

# GREENWOOD SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

September 17, 2024 – 5:00 pm

**Item 1:** Call Meeting to Order - Chair Chapman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.  
Roll Call: Chair Chapman, Selectman Norman A. Milliard, Selectman Robert Oickle, Highway Foreman, Richard Diaz.

Guest: Paula Lamb  
Absent: Town Manager, Kim Sparks

**Item 2:** Pledge of Allegiance

**Item 3:** Review and approve:

**Expenditure Warrant # 11** – \$ 187,305.93, covering period Sept. 4, - Sept. 9, 2024  
**Includes voucher 287 payable to SAD # 44, \$ 118,752.00**

**Expenditure Warrant # 12** – \$ 59,571.48, covering period Sept. 10, - Sept. 16, 2024  
**Includes voucher 309 payable to Pine Tree Waste, \$ 20,838.25**

The Board reviewed the Warrants.

Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Oickle seconded to approve Warrant # 09 and warrant # 10 as read. Vote: 3-0. Warrants are approved.

**Item 4:** Review and approve minutes of September 3, 2024

The Board reviewed the minutes.

Selectman Oickle motioned and Selectman Milliard seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: 3-0. Minutes are approved.

**Item 5:** Comments from the Public - No comments

A. Selectmen contacted outside of meeting.

**Item 6:** Updates from Greenwood Highway Dept.

Chair Chapman stated that Paula Lamb wasn't in attendance yet so asked Richie to start with Item B.

**B.** Richard Fahey's request for a culvert – Richie explained that the Town never installed a culvert nor has any reason to install a culvert at Mr. Fahey's property on the Howe Hill Road. Richie explained that he spoke with Alan Seames, prior Road Foreman and Alan said that Mr. Fahey never had a driveway culvert. Richie stated that it was their opinion that a culvert would not help Mr. Fahey's water issues.

- A. Condo Association culvert installation – Paula Lamb was present to represent the Condo Association. Paula explained that the Condo Association is planning on doing some work on the entrances into the condos and was present to ask if the Town would cover the costs of the culverts and rip rap. She explained that Cross Excavation will be ready to start on this project as soon as the Association has their vote on October 19, 2024. Selectman Milliard asked if all four entrances were the same width. Richie answered no they were not all the same size, but the plan was to increase them all up one size. Paula explained their plans. Richie stated that they are going to want to add 10' to each culvert. Selectman Oickle asked if the Town normally ditches these roads. Richie answered yes, the Town ditches these roads. Selectman Oickle asked if the Town unplugs these culverts. Richie answered yes. Paula asked if the Board had received a video and note from Danny Whitney. Selectmen Oickle stated that they did receive them. Paula asked if the Board would be willing to have the Town pitch in for culverts, some rip rap, and possibly a load or two of gravel.

Selectman Oickle asked who owned the culverts. Richie answered that they are the Towns. Chair Chapman stated that when it was time to replace them the Town would be responsible for that. Richie answered yes. Selectman Oickle stated that technically the Condo Association can't replace them. Paula Lamb agreed. Selectman Oickle stated that the Association can't touch those culverts or the ditches. Selectman Oickle stated that they can do everything to that point that they are looking to do but you want some help with the culvert piece that the Town owns. Paula answered yes and to be given permission to do it. Selectman Oickle stated that we do not want Cross to do anything to the ditches. Richie stated that he would be ok with Cross doing the work, but he needs to make sure that whatever the Association is doing up above that they are all on the same page as to how that will impact the Town roads. Paula suggested that Richie be on scene when Cross is doing the work. Selectman Oickle stated that it is important that they coordinate. Chair Chapman stated that we want to make sure that we are not operating in a vacuum. Selectman Milliard stated that the plan has to be approved by both and in place before anything gets done. Richie explained that if the Town was ditching in that area, the Town would ditch up to the culverts, check to see what the condition of the culvert was to see if they needed to be replaced, replace if needed, and then the Town would be done. Richie explained that he checked the culverts, and they are in good shape. Richie stated that the Town would only be responsible for ditching that area but because they want to make the changes to their property, they are requesting to install larger culverts. Chair Chapman asked if the current culverts are adequate. Richie said they had been but with all that has happened up above it would be better to have larger culverts. Paula Lamb stated it would also be better with larger culverts due to the heavy rainstorms that we have had.

Selectman Oickle stated that Cross is recommending that the culverts go up one size. Richie stated that he agrees with that. Chair Chapman asked if 40' culvert would be enough. Richie stated that he wasn't sure as he wasn't sure how wide the entrances were going to be. Selectman Milliard asked if they had a suggestion on how wide the entrance should be. Paula stated that it was 30'. Selectman Milliard asked how long it would take to do this project and that this couldn't get started until after your Condo board meeting on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Oickle asked Richie if he agreed that the culverts need to be sized up. Richie stated that right now the culverts are doing what they are supposed to do and are open. Selectman Milliard asked what the

diameter of the culverts is there now. Richie answered 15". Selectman Milliard asked to size it up would go from 15" to what. Richie answered 18". Selectman Oickle asked why Cross suggests that the culverts be upgraded. Paula Lamb stated that there are a couple of reasons with one being that no one is using metal culverts anymore and if you are in the area doing other earth work this would be the time to make these upgrades. Richie stated that the culverts that are there are in pretty good shape. Chair Chapman asked what we do with culverts once we pull them. Richie stated that most of the time they go to the local snowmobile club or if they are in bad shape we recycle them. Selectman Oickle asked if Cross wanted to change these culverts out to get more time. Paula explained that they are re-contouring the landscape to help shed off the heavy rains better. Selectman Oickle asked if there was any precedent for this as we have an outside contractor doing this work, recommending that our culverts be bigger than they are presently, and the property owner also would like them longer to make the entrances larger. Selectman Oickle stated that the Town owns the culverts. Chair Chapman stated that the contractor would need permission to change these culverts. Selectman Oickle asked if we had dealt with anything like this in the past. Richie answered that this was new to him. Paula stated that the first meeting that they had was with Richie to discuss all of these conclusions. Richie stated that everything that Paula had planned to do was going to help. Chair Chapman asked Richie if he agrees that this was all a good idea. Richie answered yes. Chair Chapman stated that if the Town changes these it would come out of the Highway Budget. Richie stated that he could agree to pay for replacement culverts for the exact size that is there now, and they could pay for the extensions. Chair Chapman stated that the Town would pay for what is there and they would pay for the difference in cost to get the culverts the size they are proposing. Richie answered that is what he would propose. Paula asked how much rip rap would the Town be willing to pay for. Richie stated that they might not even need rip rap there.

Selectman Oickle asked if rip rap was part of the project. Paula explained that she was trying to think of items that were quantifiable such as culverts, rip rap, and loads of gravel. Paula stated that the Condos provide the Town with over \$ 88,000 in property taxes every year. Chair Chapman asked how many units are there. Paula answered that there are 40 units. Chair Chapman stated that the condos are a good deal for the Town as they do not have children in our school. Selectman Oickle asked if they are going to be putting rip rap next to the driveways. Paula answered that there are several locations that will have rip rap. Selectman Oickle asked what Cross recommends for rip rap is. Paula stated that she didn't have the quote with her, so she didn't have that answer. Selectman Oickle stated that Richie seems to think that the current culverts are handling what they need to handle, and it looks like the driveway isn't handling it and that is where you need to do all of that work.

Selectman Oickle stated that he would be open to have more information about replacing those culverts and wouldn't be opposed to looking at this. Selectman Oickle stated that if it improves the road and the whole situation there, he would be in favor of that. Selectman Oickle stated that they are doing a ton of work and if we co-ordinate with them that makes sense to him and benefits everyone. Chair Chapman agreed as they are taxpayers. Richie explained that if this had been a new driveway the property owner would pay for this and that is why this is sticky. Selectman Milliard asked if we ever had an incident where we had a culvert that wasn't doing what it was supposed to do. Richie answered yes, and in that case the Town would replace with an upgraded culvert. Paula asked what the lifespan of an average culvert and that is in a few more years these culverts will be 40 years old.

Selectman Oickle asked Richie if when he met with Paula originally, did he recommend that the culverts be enlarged. Richie answered that it is difficult to answer this not knowing exactly how large are the culverts that they want to install. Chair Chapman asked what type of cost we are looking at. Richie answered that they will be around \$ 700.00 each and they will need for of them so roughly \$ 3,000.00. Selectman Oickle stated that he thought that it would be more. Chair Chapman stated that they pay \$ 88,000 a year in taxes to the Town. Selectman Oickle stated that it sounds like it is an overall improvement for everyone. Selectman Milliard stated that the present culverts are adequate and in good shape but won't be adequate with the proposed earthwork changes to their driveways.

Richie stated that Cross will be doing this work so that will also help out the Town by doing some of the Town's work. Selectman Oickle asked if Richie was comfortable coordinating with Cross. Richie answered most definitely.

Selectman Oickle asked how the Board felt. Chair Chapman stated that she feels that this is a good deal for the Town. Selectman Oickle stated that he feels that the Condo Association wants to do the right thing, spending a lot of money hiring Cross, and it's an opportunity for the Town with us all working together to make improvements. Selectman Oickle stated that the Board needs some numbers. Paula gave the Board some paperwork from Doug Jones, from Cross Excavation.

*Condo Lane A at the intersection of Beech Road*

*Remove trees and brush next to the dumpster.*

*Remove existing metal culvert.*

*Furnish and install 50 feet of 24-inch diameter HDPE culvert.*

*Install fabric, and rip rap at both ends of the new culvert.*

*Supply and install ample new gravel to re-work entrance way.*

*Grade, compact, demobilize, etc. \$ 8,500.00*

*Condo Lane C at the intersection of Beech Road*

*Remove existing culvert.*

*Furnish and install 40 feet of 24-inch diameter HDPE culvert.*

*Install fabric, and rip rap at both ends of the new culvert.*

*Supply and install ample new gravel to re-work entrance way.*

*Grade, compact, demobilize, etc. \$ 7,900.00*

Selectman Milliard asked if we are only working on the A and C driveway right now and not the B driveway. Paula stated that A & C are the ones needing larger culverts. Richie stated that there are 30' x 18" culverts there now. Selectman Milliard asked if they make 40- or 50-foot culverts. Richie stated that they do not so they would have to attach two together. Selectman Oickle stated that the costs listed on this paperwork is for the entire project not just the culvert cost. Selectman Oickle asked Paula if they were looking to have the Town furnish the culverts. Paula stated they are asking the Town to furnish the culverts and maybe a little bit of material. Selectman Oickle stated that we do not know what that cost is. Richie stated that the 18" were around \$ 700 so he would estimate that the 24" would be around \$ 900.00. Chair Chapman stated that they would need to buy 5 so we are looking around \$ 4,500.00. Richie stated that he would estimate that rip rap is \$ 10-\$ 12 per yard would be around \$ 360.00.

Selectman Milliard asked Paula what the process for the Association was to approve this project. Paula explained that the original discussion with Richie had the Town using the excavator but now the excavator has been returned so she would like to return to the Association with another option, working with the Town.

Chair Chapman asked if they have enough information to decide anything and if we don't what do we need to make a decision at our next meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Richie stated that Cross is going to have to ditch that section of our road, and the Town would be willing to haul it off. Richie stated that he could get the Board this information with the idea that the Town will supply the larger culverts, some material, and some of our time. Selectman Oickle stated that Paula can report back that the Town is open to co-operation. Selectman Milliard thanked Paula for her great presentation.

- C. Paving repairs on Greenwood Road – Richie explained that Sam from Allstates wasn't able to attend tonight's meeting as he just got married. Richie stated that Sam told him that he would have our paving repairs completed by the end of September. Richie explained that they need to come with different material than they repaired with last time as some of those repairs need to be repaired. Chair Chapman asked if that was cold mix. Richie stated that it was cold mix, and that Sam is asking to use hot mix for these repairs so that they don't have to come back again. Chair Chapman stated that they said they would stand behind their work. Selectman Oickle stated that it isn't a very big section that needs to be repaired. Selectman Milliard stated that we have been dealing with this for a long time, and it is making us very hesitant to work with them again. Richie stated he will know more at the end of this week, and I will pass that along to Kim.

**Item 7:** Town Manager Updates – Tabled - Chair Chapman suggested that Kim update the Board at their next meeting.

**Item 8:** Need to decide November Meeting Dates as Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> is Election Day

The Board reviewed the calendar.

It was decided to have meetings on Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> and Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Item 9:** Comments from the Public – no comment.

**Item 10:** Meetings and Events

Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – BMV – new plate training for Kim, 10am, ZOOM

Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Planning Board Meeting, 5:30pm GTO

Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> – Workshop with Woodstock Board of Selectmen on FD, 5pm Woodstock

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> – BMV – new plate training for Angie, 10am Zoom

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – Selectmen's Meeting, 5:00pm GTO

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> installment of Property Taxes is due.

Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> – Planning Board Meeting, 5:30pm GTO

Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> – Election Worker Training, 11:00am, GTO

Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> – Office closed for Indigenous Peoples Day

Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> – Selectmen's Meeting, 5:00pm GTO

Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – Election Worker Training, 4:00pm

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> – Planning Board Meeting. 5:30pm

**Item 11:** Adjourn - Having no further business Selectman Milliard motioned and Selectman Oickle seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:50pm. Vote: 3-0. Meeting is adjourned.