



WEARE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2024

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PRESENT: Andy Fulton- Chair, Steve Najjar- Vice Chairman, Mike Camacho- Secretary, Suzanna Taytslin- Commissioner, Ray Lemay-Commissioner

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ABSENT: Philip Cody- Alternate Commissioner, Sherry Burdick- Commissioner, Marc Phillips- Commissioner

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi L. Bolton

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GUESTS: Jeremy Turner- MTL, Laura French- MTL, Lori Davis, Nate Corbran- Whyte's Logging, Marlo Herrick- HFLC, David Herrick- HFLC, Benji Knapp.

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Chair Fulton opened the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:05 p.m.

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Land Management:

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- **Felch Farm harvest bid opening:** Jeremy Turner explained the process of the bid opening. The goal tonight is to award the bid to the highest value and the quality of services. Mr. Turner explained the scoring sheet. Vice Chair Najjar suggested the empty spreadsheet should be emailed to the CC email account and then the completed spreadsheet should be emailed as well just in case anyone needs to deconstruct the spreadsheet. Bids from Whyte's Logging, DH Hardwick and Sons, Hopkinton Forestry Land Clearing, and Michael Sharp Enterprises were opened in public. Mr. Turner went through each bid and read off the proposed bids and their references. The Commissioners ranked the bids. Camacho asked if Mr. Turner had reached out to the Foresters that were put as references to confirm work had been done. Mr. Turner said that is something that he will need directions from the Commission on how they would like to handle the reference checks. Benji Knapp said that he does not want this to be a spring job because the road is not posted. It was wet when they did the walk and he knows Mr. Turner is topnotch at keeping track of the mud. Mr. Knapp said he wants everyone bidding to know if it is super wet and muddy and that it is not just a spring job because the road is not posted. Chair Fulton said that is a good point. Chair Fulton asked if the bid documents should be stored somewhere. TA Bolton said the bid documents should be stored at the Town Office. Mr. Turner said the originals will be left at the town and he will make copies. Chair Fulton asked when they award the bid is there a spot that it will show up special on the website. TA Bolton said she could post it on the website. Vice Chair Najjar said that there is a state law on records retention, and he would reference that the question has come up and if you look at it should tell you the length of retention. Chair Fulton asked if the bids were public records. Vice Chair Najjar said yes. Dave Herrick asked what time of the spring they think it will run. Mr. Turner said late spring after the roads are unposted and if the weather is nice and there is no rain then it could be the front end of spring. Ms. French calculated the value totals to get the highest bidder. Mr. Turner said the winning bidder is Whyte's Logging with a score of 94 points in second place is Sharp Enterprises at 84 points. Third place is DH Hardwick with 82 points and then fourth

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47 place is Hopkinton Land Clearing with 74 points. The stumpage value breakdowns were as follows:
48 Whyte's Logging with a net of \$97,558. Sharp Enterprise's net is \$87,152.50. DH Hardwick's net
49 total is \$66,637.50. Hopkinton Land Clearing's net is \$64,920. Mr. Turner said the total
50 qualification scores are as follows: Whyte's Logging is 44, Sharp Enterprises is 39, DH Hardwick
51 is 48 and Hopkinton Land Clearing is 41. Vice Chair Najjar asked if the commission felt the need
52 to call the references or allow the forester to do so. The Commission found no need to call
53 references because there were three different town foresters listed on the bid.
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55 **Vice Chair Najjar made a motion that the Conservation Commission authorize the Chair or Vice**
56 **Chair of the commission to sign the winning bid contract and award the bid to Whyte's Logging.**
57 **Seconded by Taytslin. Motion passed 5-0-0.**
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- 59 • **Barden Property asbestos abatement and demolition RFP:** Vice Chair Najjar said the sampling
60 report will be an attachment that gets posted to the RFP and they need to figure out when they want
61 to do the pre-bid inspection and who is going to be the contact. The mandatory walk-through will
62 be Monday, March 18th, and will meet at the Town Offices at 9 am; the bids will be open on April
63 10th.
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- 65 • **Collins Ledge monitoring:** Chair Fulton asked if the Collins Ledge monitoring has been a simple
66 task in the past for MTL. Mr. Turner said yes. Chair Fulton asked the commission if they wanted
67 to task the forester with getting the monitoring report done. Camacho said that sounds good and to
68 ask for them to send an email letting them know when they will be going out there to monitor and
69 do the perimeter walk. Vice Chair Najjar suggested that the commission authorize an expense
70 against the conservation fund that does essentially the same protocol that they did last time it was
71 monitored and provide them with a report.
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73 **Vice Chair Najjar made a motion to have Meadowsend Timberlands monitor the Collins Ledge**
74 **property using the same protocol from two years ago and complete the submittal for the Society for**
75 **the Protection of New Hampshire Forest against the hourly paid for by the Conservation Fund not**
76 **to exceed \$1,500 and to be completed by November 2024. Seconded by Lemay. Motion passed 5-0-0.**
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78 **Vice Chair Najjar left the meeting at 8:48 pm.**
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80 **Minutes:** Minutes were deferred to the March meeting.
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82 **Other Business:** Chair Fulton said that he attended the Planning Board meeting and shared the
83 Commission's recommendations for the Wetland Buffer. Some of the changes were well received and some
84 felt they were not necessary. TA Bolton said the article was pulled for this year and will be looked into
85 more for 2025. Chair Fulton said that TA Bolton shared a restoration plan approval for a property with a
86 little bit of frontage on Lake Horace. Something was disturbed that should not have been and something
87 was prepared by Meridian and submitted and approved by DES. Chair Fulton said TA Bolton shared
88 information in regard to Courtland Ave that needs to be done to get the construction bond released. Chair
89 Fulton said that Vice Chair Najjar spoke with Steve Caggiano and they should be able to work towards an
90 amicable resolution that preserves the integrity of the town property. Chair Fulton said there was an invoice
91 from MTL for work being done in preparation for the bid for tonight. The invoice will need to be held until
92 after the town meeting. Chair Fulton said that they did receive an RTK request from former Selectman Jack
93 Meanie and it has been given to Finance Administrator Rouse to address accordingly. Chair Fulton said
94 the CC annual report has been submitted. Chair Fulton said they received a letter from Ray Banks for
95 interjection at deliberative and expressed his concerns during the deliberative session in regards to the land.
96 They have collected many documents regarding the Banks/ Schmid land, and it has been added to the
97 website.
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99 A motion to adjourn was made by Camacho at 9:03 p.m. Seconded by Lemay. The vote passed 4-0-
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102 **ADJOURNMENT**
103 A True Record.
104 *Kearsten O'Brien*
105 Kearsten O'Brien, Minute Taker