

Town of Nelson
Selectmen's Meeting 1:00 PM

July 8, 2020

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

Special Note: Meeting was held outside in front of the Town Office

Others attending: Richard Pratt

At 1:00 PM David Upton opened the July 8, 2020 meeting of the Nelson Select Board.

● David made a motion to approve the minutes for June 29, 2020 as recorded.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

● David made a motion to approve the manifest for July 8, 2020 as presented.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

● A letter to the Select Board from M. Blaudschun was read into the minutes:

Hi Edie,

Here is a response to the selectmens letter to me dated June 29, 2020

Dear Selectboard,

Thank you for your letter dated June 29, 2020. Maybe I didnt ask my question correctly as you didnt answer my question. I wanted to know whether or not you prevented the police department from putting an article to purchase a new police cruiser on the 2020 town meeting warrant? I just would like an answer, yes or no. I'm not sure what your second paragraph of your letter is saying but my point is that the voting body at any town meeting should be able to hear from all who wish to discuss the article in front of them and vote yes or no. As for the 2021 town meeting warrant if the police department feels it needs to put a new police cruiser on the warrant then it should be included on the warrant. If the board does not agree with it they can state that as the selectboard does not support the article just like you have on the grader article on this years warrant. This type of article in my opinion has no place being a petition article as it needs to be presented by the Police Chief and the selectboard.

By the way, I am not doing this for anyone other than myself. I would rather have the facts on the matter.

Thank you for your review.

Mike Blaudschun

● Following a discussion and consideration of the Boards response, David made a motion to approve a reply letter as follows:

July 8, 2020

*Michael Blaudschun
86 Old Stoddard Road
Nelson, NH 03457*

Dear Mike,

We apologize for not detailing the steps we took toward the purchase of a new Police Cruiser for this year's Warrant. The following is an overview of the process that occurred:

1. In 2019 we were alerted by SWRP that the NH DOT was offering a CMAQ grant related to alternative Fuel Projects including municipal vehicles. (80% grant with a 20% match by the town) The 2019 grant was to be expended in 2020.

2. We launched an extensive grant presentation and successfully met the application deadline seeking a Rivian R1T AWD EV Pickup Truck to be used as a Municipal Police Cruiser.

3. We worked with the Police Chief to be certain to find a vehicle that would fit the department's needs as well as support the goal for reducing the consumption of fossil fuels.

4. The Police Chief offered his support in applying for the grant which is evident in the letter he submitted to the Grant review Board for consideration. (copy attached)

5. Unfortunately, Nelson was not awarded the grant as all awards went to Highway department related projects.

6. For the Town to pay the full price of the vehicle that was presented as the grant target, it would have been extremely costly. During the 2020 Warrant development Chief Pratt was asked to seek specs and pricing from conventional dealers who are now offering hybrids and some EV options. As the Warrant article deadline approached he still had no information with which to develop a Warrant article. As the deadline passed it was decided to increase the amount being considered for the Police Capital Reserve in 2020 in order to be prepared for a Police Cruiser article in 2021.

So to answer your question, no the Police Department was not prevented from having an article on the Warrant, quite the contrary. We worked for several months to try to develop a successful Warrant Article for 2020, but the details for presentation to the voters did not come together in time for that to happen.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

● David made a motion to approve a Certification of Cut for a report of cut from R. Rowse.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

● David made a motion to approve an Intent to Cut submitted by J. Taylor-Maule.

Gary seconded.

The motion carried 2-0.

● Following a review of submitted plans and indicated setbacks and road frontage, David made a motion to approve a Building Permit for Spencer Peery.

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0.

● A Notification received from the State of New Hampshire indicated that they intend to offer for sale a parcel of land identified as Map 6, Lot 71-2. There is an interested buyer but the State offered the Town of Nelson first right of refusal.

After a brief discussion, David made a motion to reject the offer to buy this parcel and to let the sale go forward with their private buyer.

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0.

● Following up on a "Parking Sign" complaint on Nubanusit Road, the Police Department recommended removal of the two newest "No Parking" signs to correct the problem. As it was reported that many in the neighborhood feel this would improve the situation, David made a motion to remove the two newest "No Parking" signs.

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0.

● David made a motion to approve the outline program "Reducing Diesel Fuel Consumption by the Nelson Highway Department. (Copy Attached to these minutes)

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0.

● Gary reported that the Conservation Commission has concerns over wetland violations occurring on Nubanusit Road.

This matter was noticed by the Police Department and reported to DES. DES did respond and has visited the location but it would appear that they have taken no action. The Board recommends that the Conservation Commission file a formal complaint with DES.

1:31 PM

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

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0 by roll call vote. Gary – yes, David - yes

2:15 PM

● Upon returning to Public session, David made a motion to seal the minutes.

Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0 by roll call vote. Gary – yes, David - yes

● With nothing further, David made a motion to adjourn.
Gary seconded.
The motion carried 2-0.

2:20 PM Meeting Adjourned.

For July 8, 2020

David Upton, Chair

Absent

Maury Collins, Selectman

Gary Robinson, Selectman

Reducing Diesel Fuel Consumption by the Nelson Highway Department

The duties and responsibilities of the Nelson Select Board fall into three main categories:

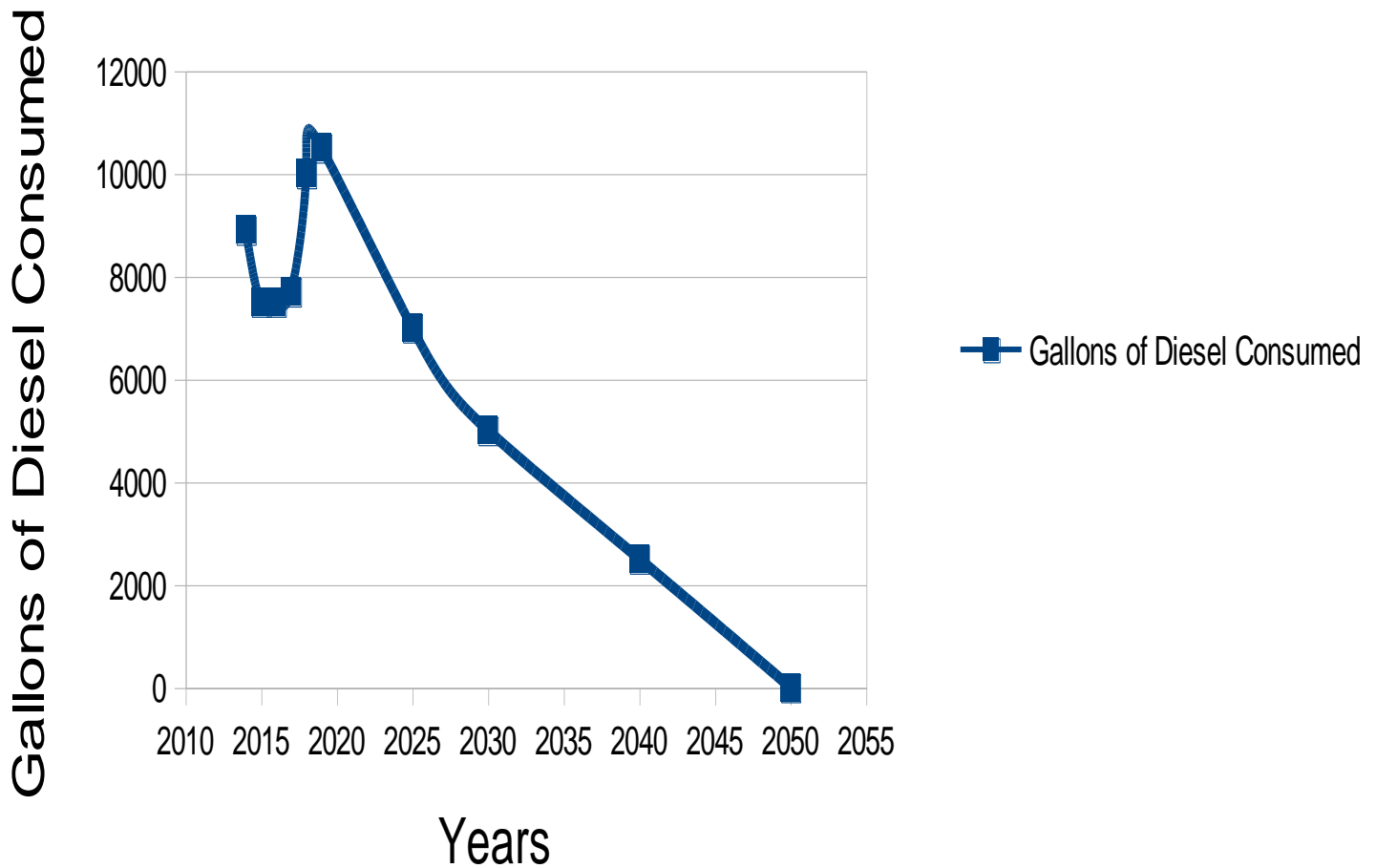
1. Preserve the Commons
2. Maintain Social Order
3. Provide Necessary Services

The Nelson Highway Department provides a Necessary Service. While doing so it must also contribute to the Preservation of the Commons, i.e., the environment of the planet that supports all life. To accomplish both outcomes we must work together to reduce our consumption of diesel fuel over time. As we know, burning fossil fuels contributes to the unacceptably high levels of CO₂ already in our atmosphere.

In this regard the Nelson Select Board has developed goals for the reduction in the consumption of fossil fuels by our Highway Department, during the upcoming years. These goals are similar to those of numerous other cities and towns in New Hampshire. Our goals are shown in the following chart. These goals include a reduction in fuel consumption by 30% of that consumed in 2019, by the year 2025, and the nearly total elimination of the use of fossil fuels, to power Highway Department equipment, by the year 2050.

The Select Board has created a Municipal Vehicle Emissions Reduction Committee whose mission it is to assist the Board and the Highway Department in finding ways to accomplish these goals.

Diesel Fuel Consumption Record and Goals Nelson Highway Department



This effort will be challenging to all involved. The degree of difficulty notwithstanding, we must succeed. Everyone's cooperation is required and expected.

Methodology

1. Engine Modification: Idle Reduction, Hydrogen Injection, etc.

<http://idlefreecalifornia.org/idle-reduction-technology.html>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-55oEPU0eM>

2. Route Reduction/Vehicle Usage Optimization: (a) Determine a closer source of sand and gravel, (b) Apply Road Maintenance Priorities

3. Road Maintenance Priorities:

(a) Safety: Ice and snow control, (b) Functionality: Snow and mud control to keep roads passable, (c) Durability: Drainage to preserve travel lanes from water runoff, (d) Drivability: Road surface shape and smoothness

4. Fleet Conversion: Vehicles with high fuel efficiency, Light Duty Vehicles to BEV, Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicles to BEV or FCEV

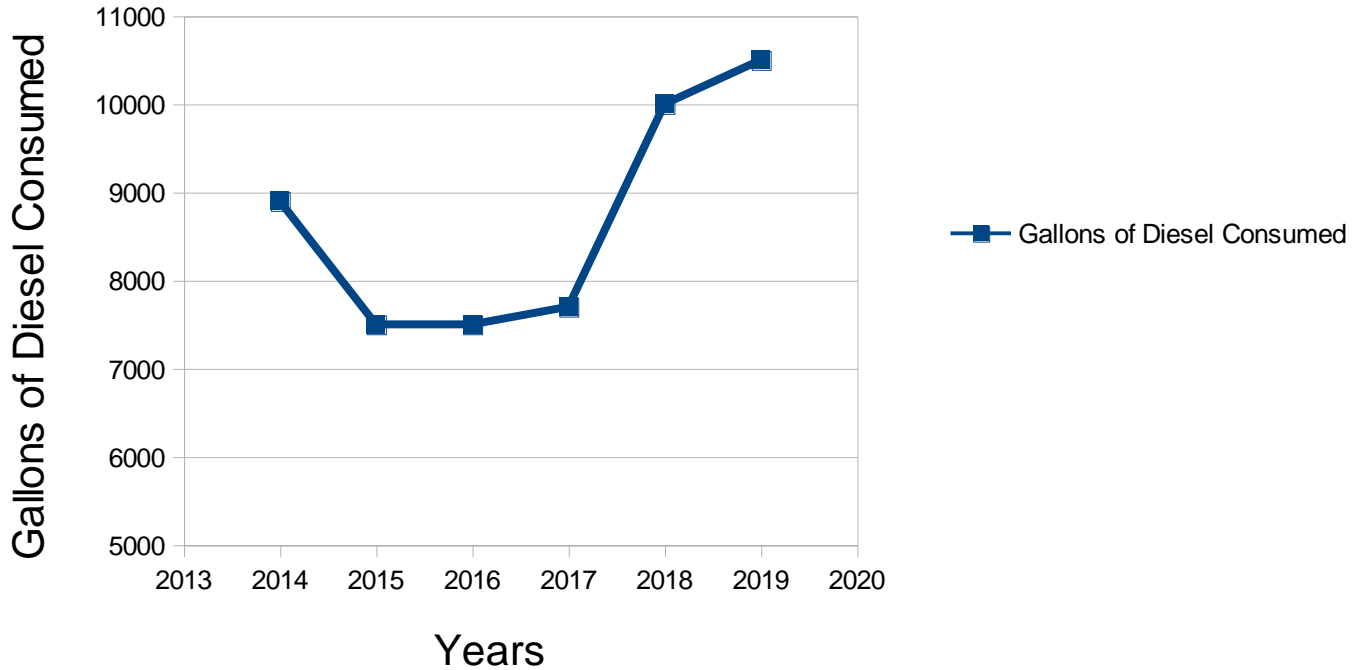
<http://globaldrivetozero.org/resources/zero-emission-technology-inventory/>

Observations and Comments

1. Increase in diesel fuel consumption of more than 25% in 2018 and 2019 is coincident with the replacement of the International 6 wheel truck with the Freightliner 10 wheel truck, not the purchase of the gravel pit which occurred in 2015. Fuel consumption data for both the Peterbilt and the Freightliner are needed in order to try to understand the cause of this problem. (Note: Our Vehicle Emissions Reduction Committee plans to study the application of hydrogen injection technology for diesel engines.)

Nelson Highway Department

Diesel Fuel Consumption Record



Year	Gallons of Diesel Consumed
2014	8900
2015	7500
2016	7500
2017	7700
2018	10000
2019	10500

2. Grants are available for the introduction of Idle Reduction Technologies (IRT's) into fleet vehicles. Appropriate IRT for Nelson Highway Department vehicles should be identified and installed.

Wherever possible, grant applications should be developed and submitted. Before and after fuel consumption data will be needed to demonstrate the effectiveness of the effort.

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/diesel-vehicles/dera.htm>

3. BEV technology is available for light duty trucks.

https://www.greencarreports.com/news/1126453_electric-ford-f-150-pickup-confirmed-for-michigan-assembly-likely-for-2021

The Dodge 1 ton is a candidate for replacement with a BEV. Grants are available to assist with the cost of purchase of these vehicles. Usage and fuel consumption data for the Dodge will be required for inclusion in the grant application. CMAQ monies may be available in 2020.

4. Road grader drive electrification technologies are available. Grants may be available for that purpose. See <https://medatech.ca/case-study/battery-electric-motor-grader-powertrain/> Usage and fuel consumption data for the 672B will be required for inclusion in the grant application. DERA and/or CMAQ money may be available when we have a project to propose.

Nelson BOS

Approved 7/8/2020