

Select Board Meeting  
Monday May 13, 2024  
6:00 PM  
Nowak Room, Town Offices  
Draft Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

Members present: Chair Niko Papakonstantis, Vice-Chair Molly Cowan, Clerk Julie Gilman, Dan Chartrand, Nancy Belanger, Town Manager Russ Dean, and Assistant Town Manager Melissa Roy were present at this meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Papakonstantis at 6 PM.

2. Non Public Session - RSA 91-A3II(a,b,d)

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A3II(a,b,d). Ms. Gilman seconded. In a roll call vote, the motion passed 5-0.

The Board went downstairs to the Wheelwright Room for the non-public session, and reconvened in the Nowak Room at 7 PM.

3. Public Comment

- a. Catherine Edison of 12 Connie Road Exeter spoke regarding Pickpocket Dam. She requested that the Select Board formally revisit the vote of October 2, 2023, in light of information that was not available or not presented to the Board at the time that this decision was made. The grant application says that removing the dam will improve fish passage, but State data indicates there have been no Alewife reaching Pickpocket Dam since the Great Dam was removed eight years ago. Key elements were missing from the approval presentation that should have factored into the Board's decision. The grant application is factually false in many of its arguments which renders the application invalid. Failure to acknowledge and correct the mistake would result in \$2M in Federal funds being awarded based on false information. The Select Board should withdraw or amend the application.

Mr. Papakonstantis read a statement in response to Ms. Edison's email which was previously submitted to the Board:

*Regarding Pickpocket Dam, on Friday May 3, 2024, an email was received by Town Senior Executive Assistant, Pam McElroy, from an Exeter citizen requesting that the 'Select Board formally revisit the decision/vote on 10/2/23 to move forward with the submission of the NOAA Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Grant Application (submitted 10/16/23), in light of information that was either not available and/or not presented to the Board at the time that this decision was made'. The entire email is part of the Select Board packet for tonight. VHB, the Town's consultant, has reviewed the email in its entirety and has written a response, which will be posted to the Town's website.*

*In its response, VHB disagrees that key information was missing from the decision process at the time the Select Board voted to apply for the NOAA Grant application. Although the feasibility study was not yet complete, the primary conclusions and basis for the grant application have not changed. As discussed in depth in the grant application, improving Alewife fish passage is not the only reason that led to the Town's decision to submit a grant application to NOAA. The NOAA grant application and the feasibility study discuss multiple environmental, resilience, and public safety benefits associated with dam removal, including the following goals:*

*Goal 1: Advance restoration efforts for diadromous fish populations by eliminating a barrier to upstream fish passage*

*Goal 2: Improve the Exeter River's declining water quality and strengthen the Exeter River's natural ecosystem*

*Goal 3: Increase the Exeter River's flood resilience and reduce vulnerability to the growing risk of fluvial flooding*

*Goal 4: Increase public safety by eliminating unsafe dam infrastructure*

*While the Select Board has voted to apply for the NOAA Grant, the Select Board must make a final vote to adopt a preferred alternative so that the Town may come into compliance with NHDES's Letter of Deficiency. The town has received feedback and opinions from residents from Exeter and Brentwood regarding the Pickpocket Dam and the possible alternatives. All public comments (whether oral or written) were compiled, and responded to, in the final feasibility study dated April 30, 2024, and are available on the Town website. In making a decision on which alternative is preferred, the Select Board will review all public comments and respective responses and take them into consideration.*

#### 4. Proclamations/Recognitions

##### a. DPW Employee of the Quarter

The Board recognized Water/Sewer Utilities Clerk Desiree Murphy, the Public Works employee of the quarter.

##### b. National Public Works Week

Ms. Gilman read the proclamation for National Public Works Week: *WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life, and well-being of the people of the Town of Exeter; and, WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector,*

*who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and, WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders, and children in Exeter to gain knowledge of and maintain an ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and, WHEREAS, the year 2024 marks the 64th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association/Canadian Public Works Association be it now, RESOLVED, We, the Select Board of Exeter, do hereby designate the week May 19-25, 2024, as National Public Works Week. We urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and advancing quality of life for all. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set the Seal of the Town of Exeter, NH, on this 13th day of May 2024.*

c. **Town Clerk Proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week**

*Ms. Gilman read the proclamation for the 2024 Municipal Clerks Week: Whereas, the Office of the Municipal Clerk is a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world; and Whereas, The Office of the Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants; and Whereas, The Office of the Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels; and Whereas, Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all; and Whereas, the Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community: and Whereas, Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, provincial, county and international professional organizations; and Whereas, It's most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Municipal Clerk; and Now, Therefore, We the Select Board of Exeter, do recognize the week of May 6 to May 10 2024 as Municipal Clerks' Week, and further extend appreciation to*

*our Municipal Clerk, Andrea Kohler, and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent. Dated this 13th day of May, 2024.*

d. Tree Committee

Mr. Papakonstantis recognized the Tree Committee. Exeter is a Tree City USA for the 5th year and won a 3rd consecutive growth award for going above and beyond the requirements.

e. AARP Age-Friendly Community

Mr. Papakonstantis said we received a certification that the town of Exeter NH has been accepted as a member of the network of AARP certified age-friendly communities.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting: April 29, 2024

**MOTION: Ms. Belanger moved to approve the minutes of April 29, 2024 as submitted. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.**

6. Appointments

a. There were no appointments or resignations made at this meeting.

7. Discussion/Action Items

a. Siphons Project Update – Paul Vlasich, Town Engineer

Town Engineer Paul Vlasich gave an update on the sewer siphons project. Mr. Vlasich said at the last meeting, he talked about an exploratory probe and gathering information to help decide next steps. That is completed. We drilled from Swasey Parkway towards the mills, staying above the ledge and closer to the original design elevation. There was hope we could make it across but we hit the known ledge outcropping. There's a new plan to start with a rock drill over on the mill side, drill down to the ledge and through it, then enlarge that to 18 inches and pull the siphon pipe through. By the end of next week, the paddle should be making it across or already be across to the Parkway.

Ms. Belanger asked whether this would be louder for the mills. Mr. Vlasich said yes, but less noisy on the Housing Authority Side. There's a reclaimer machine on the Swasey side that processes the mud and takes out the grinding bits, which is too big to bring to the other side of the river, so the contractor is having a smaller one brought in.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if we've notified the abutting residents on an increase in noise. Mr. Vlasich said we have a meeting tomorrow with EHA and he reached out to the Mills property manager.

b. Owner Project Manager Recommendation for Police/Fire Substation Project – Dave Sharples, Town Planner

Town Planner Dave Sharples requested that the Select Board authorize a contract with CHA, one of the firms that responded to our RFP for an Owner Project Manager (OPM). The vote passed in March to build the new Police Station and Fire Substation at \$17,522,000 and he started meeting with the Town Manager every week to get this project started. We haven't been getting bids in line with our budget in this market, so we decided to go with a different delivery method where the design team and the builder work together. An OPM would help us select the design team and construction manager, as well as oversee the project to ensure it stays on-schedule and on-budget. This will save us time and money on the project. We issued an RFP April 12, and received 5 responses. We conducted interviews and felt all five firms were capable of doing the job. Their fee proposals ranged from \$361,000 to \$479,000, with one outlier at \$649,000. After review, we're proposing CHA Consultants at \$374,724. Joe Sullivan, who would be the lead on the project, has worked on numerous Police and Fire Stations in New England.

Ms. Belanger asked whom they would report to. Mr. Dean said the team would stay involved. The two Chiefs, the Town Planner, the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager will be involved.

Mr. Chartrand said he appreciates that Mr. Sharples coordinated with the Facilities Advisory Committee.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with CHA Consultants for the scope of work set forth in the Request for Proposals for Owner Project Manager Services, Town of Exeter New Hampshire, Town of Exeter Police Station and Fire Substation, dated April 12, 2024, not to exceed \$374,724. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

c. Resolution: Gaza Ceasefire

Karishma Manzur of 6 Windemere Lane read the proposed proclamation and cover letter.

*As residents of Exeter, we are writing to you to share a draft resolution calling on President Joe Biden and our Federal representative delegation to facilitate an immediate and ending ceasefire between Israel and Palestine; to facilitate the provision of life-saving humanitarian aid in Gaza; to call for the release of all hostages and all people unjustly held in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank; to consider the economic costs of this ongoing conflict on the residents of Exeter; and to work towards a political solution to the ongoing conflict.*

*We understand that arguments can be made that nonbinding resolutions are symbolic and may not impact US foreign policies, as well as that our town's Select Board should prioritize municipal affairs instead of international conflicts. However, as citizens of the United States, we have a moral obligation to inform our elected officials when we strongly disagree with their actions and when our federal taxes are being used to kill and injure non-combatants and children in direct disregard of the statutory provisions in effect under the "Leahy law"*

*(Section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, 22 USC 2378d; Section 362 of Title 10 of the US Code). As our local government representatives with access to higher-level government officials, we respectfully request that you hear our concerns and consider the resolution for discussion at the next Select Board Meeting.*

*Dr. Karishma Manzur*

*Ms. Mercy Carbonell*

*Mr. Charles Fanning*

*Dr. Kaitlyn Martin Fox*

*Ms. Tanea Hibler*

*Dr. Alexander Koch*

*Dr. Khalid Madhi*

*Mx. Charla Malamed*

*Dr. Michael Matsumaru*

*Dr. Rina Muneeruddin*

#### *A Resolution*

*"Calling on the President of the United States of America, Joseph R. Biden, United States Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan, and United States Congressman Chris Pappas, to facilitate immediate de-escalation and a sustained, bilateral ceasefire between Israel and Palestine; to facilitate the immediate entry of humanitarian aid assistance, including medicine, food, and water to Gaza at the scale required; to call for the release of all hostages and all people unjustly held in the region, including Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank; and to work with the international community toward long-term political solutions that could afford safety and dignity to all people in Israel and Palestine."*

*Resolved by The Select Board of the Town of Exeter as Follows:*

*WHEREAS, the Exeter Select Board recognizes that all human life is precious and all people have a right to live with dignity, feel safe, and be respected, regardless of nationality, race, or religion; and*

*WHEREAS, international humanitarian law requires all parties to an armed conflict to protect children and non-combatants, and prevent the commission of grave violations against them, including killing and maiming, attacks on schools and hospitals; and*

*WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk of famine and death if a permanent ceasefire is not reached and humanitarian aid is not delivered without delay; and*

*WHEREAS, to provide economic and military aid to Israel and humanitarian aid to Gaza and the West Bank in the year 2024 alone, over \$1,200,000 in federal taxes will come out of the citizens of the Town of Exeter alone, over \$102 million will come out of the State of New Hampshire, and over \$20 billion dollars will come out of the United States of America, instead of using American tax*

*revenues to fund local, state, and federal health care, housing, and educational needs; and*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Exeter Select Board joins with representatives of other US cities and towns in calling on our President and our Federal representative delegation to facilitate an immediate and enduring ceasefire, the provision of life-saving humanitarian aid in Gaza, the release of all hostages and all people unjustly held, a political solution to the ongoing conflict; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Exeter Select Board asks the Town Clerk to forward copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, our Federal representative delegation, the Governor of New Hampshire, and our state representatives.*

Ms. Manzur read a letter on why the Select Board should adopt the resolution.

Robert Azzi of 15 Newfields Road said when he moved to Exeter, his was the only Muslim family in town. He doesn't think this is a question of what's happening in Israel and Gaza, it's what we show our children that we care about. This is not just a national problem. This gives us an opportunity to affirm our humanity.

Erica Wilson of 81 Front Street said she doesn't know how she'll explain to her two boys in the future what we did or didn't do. She does outpatient psychiatry and this is weighing on people. We feel powerless in this situation. Saying we want peace is a small thing that would lighten the hearts of people in this community.

Sharla of 130 Water Street said they are also a psychologist and understand how mental health is tied into politics. Adopting this resolution will make this something that isn't part of a shadow world we can't talk about, which is how we become sick. They are Jewish and profoundly ashamed of what is being done in Jewish peoples' names by Israel. A ceasefire is the least we can do.

Ali Muckle of 28 Chestnut Street said she loves being part of the Exeter Community and the Exeter Mills Community. She's hearing a lot about this conflict and how much it's affecting people, including elderly people. It's intolerable to think about what is happening to people in Palestine.

Mr. Papakonstantis said we're here as elected officials but also human beings, and we feel what you have mentioned. Mr. Chartrand said the testimony moved him greatly but he's struggling with this resolution because our form of government is specific that the highest body in the town is the voters. Something like this that has the potential to be discussed should probably go to them, but that body only meets once a year, during our town election, which is not timely to this discussion. He needs more time to think about this. He has availed himself of mental health services and they have helped him greatly, so to hear that that is impacting folks in that process moves him greatly.

Ms. Belanger said as a Select Board member, she's also struggling with this. She doesn't feel like this is a Select Board role, it's the Senators and Congressmen who have this role.

Ms. Gilman said this is different, being a continuous and escalating issue, but we have instituted Juneteenth as a town holiday and changed Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day. She feels fine with going forward with this resolution. This is not a partisan issue to her. Because of our previous actions, she feels ok about a group of people sending a letter to Senators and Congressmen.

Ms. Cowan said it's helpful to hear from a variety of constituents in our community. She feels pragmatic in her role as a Select Board and the impact of this. She understands what Ms. Belanger and Mr. Chartrand are saying but what's happening is awful and continuous and she believes that our role is to keep folks in our community safe and whole. This is a peace resolution that's not judgmental or political in a divisive way. It's political in a "we are human" way.

She added that she would give the other Board members more time if needed.

MOTION [Withdrawn]: Ms. Gilman moved to discuss this resolution by the Town of Exeter calling on the president to have an immediate de-escalation and ceasefire between Israel and Palestine. Ms. Gilman withdrew her motion.

Mr. Chartrand said something similar has been taken up in Portsmouth and Durham, but they are not SB2 towns and don't do Town Meetings, or do them only for budget. They have a town council or city council that would be the body to bring something like this to. He brought a citizen's petition to the voters of this town in the mid-2010s asking if the voters of the town would form a charter commission to look at our unwieldy form of government, in which Town Meeting is only held once a year. The town voted very clearly not to even form a commission to look at that, so he takes this form of government very seriously. He said he would regretfully vote no to sending this resolution to the elected officials. Ms. Belanger said she shares Mr. Chartrand's frustration and would have to vote no on the resolution. She wishes it were closer to March so there could be a Citizens' Petition.

Ms. Gilman asked if the Board can talk about this in two weeks.

Mr. Azzi asked to speak during Board deliberations, and Mr. Papakonstantis allowed him to proceed. Mr. Azzi said he understands the rationality of what the Board is saying but he wants to know what it would take to call a special town meeting. Mr. Papakonstantis said we did that last July over the siphon issue. First you have to go to court and petition the judge to allow the special town meeting to happen. Mr. Dean said the court would have to deem an emergency that should be addressed in a special town meeting. Mr. Azzi said we feel that this is truly reflected in the hearts of the people of Exeter, and they're calling on you to express solidarity with people under stress.

Mr. Papakonstantis said this is tough because we're all human beings and it hits everybody, but as local elected officials, we're supposed to separate out who we are from representing the town. That can be very difficult. We are



limited in what we can do, but sometimes symbolism is important. A special town meeting can be done if we go through the formal legal proceedings, but the consensus he's getting is that we need another week or two to reflect on this. If on the 28th members of the public are not satisfied with what the Board wants to do, they can consider petitioning the Board to a special town meeting.

Mr. Papakonstantis asked if a motion was needed, but Mr. Dean said we can just continue this at the next meeting.

d. NHDES Grant – Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Mr. Dean said this helps subsidize the collection day event. Many different towns participate.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to accept a grant from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services for Hazardous Household Waste Collection in the amount of \$8,331.00, and to further authorize the Town Manager or his designee to sign the associated grant agreement documents. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

e. Board and Committee Reappointments

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to reappoint Laura Montagno as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a 3-year term. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Mr. Chartrand moved to reappoint Ryan Jean to the Sustainability Advisory Committee for a 3-year term. Ms. Gilman seconded. Mr. Chartrand said Mr. Jean brings a lot of passion and expertise to the role. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Belanger moved to appoint Rachel Ladeau to the Recreation Advisory Board for a 3-year term. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

8. Regular Business

a. Tax Abatements, Veterans Credits and Exemptions

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to accept a yield tax from 30/3 and 43/2 in the amount of \$435.28 for tax year 2024. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to accept a yield tax for 33/26/1 in the amount of \$944.83 for tax year 2024. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to deny a charitable exemption for 18/3 for tax year 2024. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve the property tax warrant for the first half of 2024 in the amount of \$31,400,310. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 65/128 in the amount of \$36,700. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 65/129/1 in the amount of \$7,196,500. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 65/130 in the amount of \$10,380,000. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION [Withdrawn]:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 65/130/1 in the amount of \$1,628,000. Mr. Chartrand seconded. Mr. Dean said this amount is the taxable amount, not the exempt amount. Ms. Gilman withdrew her motion and Mr. Chartrand withdrew his second.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 65/131 in the amount of \$41,962,200. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 65/131/3 in the amount of \$1,216,100. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 71/47/1 in the amount of \$0. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve a tax exemption for 71/48/E in the amount of \$64,000. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve religious exemptions for 83/60; 91/32/E; 72/222; 72/222/E; 73/143; 29/26; 29/21/E; 95/61; 72/166; 91/35; 72/165; 73/5; 73/300; and 73/299. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve charitable exemptions for 63/8; 35/4; 80/18; 80/18/E; 97/23; 97/23/E; 98/37; 98/37/E; 86/8/1; 86/8/2; 87/36/E; 65/146; 73/292; 72/206; 72/215; 82/13; and 72/9. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**MOTION:** Ms. Gilman moved to approve educational exemptions for 71/119; 71/119/1E; 62/112; 108/1; 64/41/E; 64/42; 64/43; 64/46; 71/119/E; 72/169/E; 72/204/1E; 72/208/E; 72/209/E; 83/1/E; 83/87. Mr. Chartrand seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- b. Permits & Approvals
  - i. PEA Graduation

Mr. Papakonstantis said we received a memo from Bill Rawson, the Principal of PEA, regarding graduation. It will be held Sunday June 2nd at 10:30 AM. They would like to stop traffic on Front Street and Tan Lane between 9:30 AM and 1 PM. In case of rain, they will hold graduation in the Thompson Field House and would close Court Street instead of Front Street. The Academy will pay the cost of Police and temporary barricades.

**MOTION:** Mr. Chartrand moved to approve the request. Ms. Gilman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

c. Town Manager's Report

- i. Mr. Dean attended a weekly operations meeting on May 3.
- ii. He attended the Housing Advisory meeting.
- iii. He attended a meeting with the DPW Director.
- iv. We're in the final phases of hiring a Welfare Administrator.
- v. The Memorial Day parade is almost here. If anyone owns an antique car for the event please let us know.
- vi. The solar array is under construction at the landfill. They had a field meeting today. There are some water-related issues but it could be handled as a maintenance issue.
- vii. Our auditors are continuing their fieldwork.
- viii. He participated in the OPM interviews and selection process.
- ix. On May 6, he and the Select Board Chair met with the Chair of the Brentwood Select Board and their Town Administrator re Pickpocket Dam.
- x. The Tax Warrant for 2024 is here, and bills are due July 1st.
- xi. He met with representatives of the Sportsman's Club. DES has asked us to do more with site characterization there.
- xii. The ladder truck in the FD had an alternator problem but it's back in service now.

d. Select Board Committee Reports

- i. Ms. Belanger reached out to Greg Bisson regarding single-use plastics. He said every year the kids get a new water bottle and there are extras for purchase at the concession stand. He said moving the soda fountain to 10 Hampton Road would be difficult, since units are plumbed to specific locations. If a camper forgets their water bottle they can purchase or take one with an IOU slip for the parents. At the Rec Advisory Board meeting May 1, we heard that Maryl the painting robot is hard at work. Will have a naming contest for the mowers. Electricity conduits are being laid. Maryl does not have sensors so people must stay out of its way. The paperwork for the Land Water Conservation Fund grant for Planet Playground is due in a couple weeks. The upper tennis courts are closed for the next few days for crack repairs. We'll be hearing more about the cracks at budget time. For Neptune Radio, we purchased 3 of 4 licenses and are having a meeting to go over sponsorships. Proulx Oil already signed up. For 10 Hampton Road we agreed to part ways with JSA. We'll be working with a construction manager on a design. There are huge increases on kids signing up for events, as well as pickleball numbers. At Housing Advisory Friday, Ryan Pope, the Housing Navigator for Dover, spoke on how to approach workforce housing. He also talked about

parking in Dover, both their garage and metered parking. Nick Taylor from Seacoast Workforce Housing gave a legislative update. Ms. Belanger also attended the Alewife Festival which she said was wonderful.

- ii. Ms. Gilman attended an Energy Committee meeting where they talked about the window fitters program. RPC is planning EV charging stations. Exeter qualifies for two double charging stations. One proposed location was at the Senior Center. The Heritage Commission meeting was canceled.
- iii. Ms. Cowan had no report.
- iv. Mr. Chartrand attended a Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting. They talked about the composting initiative at the transfer station and other items.
- v. Mr. Papakonstantis said the Tree Committee is identifying places to plant trees. The final feasibility study was presented at the River Advisory Committee, and there was a majority vote to recommend to the Select Board the removal of the dam. We should hear back about the grant by July of this year. He attended the Pocket Park ceremony hosted by Renay Allen.

e. Correspondence

- i. A request related to the public comment
- ii. A memo from the Community Power Coalition of NH celebrating a partial victory in a Senate Committee. Ms. Gilman said this is related to getting those with net metering from solar panels being put on the community power system.
- iii. Correspondence regarding the EPA designation of PFAS as a hazardous substance.
- iv. Legislative Bulletins from NHMA
- v. A letter of thanks from SVDP for the town's continued support.

9. Review Board Calendar

- a. The next meetings are May 28, June 10, June 24, July 8, July 22, Aug 5, and Aug 19. We will try to plan an All-Boards meeting in June.

10. Non-Public Session

- a. There was no non-public session at this time.

11. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Mr. Chartrand moved to adjourn. Ms. Belanger seconded. The motion passed 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanna Bartell  
Recording Secretary

