

**Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting
2:00 PM**

December 7, 2022

Executive Board Attending: Brenna Kucinski, Michael Blaudschun, Don Carlisle, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: J. Sarcione, L. Sieverts

Brenna called the December 7, 2022 meeting of the Nelson Select Board to order at 2:06 PM.

- Brenna made a motion to approve both the public and non-public minutes for November 30, 2022 as recorded.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve the manifest for December 7, 2022 as presented.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Building Permit for S. Silverstein for the installation of a roof mount solar array.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Building Permit for J. Forney for the addition of a new screened in porch.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Following a brief discussion, Brenna made a motion to hire Tim. McEachern to fill the position of Sexton and further to waive the waiting period during the background check as maintenance services are needed immediately.

Don seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a request from the Agricultural Commission for the transfer of remaining 2022 unexpended funding to the Nelson Agricultural Commission bank account.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Mike made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Solid Waste contract with the City of Keene.

Don seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Fire Chief, J. Sarcione came before the Board to review the 2023 proposed budget and to present several Purchase Requests for 2022.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Purchase Request for a "Bracket" attachment for the Jaws of Life at \$460.

Don seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Purchase Request for a set of “Chain Spreaders” for the Jaws of Life at \$1,050.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Purchase Request for adapters, fittings, spanners, etc. for the Fire Department hose lines in the amount of \$3,883 plus freight.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- J. Sarcione reported that he has also placed an order to restock medical supplies in the Rescue truck at a cost under \$300.

- Following a discussion regarding the reporting requirements for the Fire Department, Brenna made a motion to approve a contract agreement for a new reporting system (Image Trend) at a cost of \$1000 per year.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- J. Sarcione reported that the hose testing can not be done this year so the 2023 budget should include the expectation that 50% or more of the hose may need to be replaced. This is a complete unknown until the testing can take place in 2023.
Brenna made a motion to approve a contract of hose testing in the amount or \$2660.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Mike asked if all Fire Department equipment has been inventoried and if not that it be done and recorded.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Purchase Request for a 6-unit base radio charger in the amount of \$431 plus shipping.
Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0

- The Board agreed to develop a Warrant Article for replacing any fire hose found to be faulty following testing. This will be a not-to-exceed amount of \$15,000. It being understood that this may only cover approximately 50% of the hose if all is faulty. If that is the case, then additional new hose will be planned for the following year.

Chief Sarcione reported that the School Fire inspection is now complete and a fire drill is being planned in the next few weeks.

4:10 PM

- At 5:34 PM Brenna made a motion to move into Non-Public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 (a&c) Personnel and Harm to Reputation.
Mike seconded.

The motion carried by roll call vote 3-0. Mike – yes, Don – yes, Brenna – yes

4:29 PM

- Upon returning to public session, Brenna made a motion to seal the minutes. Mike seconded.

The motion carried by roll call vote 3-0. Mike – yes, Don – yes, Brenna – yes

- L. Sieverts came before the Board representing the Nelson Energy Committee and the Monadnock Folklore Society on separate matters.

Brenna reviewed, once more, the Board's decision not to place a Solar article on the Warrant for 2023. Many taxpayers are having difficulties at this time and will worry about another project that will further burden them financially. Further, the Board is not in favor of placing a solar array on one of the Town's prominent historic buildings even if it is allowable.

Mike suggested starting a new Capital Reserve Fund just for energy projects. Lisa reminded that it was determined the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund could be legally used for Solar projects. While that may be true, many felt this was a fine line to cross. A separate fund would eliminate that concern. In addition, the library needs extensive repairs that will require all (or most) of the money that is currently held in the Town Building Capital Reserve Fund.

Lisa stated that she and the Energy committee disagree with the Board's decision but acknowledge their right to make that decision.

- L. Sieverts reported that the Folklore Society will continue to hold the Monday night dances. She noted that the Town Hall was too warm once dancing started and they were unable to lower the thermostat. Brenna agreed to have that checked and to call the installer if necessary.

- Lisa requested permission to store the folding "Dance sign" in the Town Hall Closet against the wall and out of the way. The Board agreed that would be fine.

- A letter was received from M. Collins in which he disagreed with the posted minutes for 6/22/22. The minutes were approved and will not be amended but Mike made a motion to attach M. Collins' letter to these minutes. Brenna seconded. The motion Carried 3-0.

- A request for information was received from an attorney in Concord seeking details of the layout of the Spaeth Road in Nelson.

Several documents were gathered but much information sought in the request does not exist such as grants specific to Spaeth Road or special projects or expensive just covering Spaeth Road.

Mike made a motion to send a letter to the attorney advising of the gathered information and invite them to come to the office to view documents and visit with the Archivist to view the Town records dating back to 1798, when the road was laid out.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Both the Planning Board and the Select Board have come to an agreement not to place Zoning amendments on the 2023 Warrant. Time should be taken to develop amendments that are clear and that eliminate contradictions between articles.

- Following a brief discussion, the Board all agreed that the Town Sexton needs a riding mower. Don and Mike suggested various machines and dealers. Both prefer a 48" deck and suggest a "Simplicity"

brand. All agreed the purchase should be from a company that can also provide service. Edie will check with Guyette's in Swanzey and Tuckers in Keene.

- With nothing further, Brenna made a motion to adjourn.
Don seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:03 PM

Next meeting: Dec. 21, 2022 at 3:00 PM

Minutes for December 7, 2022

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Michael Blaudschun, Selectman

Don Carlisle, Selectman

Nelson Select Bboard
Chair--Brenna Kucinski
7 Nelson Common Road
Nelson, NH 03457

December 1, 2022

The minutes of the Nelson Select Board on June 22, 2022 do not accurately reflect the discussion at the meeting's end.

Maury Collins was questioned regarding three letters addressed to him dredged from the town owned dumpster.

Maury Collins responded that he makes a practice and has for over 30 years picking up trash on old Stoddard Road from Route 123 and obviously his personal mail was put in the dumpster by mistake.

Maury Collins was questioned as to his knowledge of the disposition and disappearance of the logs removed from Partridge Woods and placed on the north side of the Old Stoddard Road.

Maury Collins responded that he did not have knowledge of why the logs were stored on the north side of Old Stoddard Road or when they were removed.

Then Brenna accused Maury Collins of stealing wood from the Town of Nelson.. Immediately asked him to sign a letter of resignation. (Obviously resignation letter was prepared before the meeting.) Brennan was very insistent that Maury sign letter of resignation.

Without any review or explanation or opportunity for comment, Maury felt pressure to sign the letter and did so reluctantly and left the meeting.

"I believe that there is something in NH laws that an elected official cannot be forced to resign by the Select Board. Especially if there is no documentation or evidence of wrongdoing or stealing"

For correct historical reading and accuracy, please make these changes for the record.

Respectfully submitted:


Maury Collins

**Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting
2:00 PM**

June 22, 2022

Executive Board Attending: Brenna Kucinski, Maury Collins, Al Guida, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending: M. Tarr

Site Visit: D. Upton property on Center Pond Road

Others present: D. Upton, D. Hazelwood

At 2:00 PM Brenna Kucinski opened the June 22, 2022 meeting of the Nelson Select Board.

At 2:02 PM Brenna moved to recess the meeting to attend a site visit at property owned by D. Upton on Center Pond Road.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

Site Visit Minutes June 22, 2022

The Board consisting of Brenna Kucinski, Maury Collins and Al Guida, along with Mike Tarr met with David Upton regarding his complaint that the town had buried a stone wall on his property due to grading and plowing of Spaeth Road. A neighbor, Dave Hazelwood was also present. According to Mr. Upton Mr. Hazelwood had better recollection regarding the condition of the road and subsequent changes over the years.

The Board reviewed the area and listened to David Upton's belief that his property line had been changed due to widening of the road over time. Al Guida asked him if the road was better now as it was only a foot path years ago. He agreed it was but contended it was widened in excess. It was obvious that his property line in this area is below the slope and runoff would be a fact of nature. He also believes that the northwest corner pin to his property is now buried in the roadway.

He reported that the last time the wall was obvious was 25 to 30 years ago. His neighbor attested to the fact that at one time a wall had been evident. Al Guida asked if the boundary line was really the issue or whether there was more to it.

Mr. Upton also complained that some of the trees had died along the roadway. Mike Tarr was given permission by Mr. Upton years ago to cut the trees and deliver them to him for firewood. Mr. Upton had removed a significant portion of the wall himself in this area to access a landing for the wood.

Mr. Upton insists that the town remove any dirt that has flowed downhill onto his property, expose the pin buried in the road, and uncover the buried wall.

The Board was skeptical of his beliefs and requested remedies, but agreed to take it under advisement and get back to him with a decision at a later date.

At 2:37 PM the Board returned and reconvened their regular meeting.

- Following a review and discussion of their site visit, the Board unanimously agreed that Upton did not provide compelling evidence of a stone wall on his property that has been buried by the Town's Highway Department over a 25-30-year period. No photographs, surveys indicating stone walls, or other forms of documentation were provided by Upton. It was noted that Upton, at some point, had removed part of a stone wall in that area to create a landing for firewood.

The Board agreed to send a letter to Upton advising him of their conclusions based on what they viewed at the site visit.

- It was brought to the Board's attention that the "Food Pantry" at the church is under utilized and may be due to the lack of open hours. It has been requested that a small "Food shelf" be placed in the Town Hall/Library entrance during Library hours. This will be stocked by volunteers and the food is free to anyone in need.

Maury made a motion to approve the space for the "Food Shelf" to be available during regular open hours of the Library.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Maury made a motion to approve the minutes for June 15, 2022.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0

- Maury made a motion to approve the manifest for June 22, 2022 as presented.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Maury made a motion to approve a Building Permit for R. Lenox for the installation of a roof mounted Solar array.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0. Solar exemption application form will be sent to property owner.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a Building Permit for J. Newcombe for the installation of a roof mounted Solar array.

Maury seconded.

The motion carried 3-0. Solar exemption application form will be sent to property owner.

- Maury made a motion to approve the Report of Cut and Certification for J. Putzel.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Maury made a motion to approve the final contract with Bergeron Construction for repairs to the safety building.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Maury made a motion to approve the annual "Dog Warrant" of unlicensed dogs in Nelson. (only two dog owners remain in violation)

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Maury agreed to draft a letter to J. Duesenberry to thank him for his bid submission for the safety building repairs and advise him of the award to a lower bidder.

● Following a discussion of options, Brenna made a motion to appoint Mike Blaudschun as Selectman if he is willing to accept the position.

All seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

Brenna agreed to speak to Mike and if he agrees he can be sworn in by the Town Clerk when she opens in the morning.

● With nothing further, Brenna made a motion to adjourn.

All seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

Meeting Adjourned 4:26 PM

Next meeting July 6, 2022 at 3:00 PM.

For June 22, 2022

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Maury Collins, Selectman

Alexander Guida, Selectman

- Brenna made a motion to advise the DRA that The Town of Nelson will not be using Form PA-28 (Inventory of Property) for 2023 FY.

Maury seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna made a motion to approve a change order for repairs to the West Shore Road Bridge regarding the anchor system for the guardrails.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- The Town Buildings Committee is currently considering future projects including additional solar arrays. One location under consideration by the committee is the Town Hall roof. The Selectmen have many concerns about this location and agreed to draft a letter to the TBC encouraging them to seek an alternate location with long term possibilities for expansion including the Town's property located behind the Highway Barn.

- Brenna, having noted the extensive work done to improve the condition of the Colonial Garden, suggested the Board look at the improvements and reconsidered its previous ruling to relocate the garden. If agreed the following conditions could be presented to the Agricultural Commission: Leave the garden in its present location, add a rock barrier along the foundation of the building, no plants against the building, fence may be used on three sides but not on the building side, the area must be kept clean and well maintained. These terms would be for a period of one year only. After one year the project would be re-evaluated. Al and Maury agree to view the garden before deciding.

- Brenna reported that at the last meeting of the Conservation Commission an agreement was made to share the cost of the signs that indicate the location of trail parking off Old Stoddard Road. The Trails Committee, the Conservation Commission, and the Select Board will split the cost 3 ways.

In a discussion of the possible closure of a section of Nubanusit Road in Nelson (non-maintained portion leading thru Harrisville to Hancock) there was some conjecture that the Dellagrecas are in favor of the road closure. The section of road being considered is next to their home. Brenna will contact them to find out their feelings about the proposal.

- Following a brief discussion with the Board, Maury Collins resigned his position as Selectmen and left the meeting.

- Brenna made a motion to accept his resignation that is to take effect immediately.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.