



Warner Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

APPROVED

1. Open Meeting Chairman Carson opened the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Attendance: Selectman Clyde Carson – Chairman, Selectman Judy Newman-Rogers and Town Administrator Diane Ricciardelli

Absent: Selectman Kimberley Edelmann

Clyde welcomed Diane to her first meeting as Town Administrator, the audience applauded. The first item on the agenda is to pick up where the December 3 meeting left off with the contract renewal for the Bound Tree ATV Club. At the December 3 meeting there was a lot of pros and cons input from audience members on the issue. There was a lot of information presented to the Selectmen on that day, and since, and they decided to read through and digest the information; they agreed to reconvene at the first meeting in January, which is where it is today. Clyde asked the audience for those who have not provided their input to the Selectmen to do so this evening.

An audience member asked for a recap on the previous meeting. Clyde said there was a lot of input received at the last meeting. The Board reached no decision and tonight the Board will be accepting more input and it is Clyde's expectation the Board will make a decision after a certain period of time.

2. ATV - Public Input

1. Brian Hotz said he is a Warner resident but is here on behalf of the Society of Protection of Land and Forests; he is Vice President of Land Conservation at the Forest Society and has been for 22 years. He has worked on many projects in the Minks. The Forest Society has 7 conservation easements in the Minks that they hold directly. Many of those the Forest Society worked with the Town to put into place and the Forest Society owns several reservations in the Minks, one of them in the Warner side of the Minks. Brian said the Forest Society does not allow ATVs on their fee ownership properties and that is because they have not found a good way to police those. Their experience has been in the monitoring process of their conservation easements they have run into several situations where there was unauthorized ATV use on their easements that resulted in erosion, also causing landowners to try to mitigate those activities to no avail, there is on-going damage to the property and damage to the conservation values of the easements. It's a concern to the Forest Society because they have not seen the measures to thwart it, work. They have been continued problems for the Forest Society, they have worked with several landowners with the same problems, there is only so much the Forest Society can do and they haven't been able to adjust for the increased use of ATVs and Brian thinks that is a direct result of more and more ATVs being allowed to be in the area. The Forest Society is most concerned for conservation lands. David Carrol asked Brian if he is concerned about the impact to wildlife. Brian said for the purpose of the conservation, easements are multipurpose including protection of natural resources, wildlife habitat and all of that. Riding ATVs on conservation property is not a violation of the easement, it's the damage the ATVs cause to the natural environment that is the violation of the easement.

2. Jason (?) is a Warner resident and would like to see the trails reduced back to the 2010 agreement. He thinks some of the extensions that were added on, use portions of Class V roads which is not consistent with the OHRV policy that's published on the Town's website. What's stated is the trails would be limited to Class VI roads.

3. Richard Cook is a Warner resident and read the following into the record:

Dear Selectboard:

The Board has heard and considered a lot of information on the social and environmental issues related to the presence of ATVs in the Mink Hills section of Warner. I would like you to also consider the ecological significance of the area. For most of the past three decades I have worked in the area of wildlife conservation at both New Hampshire Audubon and the NH Fish and Game Department. Much work has been done during that time period to identify lands that are important for the preservation of wildlife species of greatest conservation need and address the impacts of climate change on plants and animals.

In 2015, the latest NH Wildlife Action Plan was published laying out a framework of actions to be taken to maintain populations of common wildlife species and address the needs of species that have been negatively impacted by expanding human populations and development. One of the tools provided in that document to help towns consider wildlife in its planning and conservation efforts is a map that ranks the value of the wildlife habitat throughout the state.

A map of approximately 12,500 acres of the Mink Hills area in the southwestern corner of Warner shows that the majority of that acreage is identified as "highest ranked habitat in the State" with extensive areas of land shown as "highest in the biological region." The analysis used to reach this conclusion includes biological data, landscape context and the impact of human activities. It means that the ecological condition of the area ranks in the top fifteen percent of similar habitats throughout the State. These are the areas whose habitat conditions must be maintained if we are to be successful in sustaining wildlife populations in New Hampshire.

While maintaining high quality habitat for a wide array of wildlife species is critical, the biggest challenge facing our fauna and flora is climate change. A tremendous amount of work has been done to assess what attributes of land contribute to its ability to support plants and animals in the face of climate change. Researchers refer to these attributes as "Climate Resilience" and "Climate Flow".

Climate Resilience scores are based on the capacity of land to maintain species diversity and ecological function as the climate changes. A sites final resilience score is determined by evaluating the physical characteristics that foster resilience, particularly the sites landscape diversity and local connectedness.

Climate Flow scores are based on the ability of species populations to move through the environment over time in response to changing climate.

The Mink Hills lie at the center of one of the most significant corridors for Climate Resilience and Flow in northern New England.

Two of the values that make the Mink Hills significant in addressing wildlife and climate issues are its geo-physical setting and landscape diversity. These things we can't control. The other factor is human use and impacts. I believe that the Board has a responsibility to consider the ecological significance of these lands along with the social and environmental impacts of allowed activities within the Mink Hill.

4. Rhonda Rood sent a letter to be read into the minutes as follows:

New Hampshire has large tracts of land protected by Current Use Taxation, very active Conservation Boards and private resident land grants for conservation easements all to protect the quintessential quiet nature of our state. We are so fortunate to be able to live in this beautiful natural state and we wish it to remain so.

Unfortunately, ATV use is loud, damages trails, land and wildlife and is disturbing the quiet enjoyment of both land owners and residents who enjoy a quiet hike, walk or bicycle ride in the woods. It is our job as residents and good stewards to protect our land and the rights of landowners.

I would like to see the Board of Selectmen return to the 2010 agreement which is a fair compromise for all.

5. Martha Bodnarik said she did not plan on speaking tonight, but, seeing the turn out she also has to think about the idea as a member of the Budget Committee she is intimately aware with what it is costing the Town to maintain roads and the ever increasing taxes. And the idea we have a club in town that is taking a lot of out of towns people in causing an impact even on the Class V and VI roads that we have to pay to maintain. Martha seriously objects to it on a budgetary basis. Secondly, most who live here came because it was quiet and the last thing she wants to hear is an un-muffled vehicle going by. She has had friends run off the roads by ATVs and four wheelers. Martha thinks it's time to consider the type of community we want, the type we can afford and the type that will help keep our taxes a little lower and to please return to the old allowances, cut out the extra 10 miles and seriously consider not allowing out-of-town vehicles.

6. Kristin Ingold is a resident in Warner and has a couple of letters, one she wrote and one from a neighbor who couldn't make this meeting. Kristin read the following:

I am a Warner resident with a family home up on Joppa Road. I didn't grow up here, however as I increasingly spent more time in Warner, and eventually moved to the area some years ago, it was very noticeable how much noisier the trails became along our property after 2013. I was rather shocked and annoyed that such peace, quiet and beauty would be disturbed by vehicles from outside the neighborhood. What is most troublesome to me is that the Town did not think to ask if we minded before allowing this access. Anyone who lives near these trails knows how loud it can be. My family came and chose to live where they do for the tranquil beauty that could be found. It is incredibly frustrating to have these nearby trails (and Joppa Road itself) populated by increasing numbers of OHRVs. And incredibly discourteous to allow such access to close to home without considering what the homeowner's opinion on the matter might be. I support the Selectboard in returning to the 2010 agreement.

7. Sam Mahoney, sent a letter to be read by Kristin Ingold as follows:
To whom it may concern,

I reside at 3 Kelly Hill Rd, Warner, NH. Unfortunately, I am not able to attend tonight's meeting due to a recent back surgery. I have asked my neighbor to voice my concerns regarding off road vehicles, specifically 4 wheelers using Kelly Hill Road and/or surrounding Class VI roads. The maintenance of Kelly Hill Road is the responsibility of the abutters. As such I have invested several thousands of dollars in gravel. 4 wheelers bomb up and down that road spreading and sending my gravel in all directions. I'm constantly grading this road in order to have safe passage. I'm sure most 4 wheeler clubs are responsible, but they can't monitor other 4 wheelers to insure responsible use. I would like to go on the record as a NO with regard to approval of access to these roads/trails!

8. Alice Chamberlain read into the record a letter from **Steve Brown** as follows:
Dear Selectboard,

I have been a realtor in Warner for 43 years. I want to share my perspectives on noise pollution and property values.

It is well established that noise pollution is one of the most significant factors effecting property values. Noise pollution is any sound at a level that has a harmful impact on human activities. Homes near airports and highways sell for less than similar homes in the same zip code but located further away from the source of the noise. As the decibel levels increase the property values decrease proportionally. The closer a home is to the source the higher the negative impact on its value. We all benefit from highways and airports but few of us want to live very near them.

The negative effect on property values is even more pronounced when the property is in an area where relative quiet is expected such as a rural setting. It has been my experience that buyers who choose to live in rural areas often desire and expect to enjoy the sounds of nature and not those caused by the unpredictable nuisance noises of engines. Buyers often find living near trails desirable unless those trails are open to motorized vehicles.

The Stanhope Group is a well respected appraisal company. In 2019 they did a detailed study of home values in close proximity to ATV trails in Gorham, NH. Their findings showed an average decrease in value of 12% for those homes.

It certainly seems prudent to eliminate motorized vehicles from trails near homes to protect homeowner's investments and the quiet enjoyment of their properties.

9. A resident whose name was unclear said it seems to her that there is not only the noise problem, but there is an enforcement issue here. Her opinion would be the trails be closed completely until there's a workable way to enforce the trail system. Even if you close part of the trail it seems like there's going to be continued vandalism and people going on private property. Until enforcement can be addressed, she thinks it should be stopped completely.

10. Kerry Ingold is a property owner that is very directly impacted by this expansion. She said if you look at the map she is in the little green square. Kerry is not here to talk about the environmental issues, the erosion issues, all those issues we heard a lot about in the last meeting. Kerry is here to talk about our home that she has lived in for over 50 years and the impact of the traffic that goes by her home now. She did hear at the last meeting that one of

the ATVers said "I hear trucks go by my house that's just as noisy", Kerry agrees, they probably have, but there is a critical difference. She hears and ATV come down that hill, she hears them go by her driveway and then they hit Joppa Road and take off. She said when a truck goes by, it's gone, for her, an ATV comes, then another, and another. ATVs do not travel alone, mostly 3 and sometimes 7 or 8 of them and as noisy as a truck, repeating all summer long. Kerry said it's not the size of the ATV that makes a difference in the rutting and erosion, it's the number of passings and the type of terrain. Kerry wanted to ask the ATV people, she knows they get enjoyment from the extra 3.5 mile loop, but can it be equated with what the homeowners have to go through all summer long, listening to vehicle after vehicle after vehicle come by? She asked them if they would like to move their house to her location? Kerry doesn't want to move either, she loves the neighborhood she lives in. She doesn't want to stop the riders, she would like to see them ride in a place that doesn't disturb homeowners.

11. Barb Southers from Bradford, NH lives in a very quiet area. About a year or so ago she started to get all these ATVs coming by because she lives between 2 Class VI roads. It was very noisy and disruptive to the point you start thinking you want to move. What she found out the ATVs are coming from other towns and that the Selectmen were about to say yes to authorize ATV use on Class VI roads in Bradford, she assembled a group to attend the Selectman's meeting to address that. The Selectboard in Bradford did not authorize the use of ATVs. Barb said the ATVs don't go by her house anymore and she really empathizes with the last speaker.

12. Susan Weiss from Weare, NH has been hiking and snowshoeing in the Mink Hills for over 30 years. Over that time she has seen degradation of the trails and roads. Her primary concern is how to police it. She said specifically, Badgar Lane, which over years has degraded significantly from erosion. Susan talked about a knoll on the top where there is a view. The ATVs drive up that knoll and have destroyed the brush and blueberries that were up there. They plowed over the pink lady slippers that are up there. There has to be a way to police it.

13. Someone from Bradford who spoke at the December 3 meeting wanted to add that what she found talking to the Department of Environmental Services was that if the Town opens roads and wetland violations occur, the Town is ultimately responsible.

14. Alice Chamberlain thanked the Selectboard for listening to extensive information and the record that's on file at the Town Hall she read, there is a lot of information to absorb. What Alice wanted to do is re-frame the challenge the Board has here tonight, these issues are not unique, people have been facing them across the State and dealing with them. What is unique for Warner is there is a solution in the compromise of returning to the 2010 agreement with the Clubs. That agreement was reached with public notice to the abutters and public hearings. None of the extensions had the same extensive public input. Alice thinks if the Board combines the information from 2010 and the fact that it doesn't impact the property owners in Warner who the Board has heard from and the agreement still allows the trail to go through the Minks. This solution is a positive solution and Alice urges the Board to implement it.

15. A representative from **Bound Tree** said he can appreciate some of the complaints, especially from the landowners. Some he said were extreme and the Club always wants to work with the community. We are here at the privilege of the Selectmen and let's determine what the compromise will be and go from there.

16. Rebecca Courser said there has been meetings with the Bound Tree ATV Club and she has to say they have been very responsive, as much as they can be with the issue at hand with signage, trash, trail maintenance with responding and setting up camera's that has been helpful. Rebecca reiterated that the 2010 decision would be what we recommend that the Selectmen make their decision on because that extension in 2016 that went over Judy Town Road over to Loud Lane to Badgar then down a Class V to the Henniker town line is where the problem lies because it's impacting a number of households. Going back to the 2010 agreement would take care of that problem. It does also bring up other issues people have talked about as far as long term erosion on the Class VI road. A lot of those roads have been eroded not just by ATVs but also by other vehicles that can be on there at any time. There are very steep roads that are now river beds that will be hard to fix and the Town is not allowed to spend money on Class VI roads so that might be an issue to be addressed some how. There is certainly a story in the Minks both historically, culturally and ecologically. Rebecca feels the Minks needs to be taken care of for the future and to maintain it somehow, it's bigger than the ATV issue.

17. David Hartman said he was part of the 2010 compromise and was Chairman of the Board at that time. He went home after meetings dealing with the question of ATVs on Class VI roads and had trouble going to sleep. David thinks if there's a direction the Selectmen could go, he recommends going back to the 2010 alignment that

was adopted and any future additions to that be brought back out to the public the same way the 2010 agreement was. David doesn't agree with blanketing the Mink Hills with ATV trails. Badgar Lane is a disgrace right now and from David's view of it having hiked it many times annually it is caused by ATV use. There is a direct connection with the deterioration of trails (Class VI roads) and ATVs. David said licensed 4 wheel drive vehicles are able to use the Class VI roads with no action from the Selectmen, but ATVs can't without the Selectman's permission. He doesn't believe the destruction on Badgar Lane was caused by Jeeps. David recommends until further expansion beyond the 2010 agreement, there shouldn't be anymore ATV Class VI Road trails designated by the Board of Selectmen.

18. George (last name not clear) asked if the Town or someone sees an ATV riding on a trail where they don't belong what is the legal recourse, is it a fine? Clyde said he doesn't know the penalty. Someone said it falls under Fish & Game. Someone said they called Fish & Game and was told they didn't have the staff and connected him to the Hopkinton Police for some reason. Warner Police has been responsive recently, but agrees with Martha Bodnarik, it's impacting the Town's budget.

19. Alan Piroso asked the Board if they looked at the traffic survey that was turned in last month. Clyde did see it, but not in depth. Alan asked Clyde to look at it now and tell the audience the traffic on Henniker Road in a month's time for ATV usage. Alan said the count is 50 for the month. Where these people are talking tonight, there are hundreds.

20. At this time the Selectmen will voice their thoughts.

A. Judy said it's an emotional issue for a lot of people. ATV riders should be allowed to ride somewhere with the authority of the Town and it sounds like the additions made after the first contract, the community didn't have any input. The abutters and landowners were not notified and the process didn't move forward the way it should have. It seemed to be confirmed by David Hartman, having been a Selectman, and saying that didn't happen. Judy believes in transparency and the community should be allowed to provide their input to things that are happening that directly impacts them. Judy is leaning towards returning to the original compromise and reviewing what else can be done with the Town's input to accommodate more trails for the ATV riders.

B. Clyde describes the ATV Club as Boy Scouts, they are a responsible Club and have taken good care of the trails over the years. When the Board made changes to the agreement, the Board did not anticipate the unanticipated consequences, the additional traffic going past residential areas would have the impact that it did. Clyde said he has heard loud and clear from the people that live in the School House area, it changed their lives. The State has been also promoting the use of ATVs and that has added to the volume of traffic. Clyde doesn't feel the Bound Tree ATV Club are the culprits, he thinks the Board expanded the trails into areas that have an impact on our friends and neighbors. The Minks are a resource for everyone in town and we have to make sure we accommodate everyone. Clyde also believes the Town should go back to the 2010 agreement at this point. He is a strong proponent for a plan to be put together for the Minks.

Board Action

Chairman Carson made a motion that the Selectmen revert back to the 2010 Agreement for ATV traffic in Warner. Selectman Newman-Rogers seconded the motion. Rebecca said the 2010 Agreement was for 3 years. Clyde said yes, it would be for 3 years, but a review should be done after one year. Someone said it would be helpful to understand what the process would be moving forward, if there were any further discussions about access trails, what you would expect from the Club as far as how the public notice would be generated. Clyde said the agreement is for one year and in that time form a group to look at the issue on ATV traffic and other traffic in the Mink Hills and see if there's some recommendations. Rebecca said that's a good idea, but, it's not just recreational opportunities in the Minks, to look at the whole big picture, ecological component of the Minks as well. Someone said he's not sure what is going to change for homeowners within a year, could something be added about not being near homes. Judy said what she was envisioning was at least a year and have the ATV Club and anybody else come together and review this part of it, after the year propose something. Martha Bodnarik said before the Board makes another decision, please post the meeting so everyone in Town knows what's going on. Alice said on the formation of a group, she hopes there will be a group that is balanced, local and appointed by the Selectmen. David Minton asked if the idea of the study is to open more roads, what is the Board looking to study. Clyde said we won't have the scope of what that committee will do tonight. Clyde asked Judy if the agreement should be 1,2 or 3 years. Judy said for one year, see what can be accomplished within one year and then come back. Clyde clarified it's for the

Club. Clyde and Judy agreed the agreement would be for 3 years and then put together a group to study the issues in the Minks. Clyde amended his motion to say all that. Judy seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Motion Restated

Clyde said the motion is the Board is referring back to the 2010 Agreement for a period of 3 years and the Board will be working on the formation of a group that studies the Minks. Alan Piroso said the Club will remove their signs and where they come up Judy Town and go around the backside of Bear Pond, there will be signs there that says "No ATVs" from there on.

Note: The rest of the meeting moved upstairs to the Selectman's Office.

Attendance: Selectman Clyde Carson – Chairman, Selectman Judy Newman-Rogers and Town Administrator Diane Ricciardelli

Absent: Selectman Kimberley Edelmann

Others present: Tim Allen, Tim Hayes, Martha Mical, Varick Proper, John Leavitt, Ken Cogswell

3. Highway Department - Building Maintenance

Director of Public Works, Tim Allen, introduced Tim Hayes who is the Building Maintenance/Truck Driver. Tim Allen feels building maintenance has evolved into a full-time position. Tim Allen asked Tim Hayes to meet with the Board to speak to them about what he does, so the Board has a feel when Tim Allen talks about building maintenance. Tim Allen thinks there is some confusion regarding what he talked about in this budget season as far as a full-time maintenance person and hiring a laborer to be added to the Highway Department. Clyde asked Tim Allen when he talks about building maintenance, is it just the Town Hall or all the buildings. Tim Allen said all the buildings the Town owns.

Tim Allen said last year in the winter time he decided to hire someone to take care of the outside of the buildings, snow plow, sand and shoveling the walks. Tim Allen thought it was a step in the right direction, but, was not happy with it. That's what encouraged Tim Allen to give Tim Hayes the position to take care of all the buildings and handle the maintenance that needs to be done to maintain what we have, summer and winter including the mowing and the structure located at the lake. Tim Allen wanted Tim Hayes to explain to the Board what he does. Tim Hayes said put together a basic list of projects he feels should be done. Tim Hayes also went around to all the buildings with the Town's property insurance representative and recorded all the deficiencies and code violations and has been slowly picking away at the list. The playground at the Old Graded School was inspected as well and it was found the playground was not up to code. Tim Hayes had the fire extinguishers inspected, which needs to be done annually now and found an extinguisher that was 12 years old. Tim Hayes is trying to prevent code violations throughout the Town. Tim Hayes explained the grounds maintenance is involved as well. Clyde asked Tim Hayes if sidewalk repairs fall under him, and he learned it does. Tim Allen said there are so many things to do, we need one person dedicated to buildings and grounds, at the very least, give it a year trial period. Tim Allen wants Tim Hayes working full-time for building maintenance and grounds, along with that, that will take Tim Hayes out of the crew until Tim Hayes is caught up and can help out with the crew instead of the way it's going now which is limiting his time on the buildings and grounds. Tim Allen said right now he is 2 people down, his feeling is if he would like to hire someone he can bring up through the ranks to take Tim Hayes spot. Tim Allen feels he should be spending more time in the office and less time out in the field. So far Tim Allen will be getting some filing help on Friday's which will help out tremendously. Clyde asked Tim Allen is that the person that was budgeted for after Town Meeting? Tim Allen said yes, there will be an addition to his budget for about \$30,000 for an additional person and he will remove the \$15,000 for summer help.

Tim Hayes also receives off hour calls. One Saturday he had to come into the Town Hall because someone was stuck in the lift. Judy said it should be officially noted that off hour calls is part of Tim Hayes job. Varick asked how much of the building maintenance would be contracted out versus how much can Tim Hayes tackle himself. Tim Hayes said he can tackle most of it unless it comes down to the boiler for cleanings because you have to be licensed. Tim Hayes can change outlets, low voltage stuff, higher voltage, an electrician would be needed. Martha Mical asked what about the fountain upgrade, to her that's electrical. Tim Hayes said he did do the fountain upgrade as far as the electrical, next year he wants to fix the direction of the water when it sprays up. He said the original fountain had a dome at the top which he will fabricate. The Water Department wants to meter the fountain for informational purposes. Clyde said the fountain is a historical structure and any upgrades need to be collaborated with the Historical Society.

Judy asked Tim Hayes how he would manage requests from Departments, how does that fit in with what he has scheduled. Tim Hayes said he has received one since he has been with the Town. He said he does get a number of phone calls, he just prioritizes what needs to be done.

Judy said the Highway Department budget is showing a 4.8% which includes 27 pay periods and another full time person. Tim Allen said he removed \$26,000 for snow plowing which isn't a complete take out because now we are using our own vehicles and there is \$15,000 for summer maintenance that can be removed. Diane asked Tim Allen to stop by tomorrow so he and she can review his budget to make sure adjustments were made.

Judy asked Tim Hayes if he uses his own vehicle and receives mileage reimbursement. Tim Hayes said he doesn't put in for mileage and he carries his own tools, he would put in for mileage if he needs to go to Concord.

Tim Allen said the other part of this equation is last year Tim Hayes plowed snow with the dump truck and this year he is doing the buildings and Tim Allen is plowing with the dump truck. If everyone is in agreement with his plan he can make arrangements to do something with the dump truck. Tim Allen wants to know how the Board feels about the direction he is taking so he can make future plans. Both Clyde and Judy are in support of Tim's plan. Judy said maintenance is a huge part of savings in the long run. Clyde said he is not so much worried about violations as he is about safety and people's well being. Clyde also recommended reporting monthly at a Selectman's meeting on what building maintenance was completed.

John Leavitt said, looking at the list Tim has, he is never going to get caught up. John asked who does Tim Hayes answer to. Clyde said Tim Allen. Tim Allen also said he would like to see all building maintenance be documented, with the request forms Tim Hayes can handle. John Leavitt asked where does the Library fit into this. Tim Allen said the Library is a Town building, his question is how far do we take the maintenance on the Library. Clyde said if it's something we would maintain the Town Hall for, he would do the same for the Library. Martha Mical said the Library does get \$190,000 from the Town as a requirement of having the Library, some things should come from that money. Clyde said to Tim Allen, he has the go ahead from the Board.

4. 2020 Holiday Schedule

Chairman Carson made a motion to approve the 2020 Holiday schedule. Selectman Newman Rogers seconded the motion, the motion passed.

5. Vacation Carry-Over Request

Selectman Newman-Rogers made a motion to approve the request for vacation time carry-over for the Police Department for Police Chief Chandler, Officer Tokarz and Officer Fitzgerald and for the Director of Public Works, Tim Allen with the provision that these hours are used and not carried over again. Chairman Carson seconded the motion, the motion passed.

6. Standardized Office Hours

Judy is recommending the office hours in the Town Hall be uniform and posted from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Diane will check with the staff to see if there is any conflict with starting at 8:00 am.

7. Consent Agenda

Chairman Carson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for January 14, 2020:

1. Bartlett Fund Request
2. Intent to Cut for Map 12 Lot 49-1 and Map 12 Lot 49-2
3. Yield Tax Levy in the amount of \$879.65

Selectman Newman-Rogers seconded the motion, the motion passed.

8. Manifest

Selectman Newman-Rogers made a motion to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll check numbers 6165-6188 in the amount of \$72,190.85 (this is for 2 pay runs and includes 49 direct deposits). Account Payable check numbers 57079-57148 in the amount of \$348,579.80 (This amount includes \$161,967.46 from Capital Reserve Funds). Chairman Carson seconded the motion, the motion passed. Judy asked if the pay increases were included, they were suppose to be in the second pay run. Diane doesn't think the pay increases are included. Clyde said the Board hasn't signed the Payroll Change Forms. Diane understood the pay increases would wait until everything in the Bookkeeper's office calms down. Diane said she would ask the Bookkeeper why there were 2 pay runs in the manifest.

9. Selling Horne St. Property

Judy said she will provide Diane with the information that she has gathered.

10. Welfare Director

The position has been posted.

11. Renewable Energy Credits

Clyde reported he approved all the paperwork to get the credits transferred to Knollwood Energy and they are in the process of registering the Town with the State.

12. Formal Amount to Encumber for Assessing

Clyde said the Board already made a motion. Diane said the Assessing Clerk was unable to obtain an invoice. Judy asked how did the Town contract for this bridge to be done? Clyde recommended asking the Assessor, Dave Marzoroff to attend the Boards next meeting. Diane said she will call Dave as well.

13. Selectman's Other Business

Clyde said he spoke with Nancy Martin, the Conservation Commission is going to withdraw its funding request for 2020. The Conservation Commission wants to take some time to reassess where they are.

14. Meeting Minutes

Judy said she will send her edits to Diane. Judy would like to see the edits reviewed and approved by the Board. Diane says she now edits the minutes before they are distributed.

15. Primex

Diane met with Primex today and went over all the different coverages. Training sessions were recommended to Diane.

16. Warrant Articles

Judy told Diane that the Budget Committee is expecting to review the wording of the Warrant Articles on January 16.

17. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 pm

Board of Selectmen
Clyde Carson – Chairman
Kimberley Edelmann
Judith Newman-Rogers

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen