

NOTICE
Town of Lowell
SELECT BOARD MEETING
THE LOWELL SELECTBOARD WILL MEET ON
Tuesday January 28, 2025, AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING.

AGENDA:

- Addition & Deletions
- Sign Orders
- Review Minute from January 14, 2025
- Road Commissioner Updates
- Other Business
- Budget Discussion
- Warning Finalization Discussion

Selectboard:
Wayne Richardson-Chm
Darren Pion
Jennifer Blay

MINUTES
SELECTBOARD MEETING
TOWN OF LOWELL
Meeting held on January 28, 2025.

Board members present:

Wayne Richardson- Chm, Darren Pion, Jennifer Blay

Christy M. Pion -Town Clerk/Selectboard Clerk/Ass't Treasurer

Marie A. Busch-Town Treasurer/Ass't Clerk

Note: All meetings are recorded on a handheld recording device.

Meeting called to order at 5:32p.m.

GUEST:

- Arlon Warner
- Dotty Spoerl
- Chad Falconer

Additions and Deletions: See additions and deletions below.

- ****Concerns About Snow Plowing**:** Arlon Warner questioned the necessity of renting an additional snowplow truck when the town already owns three, citing historical practices where fewer trucks were adequate. Members, including Wayne Richardson and Chad Falconer, explained the current snow plowing operations, emphasizing the need for multiple trucks to ensure timely service for school buses and safety.

Sign Orders:

- Financials for the Treasurer were approved and signed by the Board.

Minutes from January 14, 2024:

- Minutes from January 14, 2024, were approved and signed by the Board unanimously.

Budget Discussions:

- Budget Considerations: The need for increased funding for road maintenance was highlighted due to rising costs and the importance of maintaining safe roads.
- FEMA Funding and Grants: The potential for FEMA funding and other grants was discussed as a means to positively impact the town's budget for road maintenance and improvements.

Warning Finalization Discussion:

- Road Commissioner vs. Road Foreman: The board discussed the potential appointment of a road commissioner instead of an elected position, raising concerns about accountability and oversight implications.
- Community Engagement: The importance of involving the community in discussions about road maintenance and the selection of a road commissioner was emphasized, acknowledging that residents may have questions or concerns.
- Finalization of Town Meeting Warning: The meeting concluded with discussions on finalizing the warnings for the upcoming town meeting, ensuring clarity and correctness in the articles presented.

Road Commissioner Updates:

- There was a small discussion of the current road crew employees and what is expected of them, as there has been a lack of communication among the crew.
- Wayne announced that Jeff Young had verbally given his two week notice but will only be available in the mornings for that two week period. In light of this notice Wayne had already spoken to Mark Higley who will be on a part time bases to fill in when he is available.

Other Business:

- Update on Ethics Commission Appointment: The Board unanimously appointed Marie Busch as the Ethics Commission Liaison for the Town of Lowell. Marie will be doing the first introductory meetings starting in February.
- Truck weight permits were signed and approved for the following: **Newport Sand & Gravel Co./Carroll Concrete Co., Inc., and Dead River Company dba Bourne’s Energy.**
- Town Report was also discussed during the end of the meeting. Christy notified the Board that the Town Report was almost complete and would be ready to go to print by end of day January 29, 2025. Wayne offered to hand deliver the Town Report draft rather than mail it in case the Clerk needed a little more time for finalization.

Board Warrants:

➤ General Order #3	\$	4,883.59
➤ Payroll Order # 3	\$	<u>6,703.17</u>
	\$	11,586.76

Signed for the Treasurer to draw checks totaling -

* Note: Full discussion details of the minutes are available in the Clerks office.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christy M. Pion

Next meeting date: February 11, 2025, at the Town Office Building.

Wayne Richardson – Chair

Christy M. Pion–Selectboard Clerk

Darren Pion-Select Person

Jennifer Blay-Select Person