The restriction appears to be a result of the air returns and all registers on the second floor having been sealed during the energy conservation project. The heating contractor is monitoring the system 24 hours a day and modifying the programming to obtain the proper air flow.

● Al made a motion to approve an amendment to a Building Permit for D. Bower for the size of the Solar array components to be used regarding a previously approved permit.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike Tarr reported positive results from a test dig at Granite Lake. He did not hit ledge and was able to place a temporary catch basin that will be monitored to evaluate this mitigation effort to better control runoff.

● NH DOT submitted a letter to the Selectmen reporting on a recent inspection of the Bailey Brook Bridge which remains on the State "Red List" of failing bridges. During the inspection it was noted that further deterioration of the culvert has occurred and, in addition, a sink hole has developed. It was agreed that Eckman Engineering will be contacted for a site visit to evaluate the current situation. For now, the DOT will allow the bridge to remain open and is not yet recommending weight limits.

● Patsy Beffa-Negrini came before the Board with an update from the Nelson Community Power Committee. She presented survey results and recommendations which will be attached to these minutes. While Nelson was working on a Community Power Plan, Cheshire County was also hard at work developing the County of Cheshire Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan. The options and benefits of joining the County are far greater than developing a small Nelson Community Power Plan on its own. The choices would include energy based on lowest cost, a mix of green and lower cost, or all green. There will also be choices to opt out and later opt in again based on an individual's experience.

Therefore, if the County plan is approved in December, NCPC recommends that the Selectmen join Cheshire County Electric Aggregation Plan to be the default electric service for Nelson in place of Eversource.

- L. Sieverts came before the Board to discuss the lack of storage space that is causing disruption of required municipal operations. The Selectmen requested that all musical instruments belonging to MFS be removed from the storage closet to make room for the Town Clerk's required election supplies and equipment.

L. Sieverts plead that the MFS has a 35-year history of storing their equipment in the Town Hall and further they let the Town use their sound system without cost.

The Board suggested that the sound equipment could possibly remain set up and left on the stage. It was agreed that the equipment would remain set up next Monday and the Selectmen will view the location to see if this can work.

- L. Sieverts also updated the Board on the newly organized Nelson Energy Committee.

The Board suggested that a Warrant article be developed to open a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding Nelson Energy Projects. L. Sieverts noted that legal opinion confirmed that the Town Buildings Capital Reserve could be used for such projects. Brenna stated that the extensive decay in multiple areas of the Library and connector will require more funding than is typically allocated in general maintenance and will require funding from the Town Buildings Capital Reserve. L. Sieverts warned that a warrant article to use the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund may fail and then repairs could not happen. Mike stated it is unlikely the Town would not want the Library repaired and saved from further damage, but if that happens it's the Town's choice.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Purchase Request for a new Police radio to be paid with funds remaining from the ARPA grant. (\$5,887.72)

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- The Cemetery Board has recommended an increase in the price for plots. The Selectmen suggest a price of at least \$500 and would consider more, given the cost of annual care. This is a one-time fee but the cemetery care is forever at no further charge.

Upon reviewing the proposed 2023 budget submitted by the Cemetery Board, Brenna suggests that some funds should be used to cut back and clean up the shrubs growing in the stone wall.

Mike made a motion to approve the proposed Cemetery budget for inclusion in the 2023 budget.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Following a line item review, Brenna made a motion to approve the proposed Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Election budget for inclusion in the 2023 budget.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- With shock and sadness, Mike made a motion to accept the resignation of Al Guida as Selectman due to illness.

Brenna seconded in sorrow.

The motion carried 3-0.

- With nothing further, Mike made a motion to adjourn.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 5:28 PM

Next meeting: Nov. 9, 2022 at 3:00 PM

Minutes for October 26, 2022

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Alexander Guida, Selectman

Michael Blaudschun, Selectman