

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
SELECT BOARD
Jacobs Road Municipal Center
Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Called to Order at 5:00 p.m. With Robyn Provost-Carlson, Will Emmet and Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator. Elissa Viarengo was absent.

This meeting was recorded.

Others in Attendance: See attendance list.

Appointment: Neil Stetson—Representing the Heath Union Church Neil asked if the use fee for the church using the atrium, cafeteria, and kitchen on Sunday, April 20th, would be waived. He explained the purpose of use was to hold an Easter celebration with different activities for people of all ages. The events are free to everyone in the community. ***On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Robyn Provost Carlson, the Select Board unanimously voted to waive the use fee for the Heath Union Church on April 20th.***

Review of Minutes: ***On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Robyn Provost Carlson, the Select Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of March 18, 2025, as amended.***

Appointment of Animal Inspector: ***On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Robyn Provost Carlson, the Select Board unanimously voted to appointment Aimee Jarvis as Animal Inspector for the year running April 1, 2025—March 31, 2026.***

Highway Laborer Position Interview: Candidate for the position, Jason Boutwell, and Highway Superintendent Tyson Howard joined the meeting. The interview committee had unanimously recommended that Jason be appointed to the position. In response to a question of his interest, Jason responded that it has been his desire for a long time to work for a municipal highway department. He wants to be able to learn more skills and to work collaboratively with a team. ***On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Robyn Provost Carlson, the Select Board unanimously voted to appoint Jason Boutwell to the position of Highway Skilled Laborer/Operator with a starting wage of \$26.00 per hour.*** Jason accepted the offer and stated that he could begin on April 14th since he would like to give two weeks' notice to his present employer.

Public Comment: Hilma Sumner thanked outgoing highway employee Kyle Jarvis for the conscientious level of work he had given to his job. Besides completing a task, Kyle also helped locate equipment and materials that resulted in the Town obtaining what was needed for a lesser cost.

Property owner John Peters, with his brother David Peters, addressed concerns he had regarding the ability to build on the property at 30 Swamp Road. He has had conflicts with members of the Mohawk Estates community including trees cut, furniture burned and large machinery traversing his land. Although a determination has not been made, John has been told that his property is wetlands. He thinks that it is due to road runoff that flows into his land.

FRCOG Charter Amendments Article: The Board reviewed the request from FRCOG to include an article on the ATM warrant to propose changes that they would like to make to their organizational charter. *On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Robyn Provost Carlson, the Select Board unanimously voted to include an article on the ATM warrant to propose changes to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments charter.*

Proposed Changes to Zoning Bylaws: The Board briefly discussed the latest proposed changes that the Planning Board would like to have included in the ATM warrant. This draft of the proposals will be sent to town counsel for their review.

FY 2026 Budget Discussion: Along with Tyson Howard, the Finance Committee joined the meeting to discuss the Highway Department budget requests. The question was raised as to whether the entire salt shed project needs to be completed this year. Once the active steps of the project are begun, the project will need to go forward and be completed this year so that there is a structure in place into which winter road materials can be contained. There will need to be funds obtained to meet the entire expense although some of the money needed was earmarked at last year's ATM and through ARPA. Possible sources would be Ch. 90 funds and General Stabilization.

There was also discussion about the Superintendent's thoughts regarding road repair prioritization for the roads he had listed as being in need for attention in the near future.

Robyn mentioned that she would like to see a one-year special account created for FY 2026 that would be labeled for Town Coordinator transition and training.

Mail:

- MDAR re: Nomination of Inspector of Animals
- Heath Union Church re: request for waiver of fees
- RPC re: report of meeting with T. Gerry & T. Danek
- N. Anzuoni re: February Fire Chief's report
- 2D8T March Update
- FCSWMD re: March recycling processing fee

Next Meeting: April 1st

7:09 p.m. *On a motion by Will Emmet and seconded by Robyn Provost Carlson, the Select Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

Hilma A. Sumner
Town Coordinator