

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

July 20, 2022

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

Others attending: L. Sieverts, J. Sarcione

At 3:00 PM Brenna Kucinski opened the July 20, 2022 meeting of the Nelson Select Board.

● Brenna immediately made a motion to go into Non-Public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a&c) Personnel and Harm to Reputation.

Mike seconded.

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

3:22 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, Al – yes, Brenna - yes

● Al made a motion to approve the minutes for July 6, 2022 as recorded.

Mike seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● Mike made a motion to approve the manifests for July 13 and July 20, 2022 as presented.

Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

● In response to a letter from the Selectmen to the Town Buildings Committee, Lisa Sieverts came before the Board to clear up questions the Selectmen have regarding their project research and recommendations for new solar projects. Upon reading resent TBC minutes the Selectmen became concerned that new solar projects were moving ahead to a development stage without first bringing them to the Select Board. Mike questioned why Wind power has not been considered or discussed with the community especially given new technology and variable sizing that is now available. Lisa indicated that TBC's research in the past indicated it was too expensive. Mike pressed for details of cost vs possible increased production as wind can be in production 24 hours a day not just when the sun is shining.

Brenna reminded Lisa that the role of the TBC is strictly advisory to the Select Board and that no project is currently ready for an RFP or Warrant article. Lisa acknowledged TBC's understanding of their role and remains confident that their research has produced cost effective projects resulting in broad voter support. Lisa addressed some of the issues in a written response attached to these minutes.

Mike and Al suggest that production/consumption figures could be understood better if presented in dollars of savings for the voters.

Brenna presented project questions and concerns:

1. Why put solar panels on the Town Hall when issues already exist with the panels on the Library roof? (Snow build up and inability to clear)
2. What about removal when the roof needs replacing?

3. Why not reconsider the optimum location on the hill near the ballfield?
4. Adding more sections to the new array at the Highway garage further intrudes in the area used by the Highway department. This area is partially shaded due to tall trees on abutting land.
5. Why not wait and study for the long term.

Lisa answered:

1. "Direct use" without going to the grid is the best cost benefit to the Town.
2. The panels protect the roof from the effects of sun and weather for longer life and the cost to take the panels off and put them back is still cheaper than a ground mount project that isn't direct usage.
3. The cost to bring the power across the stream, DES permits, and not supplying "Direct use" power were factors previously considered too great a burden on the cost return.
4. TBC remains committed to their recommendation that the best choice is the Town Hall Roof.
5. Each of these projects has been part of a long-term plan.

● Al queried about research that may have already been done by other towns regarding various types of energy production, such as wind.

● Al predicts, that due to its ideal exposure to the sun, and greater capacity for energy production, the hill near the ballfield will eventually become a primary solar location.

● Edie reported that the DRA, the Town's auditor, and Town Counsel all agree that corrective action is required by the Agricultural Commission to begin reserving unexpended funds from their annual budget. Currently the Agricultural Commission has an Expendable Trust account with approximately \$532 and the current budget allocation of \$300.

● J. Sarcione came before the Board to discuss a variety of matters concerning the Fire Department.

- Brenna passed on a request that the Fire Department be available on Saturday August 6, 2022 for Old Home Day. She reported that, in the past, Blood Pressure checks were offered by first responders, the trucks were on display for children (and adults) to view and learn about, cones and flashing lights helped with traffic during the bike and road races, and the firemen assist with the Water Ball game at MacKenzie's field.
- On another matter, there are several cots, blankets and pillows that were granted to Nelson from the State of NH, that are currently stored in Dennis Dellagrec's barn. Brenna requested that the Fire Department arrange a time to move these into the Emergency Management storage container.
- Sarcione reported that the fire hose is overdue for testing. He is in the process of requesting at least two bids for this service. There is concern that, due to the age of this equipment, some of the hose may fail the testing. If this happens replacement hose will be needed immediately.
- Sarcione further indicated that the Ladder and pumps will need testing next year so he will be working on costs for next year's budget.
- Sarcione reported that the Pastor at the Nelson Church has offered to become the Department's Chaplain. He will be setting up a meeting to further discuss the details.
- Upon receiving a request from J. Sarcione, Brenna made a motion to approve 50% of the annual Fire Chief's stipend to be paid at this time and the remaining 50% in December.

Al seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- Brenna recognized Andrew Ward's prompt response to requests for burn permits, as well as the improvements to the Department's building and vehicle care.

- Sarcione requested that the Board schedule a time to view Engine #1 for needed repairs to be done next year.
- Sarcione also reported that the State Forest Fire brush truck return is still unresolved and the truck remains in Nelson. The Fire Warden will be instructed to finalize this vehicle return to the State.

At 4:17 PM

- Brenna made a motion to go into a second Non-Public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a&c) Personnel and Harm to Reputation. She further moved that Fire Chief J. Sarcione be allowed to attend. Al seconded.
The motion carried by roll call vote 3-0. Al – yes, Mike – yes, Brenna – yes.

At 5:22 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. Al- yes, Mike – yes, Brenna – yes

- Mike made a motion to approve the IT contracts for 2022 for all department including, Admin, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Fire Department, and Police Department. Al seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Al made a motion to approve a Solar Exemption for J. Newcombe for his roof mounted solar array previously approved for installation. Mike seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Upon reviewing a request for 2023 budget funding, Brenna made a motion to approve \$1,850 for Monadnock Region Child Advocacy Center to be included in the Social Services Warrant Article for 2023. (This is the same amount as 2022)
Al seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Following a review of submitted plans, confirmation of setbacks, and completion of the application, Mike made a motion to approve a Building Permit for T. Rich for a new home on Log Cabin Road. Brenna seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

- Following the resolution of a legal challenge by the Select Board concerning a ZBA decision, two Building Permits were addressed as submitted by E. Schillemat.

1. Mike made a motion to approve a retroactive Building Permit for the construction of two apartments in a building previously used as a barn and to acknowledge and sign the attached Waiver of Municipal Liability that is required to be recorded at the Registry of Deeds by the land owner for property with private access. (Property ID 009-007-003)
Brenna seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

2. Mike then made a motion to approve a Building Permit for the construction of a new house on the same property (009-007-003).

All seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

- The Board then discussed correspondence from D. Guy regarding sand runoff from the road during storms. Having discussed this at length with the Road Agent, the Board concluded that no action would be taken and Brenna agreed to inform Mr. Guy of the decision.

- Edie reported that the Hebert Trust application for a variance remains incomplete. Mr. Hebert has not returned the paperwork to the ZBA clerk for notice and scheduling. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to a period of 30 days for Hebert to return the necessary documents. Failure to meet the deadline will result in legal action as a result of the continued violation on this property.

- The Board reviewed the tax maps and documentation regarding a right-of-way held by D. and R. Patterson located on a portion of land now known as Partridge Woods. The last 80 +/- feet along the Patterson's property is not included in their right-of-way. This research is a result of inquiries concerning the use of the "Wheeler Trail" that exists on or along the area of the right-of-way and contained within the Town's property known as Partridge Woods. Further consideration of the use of this trail will be discussed with the Conservation Commission and the Trails Committee.

- The Board agreed to a request from G. Peery to use chairs from the Town Hall during Old Home Day events being held outside. Peery agreed to be responsible for moving and returning the chairs following the event.

- Mike Blaudschun agreed to become the Select Board's member to the Planning Board.

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

All seconded.

The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:58 PM

Next meetings July 27, 2022 at 3:00 PM.

August 3, 2022 at 3:00 PM

There will be no meeting on August 10, 2022

Minutes for July 20, 2022

Brenna Kucinski, Chair

Alexander Guida, Selectman

Michael Blaudschun, Selectman