

Campton Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 27, 2023

Board Attendees: Selectman Craig Engel, Selectman Mort Donahue, Selectman Nik Coates, and Selectman Dan Boynton. Chair Davis was absent from the meeting.

On Zoom: Eric Grenier from HEB Engineers

Public Attendees: Ron Farnsworth, Highway Department, Ryan Erazo, Bill Sebastian, Rita Sebastian, Rebecca Farnsworth, Janet Lucas, Sherrill Howard, Jim Butler, Alicia LeDouceur, and, Matt Williams

Call to Order: Selectman Engel opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

The Board reviewed the manifest and signed permits & Warrants

Road Work Session

Road Prioritization: The Board used this time to discuss prioritizing roads and where to spend the allocated money. Road Agent Ron Farnsworth explained that the priority roads were Puckerbrush Road and Town Pound Road for paving. In regards to the dirt roads, he felt Eastern Corners and Perch Pond should be the focus for areas to dig out and use fabric. Ron recommended subcontracting the hauling of gravel for the six miles of roads that were rebuilt last year. Ron was unsure if there was enough in the budget to do all of them. The Board asked Ron how often he thought roads should be graveled. He thought that a 3–5-year rotation based on the location, the material in the area, the number of homes, and high-traffic areas. Selectman Boynton recommended an RFP with different roads and projects to bid on. Selectman Engel said he would talk to Eric to determine the best way to put out an RFP for several projects.

HEB Role and Process: The Board reviewed how much HEB will be involved, what jobs they would like them to do, and what HEB will do for the Town. The Board agreed that HEB would be involved in helping create the RFP on the dirt roads. HEB will have a staff member on-site in the field to oversee on a part-time basis for the major milestones, such as the start of reconstruction, the laying of the geotextiles on certain roads, the laying of gravel, and the depth of digging. The Board felt that there is no need to have HEB staff be on-site for roads full time.

Selectman Coates motioned to re-word and send out the RFP for the dirt roads. Selectman Donahue seconded that motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

BETA Group Update: Corey updated the Board on the BETA group. There are still some funds available to utilize. Corey asked the Board if they felt that BETA needed to do any further work. The Board felt they did not need any further work from the Beta Group and would look into where to move the funds.

Selectman Boynton thought the remaining funds were still in the Road Infrastructure Fund. Selectman Boynton wanted to mention that he would like to have the GIS data from the BETA Group transferred into our system so that the Board and the Highway Department can map out repairs and future repairs that may be needed.

Privilege of the Floor

none

Committee Updates, Board Concerns, and Directives

RFPs Procedure: Selectman Coates wanted to change the RFP procedure. Selectman Coates expressed his concern that when the bids come in, the Board only has five minutes to decide on significant projects. He was worried that it does not allow time for the Board to compare the bids thoroughly. Selectman Coates recommended that the Town Administrator open the bids, look them over, and send over a recommendation with the bids for the Board to review. Selectman Boynton made a motion to allow the Town Administrator to open sealed bids at a public meeting, and Selectman Coates seconded that motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Cameras: Corey explained to the Board that all the cameras are installed for the Highway Department. Corey suggested the funds to pay for the cameras to come out of the contingency fund. The Board agreed to this. Selectman Coates made a motion to accept the withdrawal of funds from the contingency fund to pay for the installation of the cameras. Selectman Boynton seconded that motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Firewall: Corey had brought up the firewall and how CCS will not turn over access to the Town. Corey had asked about possibly purchasing another Firewall. The Board explained that the Town owns the firewall and CCS has to turn over access. The Board recommended writing a letter to CCS about releasing access to the firewall. Selectman Boynton mentioned that if CCS continues to give a hard time, he will personally call CCS to talk to them.

Planning Board Ex-Officio: Corey went over positions with the Board. Selectman Coates was appointed to the Planning Board as Ex-Officio. Selectman Coates is concerned about having the time and ability to make all the meetings. The Board discussed sticking to each committee's schedule so members could do their other jobs properly.

Jobber App: Corey explained to the Board that the Highway Department Staff are reluctant to put the Jobber App on their phones. That being said, Corey asked about purchasing iPad for each employee of the highway staff. The Board agreed that it is smart to purchase for each employee.

Charrette: Selectman Boynton went over the meeting that the Town had with Plan NH and several stakeholders regarding the Charrette. Selectman Boynton mentioned that he and Rita Sebastian were looking into other grants for the Charrette. He had mentioned a grant named "Safe Roadways for All" for the sidewalks. Selectman Coates went over that type of grant and the pros and cons. Selectman Coates recommended steering clear of that grant if possible and looking for other types of grants.

Solar Power: Selectman Coates wanted to update the Board on some changes to Solar Power. There is now a tax credit available for municipalities. Nik suggested a couple of companies look into Barrington Power and Granite State Power.

To Do Tasks:

- Quotes renting for excavator
- Beta Group-Find where funds are and how much
- Write a letter to CCS on Firewall
- Update RFP on paving and the wording
- Update Road Data in GIS

Selectman Engel motioned to go into a non-public session at 7:35 pm in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (A). Selectman Boynton seconded that motion. Roll Count was as follows: Dan Boynton, aye, Craig Engel, Aye, Mort Donahue, Aye, and Nik Coates, aye.

Selectman Coates motioned to come out of the non-public session at 7:43 pm, and Selectman Donahue seconded that motion. Roll Count is as follows: Nik Coates, aye, Dan Boynton, aye, Mort Donahue, Aye, Craig Engel, Aye.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Natasha Egger

Minutes Recorder