

**TOWN OF BEDFORD  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
June 8, 2022  
10 Meetinghouse Road**

**1. ROLL CALL:** A meeting of the Bedford Town Council was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 10 Meetinghouse Road. Participating were Bill Carter (Chair), Lori Radke (Vice Chair) and Councilors Phil Greazzo, Sue Thomas, Bill Duschatko, Dave Gilbert, and Kathleen Bemiss. Also present was Town Manager Rick Sawyer.

Chairman Carter opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Led by Chairman Carter.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Civil Forfeiture Warrant for unlicensed dogs**

Sally Kellar, Town Clerk, stated that dog licenses run from May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. At this time every year, she requests that a civil forfeiture fine be issued to those dogs who have not been licensed. Today, they have about 1,011 dogs still not licensed in Town.

Councilor Thomas wanted to know how she knows if they still have their dogs. Ms. Kellar explained that at the beginning of the year, she emails out three reminders: January, February, and March. Every time she has a new dog she asks if she can have their email so she can send them the reminders. She also sends out reminder postcards. On a dog license for the current year, it says when the dog license expires the next year. She reminds dog owners that if they no longer have a dog to contact her and let her know that they no longer have their dog. Also to contact her if they don't live in Bedford anymore.

Chairman Carter wanted to know if she's seen a large increase during COVID having more dogs in Town. Ms. Kellar stated that she's had to order more dog tags the past couple of years. She orders about 4,300 dog license tags. She went through about 4,200 last year. She stated that having about 1,000 unlicensed dogs was typical. Chairman Carter wanted to know how many come in after receiving the civil forfeiture letter. Ms. Kellar stated that the letters will go out by June 20<sup>th</sup> and then they have about 15 days to pay. July 5<sup>th</sup> is when the fines should be instated.

Councilor Radke stated that within that 2-week period everyone will call about dead dogs, they are out of Town, or they no longer have their dog. Ms. Kellar stated that after they get the letter she will find out that they don't have their dog or that they don't live here anymore. She stated that the civil forfeiture fine is \$25.00. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know how much to license a cat and Ms. Kellar stated that they don't license cats.

Councilor Bemiss wanted to know how many fines they get in a given year for dogs at-large. Ms. Kellar stated that it depends on how many are reported that have not made it

back to their owners. She has seen quite a few running at-large since the new animal control officer has come on board. Councilor Bemiss wanted to know if the purpose of the license was so if they get out people return them. Ms. Kellar stated yes, but in the State the dogs are also supposed to have their rabies vaccination; it protects not just the dog but every human and animal around the dog as well. They've been licensing dogs in NH for hundreds of years. Councilor Radke stated that its revenue for the State. Ms. Kellar stated that they have a book in the Town Office from the late 1800's. A female dog was \$5 and a male dog was \$2. Our current fees are \$7.

**MOTION by Councilor Gilbert that the Bedford Town Council, pursuant of RSA 466:14, authorize the Town Clerk and Animal Control Officer, on behalf of the Town Council, to send civil forfeiture letters and collect civil forfeiture fines to all dog owners of Bedford who have not licensed their dog as of July 5, 2022. Seconded by Councilor Duschatko. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-1 (Greazzo-nay).**

**b. Transfer Station hours of operation**

Jeff Foote, Public Works Director, stated that he was seeking approval to modify the Saturday hours of operation at the Transfer Station, which were currently 8:30 – 5:00. The other hours of operation: Tuesday, 7:00 – 5:00, Wednesday, 8:30 – 5:00, Thursday, 8:30 – 7:00, and Friday, 8:30 – 5:00.

Mr. Foote thought they could offer better service by opening at 6:30 and closing at 3:00 on Saturdays. He referred to a graph showing volume of traffic. It spikes at 8:30 lasting until noon, bumping up a bit, lags and at 5:00 they get a spike. They thought if they modify the hours to 6:30 – 3:00 they would have more consistent volumes throughout the day. He also thought it would be beneficial to the employees based on conversations he's had. Currently they are down an assistant foreman and another employee just left. They are budgeted for 4.5 and they are down to 3, and they have to backfill it. They are always backfilling the Transfer Station. A lot of times it's the occupation and a lot of times it's the hours. On Tuesdays, 2 are 7:00-3:30, 2 are 8:30 -5:00; Wednesday everybody is 8:30 – 5:00; Thursday 2 are 8:30 – 5:00, 2 are 10:30 – 7:00; Friday, everybody is 8:30 – 5:00 and Saturday is the same. Saturday is a big impact to families. He thought by closing at 3:00, folks could get out and spend a part of the day with their family. They have all told him it would be a blessing if they were able to close at 3:00 on Saturdays.

Mr. Foote pointed out that they were open 46 hours a week. A chart in the staff report showed when other communities are open and Bedford's Transfer Station was open as long as any other community. Councilor Duschatko stated that he was confused reading the graph. He wanted to know if they get 200 people an hour. Mr. Foote stated they divide everything by 2, in and out. The graph show total volumes crossing the counter.

Chairman Carter wanted to know if they were going to have the big sign at the entrance saying what the change would be. Mr. Foote stated that they were going to have signs, social media, message boards, and Nixles. They are proposing to have the first Saturday on June 25<sup>th</sup>, which was also Hazardous Household Waste Day, which is 8:30 – 3:00.

Councilor Duschatko wanted to know if they talked to any of the users. Mr. Foote stated that they are the face of the community and have interactions. People are there in the morning and want to get rid of their. If they opened it earlier, he thought it would induce more people to be there early. They are proposing for Saturdays at first and then he'd like to come back and see and look at some other dates as well. Councilor Duschatko stated that he wasn't thinking so much in the morning, he wanted to know if anybody would have any serious problems with having the afternoon shortened. Mr. Foote stated that he didn't see how the condition was that much different from other uses in society.

Councilor Radke stated that if they open up early, instead of having a line, it would be a bell curve and Mr. Foote stated that that's what they were looking for. There is always a rush at the end of the day whether its 5:00 or 7:00, and he didn't see it any different on a Saturday when it's 3:00. He's hoping that curve was a little bit smoother. That's the goal.

Chairman Carter wanted to know if this would be a test period and then they would review it in six months. Mr. Foote stated that his staff report stated that he would like to come back in September and have a conversation.

Councilor Thomas thought this wasn't just for the summer. Mr. Foote pointed out the inconsistency on Thursday nights. Councilor Greazzo mentioned that he said not many people know that it's open that late on a Thursday. Maybe it's not being advertised as well. Mr. Foote thought it was because of the inconsistencies.

Mr. Foote thought they had to look at the community and the users, but they also need to look at the employees and that's a large reason why he's there. It's a constant struggle to find people to work at the Transfer Station and it's becoming more difficult by the day. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know if they were part-time or full-time. Mr. Foote stated that there were 4 full-time budgeted and 1 part-time. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know if they reduce the hours if there would still be full-time employees. Mr. Foote stated yes. Mr. Sawyer stated that they weren't reducing the hours; it's a shift of the hours, not a reduction of hours. Mr. Foote thought they had to recognize that the current schedule and the expectations for the employees were a concern.

Councilor Bemiss wanted to know if it would be possible just to hire people to work on Saturday. Mr. Foote stated that their current part-time position had been vacant for 6 months and that's exactly what it's for. It's for Tuesdays and Saturdays. If someone applied and said Saturday only they would hire them. You can't get people. Councilor Bemiss was concerned about changing the hours on Saturday, because that's the day people do their yard work and they run to the Transfer Station at 4:45, because they've been out all day. They educate people to let people know that it is closing at a different time. Chairman Carter stated that if they don't do it, they won't whether it will work or not.

Councilor Bemiss wanted some mechanism where the residents could provide feedback on whether or not it is a hardship for them, or it's working, they love it, they don't love it. Mr. Foote agreed. From working with the Town for 19 years, he thought when people were satisfied or happy they don't generally hear from them. If people aren't, you hear from them. He would expect that if there was a lot of heartburn they will hear.

Mr. Foote stated that trucking is short staffed. Over Memorial Day weekend, they were open Saturday and got bombarded. The trucking company that trucks out on Mondays was closed on Monday and they weren't there until Tuesday. For a few hours there was material on the floor and that was unacceptable. What was thrown on his desk today was they would like to close Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, and then a reminder that on Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the 2 out of 3 employees that they have that are full-time there, 1 is at a wedding and 1 is elsewhere, so they would be looking to close that Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Labor Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

**MOTION by Councilor Gilbert that the Bedford Town Council modify the Saturday Transfer Station hours from 8:30am-5pm to 6:30am-3pm beginning June 25, 2022 with a review with the Council in September 2022. Seconded by Councilor Radke. Vote taken –Motion Passed–7-0.**

**c. Appointment to Boards & Commissions**

Councilor Radke stated that they interviewed a candidate this evening for Planning Board.

**MOTION by Councilor Radke that the Bedford Town Council appoint Matt Nichols as a regular member of the Planning Board with a term to expire in 2024 and appoint Christopher Swiniarski as an alternate member of the Planning Board with a term to expire in 2024. Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

**d. Other New Business**

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Transfer Station Solar & 3-Phase Power Proposal**

Jeff Foote, Public Works Director, referred to a map on the screen showing where a proposed solar array would be, which would generate enough electricity to supply all Bedford municipal operations.

Mr. Foote stated that in December 2018 the Energy Commission developed an RFP to land lease the Town owned locations for a solar array. They got a proposal a day late. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, they thought maybe the person or the company would be interested again and he went out to bid for the same proposal and they received one proposal back. The 3-phase that is not currently available at the Transfer Station was the deal breaker. Chris Bandazian, 19 Greeley Hill Road and Energy Commission Vice Chair stated that it was also contingent on increasing the net metering cap, which has since been increased.

Mr. Foote stated that in May 2020, the Department wanted to understand what the cost would be to extend the 3-phase power to the Transfer Station. They received an estimate from both Consolidated Communications and Eversource who told them it was \$500k. They told them to advance it, they would need a \$10k retainer, which they did and it was signed in February 2021. In May 2021, the Town/Department applied for a \$500k Congressional Direct Spending grant from the Federal government and received support letters from many in the community. On May 21<sup>st</sup> the Town sent an application for the

Direct Spending request to Senator Shaheen's office. On June 7<sup>th</sup>, they received the Eversource system impact study and who then quoted the cost to extend 3-phase power was \$1.48m. In October 2021, they pursued Eversource to provide a more detailed engineering design. In December, they got a quote of \$910k, but didn't include the poles. At that point, they revised the proposal for the landfill to show what would be occurring. *(He referred to the screen, which showed the current configuration today)*. At that point, they had a cost from a consultant, which included the Town's share of the utility interconnection. Eversource needed a commitment from the Town to advance it to a position where they could build it. They had to provide a \$37,500 deposit to find out what the price would be. It was full refundable provided that they give them an answer no later than June 17, 2022 or cancel the agreement, whichever way the Town decided to go. In March 2022, the Town received a letter from Senator Shaheen's office noticing them that the \$500k grant request was included in the Federal earmark. On March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Town notified Eversource that they had the potential for the \$500k, but the Town Council was still up in the air and were going through a few iterations trying to determine what the best path forward was. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, the Town received a notice from the Department of Energy who was going to oversee the grant application and the dispersing of funds for the project and they wanted a 1-page summary. They supplied that on May 19<sup>th</sup>. On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Town received notice from the Department of Energy that they had 30 days to complete the formal application for a grant, which is a 50/50 match.

Mr. Foote stated that he and Mr. Sawyer had some discussion yesterday about what the best path forward was. The facilities and the Police station and Fire station was a priority. At the same time, the Federal government is giving them 30 days to submit an application. They visited a Westborough, MA recycling/MSW multifaceted facility. They can make the electrical compactors work, which is another \$500k in addition to this. They discussed that maybe the best path forward was to tell Eversource no, but this is the path that they may want to take forward and possibly put it out as a warrant article in the spring. He's looking for guidance on if the Council wants to follow-up and have this at some point or was it something they weren't interested in. They were prepared for either alternative.

Councilor Greazzo wanted to clarify that when they initially approached Eversource they were at \$500k to bring in 3-phase power and then the next year it was \$1.5m and he wanted to know why. Mr. Foote thought that the person that supplied that estimate was based on a lineal foot. It wasn't engineered; it was a very rogue estimate. They didn't include a lot of switches and different things that are necessary to include in that. The second person provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> estimate, which was much more detailed, but they included making improvements not only on Chubbuck Road, but to their facilities in Manchester. When they got to the 3<sup>rd</sup> estimate, they removed many of those action items off of their substation in Manchester. Mr. Bandazian explained that this area was served by the Rimmon substation and so they have to look at what the line capacity is there and what demands for other solar projects are made on that capacity. There were rough estimates and then a much more refined what upstream improvements, if any, were needed and those were pretty much ruled out.

Councilor Thomas stated that although she thought this was a really good project, she believed that at their last meeting that all seven of them committed to the facilities and going forward with that. Right now she didn't think they could give up \$500k to this project with things on the line with the facilities project.

Councilor Radke wanted to know if there were any line items where they could find \$500k. Mr. Sawyer stated that at year's end they were typically able to have some savings. He has concerns that they don't have the Federal funds in hand and they need to have a commitment to Eversource this month. He's trying to commit \$910k with \$500k as an IOU coming to them. He doesn't know when that's going to be here, so he didn't know how he commits that to Eversource. As Mr. Foote stated they have to file another application and they don't know how long that was going to take or what the process was for that. Eversource's guaranteed maximum price expires in a couple of weeks. If they had the Federal money in hand he thought it would be a lot easier for him to tell them yes, let's come up with a plan to find the other \$500k, either ARPA money or a combination of Capital Reserves and operating funds. Councilor Radke clarified that they got the grant. Mr. Sawyer stated but when is the money in hand and when does he have to pay Eversource. Councilor Radke wanted to know if they had that conversation with Eversource and were they willing to do it and wait. Mr. Sawyer thought that's part of what they need to talk about. Either asking Eversource to extend their price for some more time until they can get a guarantee as to when the Federal money was coming in or when they can have a better determination collectively as to where their financial was with ARPA funds, facility projects and year-end potential appropriations. That's why they started talking about another way to pursue this project in the future if it doesn't work tonight. Maybe collectively they put it together as a warrant article for the whole entire thing including the \$500k they hope to get from the Federal government as a potential offset to the bottom line number. He believes in the project and believes 3-phase power was the better solution for the Transfer Station long-term.

Councilor Gilbert stated that he liked the project and eventually it should be done. He agreed about putting it on the ballot as a warrant article. His issue was the money they need for the facilities. Also, it says, 'This CDS requests would enable the complete design, engineering, permitting, procurement, construction and interconnection of a 1.04 MW net metered solar array.' That's why they were getting the \$500k from the government. If they take that \$500k, that means they have to go all the way and do the solar also; it's not just the 3-phase. Mr. Bandazian stated that that was not correct. Mr. Foote stated that if they looked at the application and all the communication, it identifies for the 3-phase power to get to it for the future development of electrical compactors and solar.

Councilor Duschatko stated that he's not denying that's how they proposed it, but wanted to know where they came up with that language. Mr. Foote stated that they'll follow up with them and if they say it's for that then they are on to the next project. Councilor Gilbert stated that he's not against it, he just wanted to make sure that if they were going to get \$500k, they use it for what they are supposed to use it for. He thought they should put it in front of the voters as a warrant article.

Councilor Duschatko agreed, but thought it needed more analysis. They were combining both the trash compactor with a solar system and they were two different beings and happen to both require 3-phase power. He thought they needed to make their argument and present it to the voters. He didn't think any of them had enough information that they could rely on to make a decision. They could probably make a recommendation at some point down the road, but until they have firm facts. Just the fact that they had a bid a year before for half a million dollars for 3-phase power that almost triple in that period of time and all this other stuff. It's a loosey-goosey deal.

Councilor Radke wanted to know the timeline with the Congressional funding. Mr. Sawyer stated that he suspects if they don't file that application in the 30 day window they would be out of the running for that and they would be turning that money back to them. Mr. Foote stated that he never had any correspondence or communication with the Department of Energy until this week. They could apply for it and put all the 'ifs', 'ands', and 'buts' and leave it loose and then at the same time have a conversation with Eversource. If that's a way to get them to November, so they could have an engineered plan for the compactors they would know exactly what that is. Maybe they let it out to bid in November before it goes on a warrant article and tell the vendors that they must hold it until the day after March vote. He knows that this was very important for the community. They are taking wasteland and converting it to something that's useful for the community. If there is somehow they can get the 3-phase power there, he thought the rest of it comes.

Councilor Bemiss thanked Mr. Bandazian because he's been working on this project for a long time and they know Mr. Foote put in a lot of time and energy. She has separated it out in her mind into two separate projects. They've got the solar, which she thought was great for the community, and then the 3-phase power and that's the part where she thought a lot of them were getting hung up on. She liked the idea of putting it out as a warrant article. Councilor Radke stated that they would lose the \$500k. Mr. Foote stated that they would apply for it and have a bunch of caveats in saying all the things that Chris Bandazian can come up with. Mr. Sawyer stated that the reason he's saying it's a warrant article was because they would be seeking probably bonding to pay for the solar installation and the 3-phase power and potentially some of the upgrades at the Transfer Station as all one project. Otherwise it would just be the vote of the Council.

Mr. Foote stated that there were a couple of different ways they could let out the solar contract. They could do strictly a purchase or lease to own and have a PPA for a couple of years.

**MOTION by Councilor Gilbert that the Bedford Town Council does not utilize \$500,000 of anticipated 2022 ARPA monies towards the utility extension project on Chubbuck Road. Seconded by Councilor Duschatko. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 3-3-1 – Motion Fails.**

Councilor Greazzo wanted to know if there were any other providers that would be able to install 3-phase power or did it have to be Eversource. Mr. Foote stated that Eversource solicits bids and they aren't privy to the bids they receive and that's why they guarantee a not to exceed price. They won't share that information. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know if they were able to pursue the individuals or contractors or companies that do those installations that Eversource puts out to bid. Mr. Foote responded no; he's never seen that and doesn't believe it's possible. Councilor Thomas stated that Eversource owns the transmission lines. Councilor Greazzo stated that they can do all the work themselves and then have Eversource connect it to their system. They don't have to be required to do the installation or use their chosen company. Mr. Sawyer stated that with Chubbuck Road that might be the case, but once they get into the right-of-way where it's already their lines. Councilor Greazzo stated that there is a company called Eustis Cable who does all of the PSNH and Eversource installations or repairs, so he knows there are other companies that do that work. They contract with Eversource. Eversource puts out a

proposal and somebody makes a bid and whoever gets it gets it. He wanted to know why they couldn't do the same. Mr. Foote stated that's what they were proposing. Councilor Greazzo stated that they want to go with Eversource and whatever number they give you from whoever they solicited. He wanted to know if they were assuming Eversource was going to get a better price. Mr. Foote stated that he didn't think they were allowed to make utility improvements in the Town right-of-way. They are franchised. Not only are they franchised, but Consolidated Communications also. Eustis Cable does a lot with Consolidated Communications more than they do Eversource and that was all franchised between the utility or Consolidated Communications and the contractor. Councilor Greazzo stated that he was trying to be creative on other ways to go around what Eversource might be putting in their way. They want \$1.5m now for something they said was \$500k. It seems to be a loose number. If Eversource was putting it out to bid, he was curious why they couldn't. Mr. Foote stated that it was \$400k and then it was \$1.5m and after they've done some engineering and their impact study they are at \$910k. Mr. Sawyer stated that the line along Chubbuck itself already has power lines on it. Those poles would need to be upgraded and as far as he knows that can only be done by the regulated utility. Offsite, they could hire somebody and they would connect it. Mr. Foote stated that Eversource would own that to where the yellow line ends (*he referred to the map on the screen*). They've already asked for an easement to get to that point. They would own it.

Councilor Bemiss wanted to know if Eversource had the monopoly on all power in NH. Mr. Foote clarified that it's the distribution lines. The power itself that is generated they have alternatives. As far as the distribution lines, that's 100% Eversource. Councilor Bemiss wanted to know if it would be possible to give Eversource notice that they want their money back before the deadline and then still proceed with the application with the government saying that they were going to use that money and keep it loose. Mr. Foote stated that that's basically what he inferred before. If they want him to, they will start going down both paths, but he was going to be absolutely honest and trustful with both entities. They are applying for a Federal grant and he's going to be absolutely truthful that they've got some work to do and the funding wasn't there, but they were moving towards that if they accept it. At the same time, he thought the big question was if this community could somehow collaborate with Eversource to forget the 3-phase power and have them extend their deadline until they have a better handle on it come October/November. Mr. Sawyer stated that they would need to present it as part of the budget in October and discuss it in November. Mr. Foote stated that there was a lot of work to be done and a lot of work has already been done by a lot of people over the years and if that's something that the Council truly wants them to do, they will do it.

Councilor Radke was afraid of losing the \$500k. Mr. Sawyer stated that they could try and work with Senator Shaheen's office to nail down the timeframes on commitment. Their match commitment and what this application that needs to be done in the next couple of weeks is and how much is involved in that.

Councilor Thomas stated that right now they need to commit a match so they find another \$500k, which she thought they could do at budget time. They just sold Sunset Lane, but they can't commit that money yet. It's a timing issue. Maybe if they understood that. They were going to use it; they just have a budget problem. Mr. Sawyer understood that they had until 2024 to commit the money, but he needs to get the Council something in writing that says that and he's not been able to find anything yet. It's probably dependent on the

Department of Energy and whatever rules and procedures they have in place that the Senators maybe don't know every single piece of that, but say 'yes', here's \$500k. But when do they get it, when do they have to have their match available, when does the project have to be completed by, all of those things. He doesn't believe they've seen that level of detail. He thought that it would come after they make the next application. Mr. Foote thought it could be as simple as they request a waiver from both entities to give them until November to get what they need. Councilor Radke thought it was worth asking. Mr. Sawyer stated that worse case the Eversource price goes up. It might go from \$910k to north of \$1m. They may also be able to hold their price for a little bit longer.

Councilor Gilbert wanted to clarify that they were going down the path of putting together a warrant article. Mr. Foote stated if that's what the Council wants. They've got a lot more work to do. Councilor Gilbert wanted to know if there was more work to do to get even to that decision. Mr. Sawyer thought the first decision was a policy decision. Does the Council want to have 3-phase power and solar at the Transfer Station ever? Do they want them pursuing this? Councilor Radke stated yes, absolutely. Councilor Thomas thought they should try to find \$500k to match that to get the 3-phase power. They have to time their warrant articles appropriately. They need an idea of what the timing is. She thought it was a great project; it's a timing issue. She thought step one was to get the funds to match the grant; get the 3-phase power one way or another. They just can't do it right now, because they don't have the money. The money they have in ARPA funds they need elsewhere. Mr. Sawyer stated that leaving here tonight they would ask for their deposit money back from Eversource, they would ask them to honor the price as long as they can, and whatever pressures the community has on that, if they know anybody at Eversource, please make a phone call. They would file the application to the Department of Energy, which is required to get the \$500k that they've been promised. They would take those steps while they were working towards what a potential next decision would be. Whether it's just getting the 3-phase done sometime later in the year or pursuing a full warrant article for solar and 3-phase together.

Chairman Carter wanted to know if the whole Council was behind what Mr. Sawyer just said as their path. Councilor Duschatko said no. He's not going with a project just for 3-phase power; there's nothing there and didn't make any sense. Councilor Radke wanted to know what he meant that there's nothing there and why it wouldn't make sense. Councilor Duschatko wanted to know if she would put a power line to her house to have it sit there. Councilor Radke stated that having 3-phase power enables them to bring the compactors there. That's why she thought they needed 3-phase power, to get those compactors there. Councilor Duschatko stated that they hadn't approved those. Councilor Thomas thought in the time they were buying to come up with the \$500k hopefully they would have more direction as to where the grant was going and what their timeline was.

Mr. Sawyer stated that the risk was that it would not be a \$1m project anymore. It would be \$1.2m or \$1.4m or whatever to do the 3-phase power. Eversource gave them until now to give them the go ahead. It would be repriced for later in the year or for a future project. Chairman Carter didn't see any further discussion, so Mr. Sawyer took that as consensus to do what they talked about. They are going to ask Eversource for the return of their deposit, ask them to honor their price longer, and they are going to file the application with the Department of Energy, which would be the next step in the Federal earmarked money. They would come back to the Council later in the year with more

information. It means a lot of work and still may end up still not being a project later this year or next year, but he thought it was a project that Public Works and Town management would be important for the community to have either as a showcase or as betterment of the community in the future.

Councilor Radke wanted to know if they were still pursuing it. They were still moving forward towards getting 3-phase there. It's not ending here. Mr. Sawyer responded no. they are going to take all those steps and may come back in the fall. It's going to cost them even more money and the Council may not have the funds available in the fall. It may not be a project in the fall either, but based on the consensus tonight they would keep moving forward. Councilor Radke stated that based on what he said earlier, they may not have the funds even now at \$910k, because he didn't know where they could get \$500k to match. Mr. Sawyer stated that he's confident if it comes down to a year-end decision that there would be money available. Between the Capital Reserves that they have for the Transfer Station and other year-end savings, they could find the money they need to do the match. The project cost might move in that timeframe and likely will move. It might be \$1.5m project six months from now. Councilor Thomas stated that they might not hold their price. Councilor Radke stated that right now it's at \$910k. She thought Mr. Sawyer's concern was he wasn't sure when they were going to get that \$500k, so in addition to the \$500k the need to match, they may need to have to find another \$500k, because they're not sure when that's coming back. Mr. Sawyer stated that it's part of his concern. Do they have cash reserves to be able to float that? Yes. As long as they have the commitment that the money is coming. Just like he doesn't have the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of ARPA in hand, but it's promised and coming. With the grant, they have to do more. They have to file an additional application and what is in that application, what are they asking from them and are they going to be able to produce it and are they going to be able to meet their conditions. There are a lot of what ifs. The biggest concern is the project cost may not be \$910k plus \$75k for poles six months from now. It might be \$1.5m or some other number. Year-end he could find \$500k, but maybe not \$1m and do they still want to do it at that price. Councilor Radke said that's why she says do it now. That was her vote.

Mr. Foote thought they talked about two parallel efforts. One was with Eversource and one was with the Federal government. They will see where it shakes out and what timelines are. If anyone's a grant writer he'll take any assistance he can get.

#### **b. Other Old Business**

### **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#### **a. Public Session – May 25, 2022**

**MOTION by Councilor Thomas that the Bedford Town Council approve the minutes of the May 25, 2022 Public Session. Seconded by Councilor Gilbert. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

### **7. TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

- 1) The filing period for candidacy for the State Primary Election and General Election is June 1-10. All those filing for office must have been registered voters by May 31.

- 2) Tax bills have been mailed with a July 1<sup>st</sup> due date.
- 3) Summer Reading Program starts June 11<sup>th</sup>. The theme is “Oceans of Possibilities”. Please see the Library Facebook or website for more information.
- 4) Library Summer Reading Kickoff Concert on Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM, Bedford Village Common gazebo – Ben Rudnick & Friends.
- 5) Library Summer Storytime begins June 14<sup>th</sup>. Register on the Library website.
- 6) Storywalk – Inky the Octopus – Bedford Village Common.
- 7) The Bedford Farmers Market opens June 14<sup>th</sup> and continues on Tuesdays from 3-6 PM until October 11<sup>th</sup> at Murphy’s Taproom parking lot, 393 Route 101.
- 8) Bedford Memorial Pool – The pool is scheduled to open on Father’s Day, June 19<sup>th</sup>. It’s free for all those attending on opening day. Seasonal pool passes are available through the Recreation Department: single \$75, family \$125, and family with baby sitter \$145. Passes are free for those over 60 years of age.
- 9) Bedford Library – Touch-A-Truck – Tuesday, June 21 at 1:30 PM – Kids ages 3 – 12 – Bedford Village Common parking lot.
- 10) June 25 – Household Hazardous Waste Day, 8:30 AM – 3 PM, Highway Garage, 19 Chubbuck Road.
- 11) Transfer Station Hours
  - Sunday & Monday closed
  - Tuesday 7 AM – 5 PM
  - Wednesday 8:30 AM – 5 PM
  - Thursday 8:30 AM – 7 PM
  - Friday 8:30 AM – 5 PM
  - Saturday 6:30 AM – 3 PM starting June 25, 2022
- 12) Concerts in the Park at the Bedford Village Common – Wednesday evenings at 6PM.
  - June 30 Manchester Community Music School (Thursday)
  - July 6 60’s Invasion (show band featuring music of the 60’s)
  - July 13 New Leaves Duo (classic country & folk music)
  - July 20 The Rampage Trio (Family friendly classic rock)
  - July 27 Bel Airs (Doo wop vocal quintet)
  - August 3 Amherst Town Band (New Orleans-style music)
  - August 10 The Band from U.N.C.L.E. (50-60’s rock & roll)

## **8. COUNCILOR COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Councilor Radke congratulated the Class of 2022 high school graduates. She congratulated DPW for their accreditation. At the Historic District Commission meeting last night they had two applications and both were approved with conditions.

Chairman Carter congratulated the graduating Class of 2022. The high school senate met and voted to add a Town Councilor to the senate. It’s a non-voting member. They have two members of the School Board there. At the request of the senate they felt that a Town Councilor should be involved and he agreed. They report to the School Board, but he thought it would be nice to have them come before the Council at least once to talk about what’s going on at the school. When you get them involved they go back and start working within the school system to help with composting. The Citizens Police Academy ended. He encouraged anyone to go through the course if they have the opportunity.

## **9. NON-PUBLIC – RSA 91-A:3 II (d) & (e)**

**MOTION by Councilor Radke to go into non-public session at 8:17 PM under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community, and RSA 91-A:3 II (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation. Seconded by Councilor Thomas.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Greazzo-aye, Thomas-aye, Duschatko-aye, Carter-aye, Radke-aye, Gilbert-aye, Bemiss-aye.**

**MOTION made by Councilor Gilbert to leave non-public session at 8:55 PM. Seconded by Councilor Duschatko.**

**Roll Call Vote: Greazzo-aye, Thomas-aye, Duschatko-aye, Carter-aye, Radke-aye, Gilbert-aye, Bemiss-aye, Motion passes.**

**MOTION by Chairman Carter to seal the minutes, because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would render a proposed action ineffective. Seconded by Councilor Thomas.**

**Roll Call Vote: Greazzo-aye, Thomas-aye, Duschatko-aye, Carter-aye, Radke-aye, Gilbert-aye, Bemiss-aye, Motion passes.**

**MOTION by Councilor Thomas to adjourn public session at 8:56 PM. Seconded by Councilor Duschatko. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Boufford