

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF PEMBROKE, NH
December 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM**

Present: Selectman Karen Yeaton, Selectman Peter Gagyi, Selectman Richard Bean, Selectman Rick Frederickson, Selectman Sandy Goulet

Staff: Town Administrator David Jodoin

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Yeaton called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

II. Citizens Comment

None

III. Scheduled Meetings

Public Hearing in accordance with RSA 31:95-b III (a) – Acceptance of \$31,607.09 from the State of New Hampshire as part of House Bill 2 unanticipated Bridge Aid

Selectmen Yeaton opened the public hearing at 6:31pm.

Matt Miller, Brickett Hill Road, asked what the funds are for. David Jodoin explained they are for additional maintenance and repairs on bridges in Town. There are currently contracts out to repair the Bachelder Road Bridge and an engineering study of the Buck Street Bridge.

Selectman Yeaton closed the public hearing at 6:32pm.

Selectman Goulet made a motion to accept the \$31,607.09 from the State of New Hampshire as part of House Bill 2 in accordance with RSA 31:95-b III (a). Selectman Gagyi seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Bryan Christiansen – Comcast Contract Renewal

Bryan Christiansen, Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs for Comcast, explained the Town renews its contract with Comcast every 6 years. The contract allows for a cable provider, in this case Comcast, to use the right of way. The entire community has the ability to be served by Comcast and a \$5,000 grant is given to the Town each year. Selectman Gagyi asked if any other company has approached the Town for this contract. Bryan explained the contract is not exclusive. Another company would just need to build their own infrastructure. David explained this does require a public hearing to accept and what will be on the January 3, 2024 agenda.

Matt Miller – Energy Committee

Matt explained CPCNH is meeting tomorrow to review the proposed rates. They will ask the new communities if they want to procure or defer. Since Pembroke is a new community, Selectman Frederickson as the authorized official will need to state the Town's decision. A mailer will be sent out to all residents explaining the process and a public hearing will be held at 6:30pm on January 31st in the Pembroke Academy Auditorium to answer questions. This will be one week after the mailer is sent out. The expected rate is \$8.01/kWh. Eversource's rate is \$8.285/kWh, Liberty Utilities is \$9.758/kWh, and Unitil is \$10.07/kWh. Those rates are from February 1 – July 31, 2024 there is a clause stating Pembroke may not launch unless the rate is lower than the current utility rate. It is currently 2% under the Eversource rate. One of the reasons the Eversource rate is lower than Unitil or Liberty is because they overcharged in the previous 6 months and are giving credit back to their customers. Selectman Frederickson asked how many households will swap over to CPCNH. Matt explained that information will be disclosed to CPCNH by the utility companies. There are approximately 3,500 accounts and 86% are on the default plan.

The Board has decided to move forward with procurement.

IV. Old Business

SAU Email Re: Polling Place and Hours

Selectman Yeaton sent an email to the Chair of the School Board but has not heard back. David will send an email to the School District stating the Board's wish is to not change the time of the deliberative this year and heavily publicize it for next year.

V. New Business

KV Partners Buck Street Bridge Contract

Mike Vignale submitted a proposal for engineering services of the Buck Street Bridge which is between Academy Road and Dearborn Road in the amount of \$6,000.

Selectman Goulet made a motion to approve the Buck Street Bridge review contract with Mike Viganle and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the document. Selectman Frederickson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Encumbrances

Selectman Goulet made a motion to approve the encumbrances as presented. Selectman Gagyí seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Manifest/Abatements

Selectman Goulet made a motion to accept the manifest and abatements as presented. Selectman Gagyí seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Minutes 12/6/23, Non-Public Minutes 12/6/23,

Selectman Goulet made a motion to approve the minutes of December 6, 2023 as presented. Selectman Frederickson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Selectman Goulet abstained.

VI. Town Administrator Report

Selectman Goulet made a motion to authorize the Public Works Director to sign the contract with Ray Korber of KV Partners for the landfill post closure monitoring in the amount of \$5,000. Selectman Bean seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Last week the Tri-Town EMS Board signed the dissolution agreement. The Allenstown Select board has already signed it and now the Pembroke Select board needs to sign it.

VII. Committee Reports

Selectman Yeaton – None

Selectman Bean – None

Selectman Gagyí – Budget wrapped up the Town's departments. They will begin with the School District on the 21st for a preliminary overview. They will officially not be going for the bond for the new Hill School.

Selectman Frederickson – Planning approved a major site plan for 88-94 Sheep Davis Road. They reviewed the sign ordinance and there will be several Zoning warrant articles this year. In January there will be the continued public hearing for the NE Flower Farms housing project. If capacity is reached, they will recess the meeting and move to the SAU.

Selectman Goulet – None

VIII. Non-Public Session

Selectman Yeaton made a motion to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the requests shall be granted. seconded by Selectman Gagyí at 7:28pm

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Yeaton	Yes
Selectman Goulet	Yes
Selectman Bean	Yes
Selectman Gagyi	Yes
Selectman Frederickson	Yes

The Board came out of non-public session at 7:36 PM.

Motion by Selectman Goulet to promote Neal Marrion to the Solid Waste Foreman's position at a rate of \$23 and hour with a .50 cent increase after probation is completed in six months. Seconded by Selectman Gagyi. Motion passed 5-0.

Selectman Frederickson made a motion to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters of which, if discussed in public, would likely effect the reputation of any person, other than a members of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Seconded by Selectman Gagyi at 7:37PM.

Roll Call Vote:

Chairman Yeaton	Yes
Selectman Goulet	Yes
Selectman Bean	Yes
Selectman Gagyi	Yes
Selectman Frederickson	Yes

The Board came out of non-public session at 7:49 PM.

Motion by Selectmen Goulet to deny the request for a waiver on a welfare lien. Seconded by Selectmen Frederickson. Motion passed 5-0

IX. Other/Citizen Comment

None

X. Adjourn

Selectman Goulet made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM. Selectman Bean seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Karen Yeaton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and last name "Yeaton" clearly distinguishable. It is positioned above a horizontal line.

Karen Yeaton, Chairman

For more detailed information, the meetings are now taped and can be seen on www.townhallstreams.com
click on Pembroke NH and look for the day of the meeting under the month.