

**Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2024**

Present: Seth Bolduc (Chair), Keith Sanborn (Vice-Chair), James Torbert, Brent Hallowell, and Yolanda Violette. Not present: Joshua Leard.

1. The meeting was called to order by Seth Bolduc.
2. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of September 10. Motion carried 4-0
3. Accounts payable and payroll warrants were approved and signed.
4. Seth opened a public hearing on amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices. With no public comment the public hearing closed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the General Assistance Ordinance with Appendices. Motion carried 4-0.
5. Justin Tribbet and Troy Thibodeau representing Central Maine Power introduced the Board to Tom Zaso, geotechnical engineer from LaBella Associates. Tom provided his report on the extent of damage caused by heavy truck traffic during the construction of the NECEC power line. Tom reports he met with Lionel Cayer and inspected Townhouse, Vigue, and Philbrook roads. After reviewing the condition before construction, through the use of google street view, and the current condition in person, Tom believed the general condition of the roads were downgraded as a result of the NECEC project. Using an estimate provided to the town from Mainely Paving in May, the condition of the roads before construction and the current condition, Tom believes total damage is \$897,000. The Board questioned Justin and Troy about the falling short approximately \$600,000 of what the town thought would be receiving. Justin assured that the amount covers the damage they caused. When asked about updating pricing from the quote to reflect current pricing from Mainely Paving because we will be unable to do the work this year, they were open to discussing that. The Board is going to ask Lionel to check over the report and double check the math on Labella's estimate. The Board also asked CMP to stop using the roads for through trucking. Troy hopes to be done with through trucking by the end of the month. Justin is hoping to have a letter of commitment and resolution soon.
6. Monday Sept. 30, Delta Ambulance is hosting an informational meeting with the towns they service, Jim plans to attend. Meeting is being held at Windsor Town Office at 9:30 am.

7. Yolanda has been working with the Windsor tax assessor regarding the Olsen property off Fox Farm Lane and has reduced the tax bill from \$435 to \$172.04. She is continuing to look into exemptions that the town may be eligible for.
8. Yolanda reports it has been discovered a building off Nickerson Lane from Windsor that was believed to be in Windsor is actually in Whitefield, the assessor will need to review.
9. The Board has instructed the assessor to not accept late homestead and veteran exemptions, or lot combinations after December 1. Applications for these changes submitted after 1 December will be held and made effective in April, in alignment with typical practices.
10. A motion was made and seconded to hold a special election January 17, 2025 to fill a vacant seat on the selectboard. Motion carried 4-0. Nomination papers will be available Oct 10.
11. Whitefield Library presented a director's report of happenings, as well as a thank you note from the library board for the recent donation from ARPA funds for the standby generator.
12. Brent reports he will be serving on the county budget committee.
13. A motion was made and seconded to have Yolanda sign a CMP easement for a pole and street light between the town office and fire station for the municipal parking lot. Motion Carried 4-0.
14. Glen Angell has noted that the Planning Board secretary position needs to be filled. The board asked Yolanda to proceed in finding one by reaching out to possible candidates and posting an ad, if needed.
15. The newly formed Fire Department auxiliary has asked Yolanda about insurance to cover its membership. More information is needed to help find options.
16. Meeting adjourned.

Seth A. Bolduc, Chair

10-8-24
Date


Keith D. Sanborn, Vice Chair

Joshua T. Leard


James R. Torbert


Brent W. Hallowell