

**TOWN OF BEDFORD
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 28, 2023
10 Meetinghouse Road**

1. ROLL CALL: A meeting of the Bedford Town Council was held on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 10 Meetinghouse Road. Participating were Bill Carter (Chair) and Councilors Phil Greazzo, Sue Thomas, Dave Gilbert, and Michael Strand. Also present was Town Manager Rick Sawyer. Lori Radke and Kathleen Bemiss had excused absences.

Chairman Carter opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Chairman Carter.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. **Consideration of Ordinance 2023-01 amending Chapter 130 Fire Prevention, 130-3 Required Plans, 130-9 Fire Alarm Systems, and 130-14 Locations without Public Water Supply.**

Mr. Sawyer stated that this was a proposal to make changes to the Fire Prevention Code, Chapter 130, in the Code of Ordinances, which doesn't reflect current industry standards for fire alarm systems and water supply for fire protection. There were four sections that were being amended. Section 3: Required Plans – Eliminates the need for hard copies, so it will only be electronic going forward; Section 9: Fire Alarm Systems – E. Early warning device omissions when sprinkler systems are installed, F. (12) requires new elevators to be wired automatically to reset after restoration of the fire alarm system; Section 14: Locations without public water supply – A. & B. clarifies when sprinkler systems are required in conjunction with newly installed water systems.

Chairman Carter opened the public hearing.

Councilor Greazzo wanted Captain Lavoie to explain section 14, more clearly so everyone had more of an understanding if you are not on a public water supply, you are going to require sprinklers to existing and new construction. Captain Tim Lavoie said that it delineates between whether or not a water supply is available at the location for new construction. The ordinance currently reads that within one year of water supply being within 1,000 feet of new construction, the owner is required to extend the water line to their building. What they are proposing change that to a timeframe that's acceptable to the AHJ (Authority having jurisdiction), the Chief or his designee. That means they can give a little bit more of a timeframe to extend that line if they don't have the budget. That's part of the industry standard that they are seeing in prevention. There are five 'E's and one is Economic Incentive; they are trying to drive that. Councilor Greazzo wanted to clarify that they weren't requiring sprinklers or for them to hook up to a public water supply.

Captain Lavoie confirmed that was correct. If the construction or occupancy type requires a sprinkler system, they will have to put that in. Councilor Greazzo wanted to clarify that it was more for a multi-family/multi-unit dwelling, not single-family homes. Captain Lavoie stated that this had nothing to do with single-family homes; commercial occupancies only.

MOTION by Councilor Gilbert to open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0.

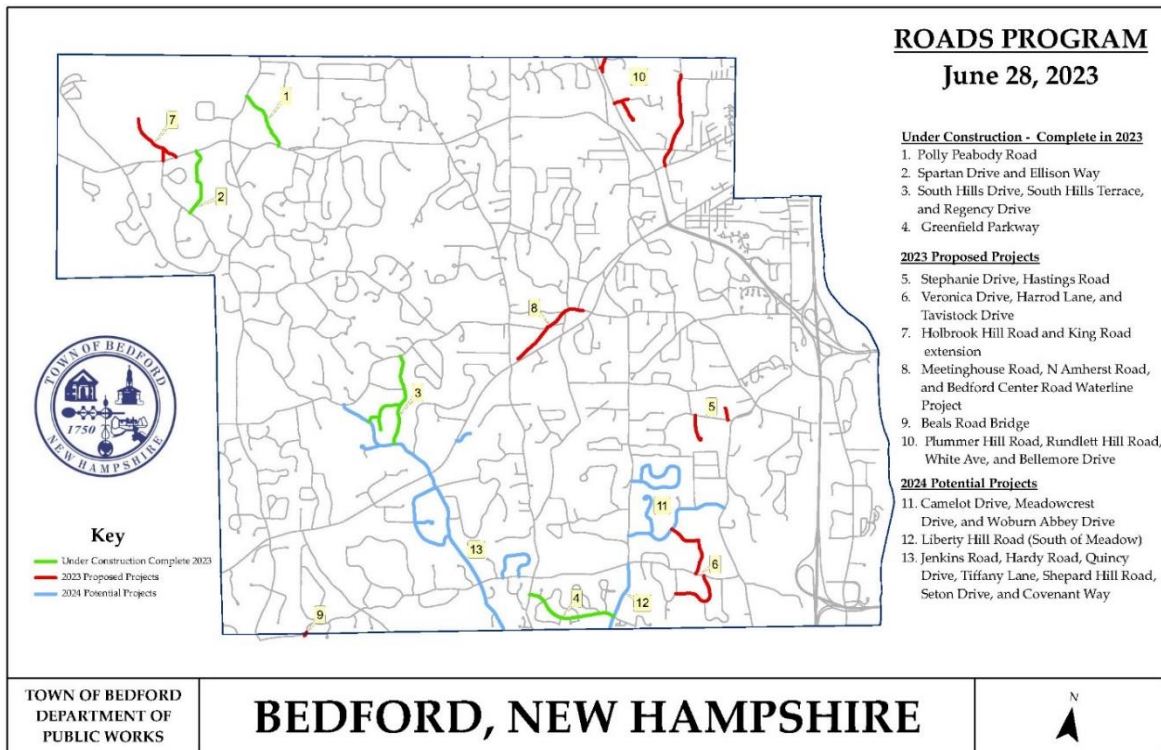
MOTION by Councilor Gilbert to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0.

MOTION by Councilor Gilbert that the Bedford Town Council approve Ordinance 2023-01 amending Chapter 130, Fire Prevention, for various updates to code requirements effective upon passage. Seconded by Councilor Strand. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Update on the Holbrook Hill Road project

Jeff Foote, DPW Director, gave a Roads Program update.



Mr. Foote stated that projects 1, 2, and 3 were completed in 2022, and will be returning, when the weather allows and after the crack sealing has allowed to weather, in the next few weeks to finish that. Number 4, Greenfield Parkway, was a reconstruction as a result

of field drainage. It is paved to binder, the granite curbing and the center island are complete. They will return in 2 or 3 months to put the wearing course of asphalt on. Number 5, Stephanie Drive, is going to be reclaimed and culvert replacements, Hastings Road is a gravel road that is being upgraded and paved. They are scheduled to start at the end of July and have all the easements in place. Number 6, Veronica, Harrod and Tavistock, will be reclaimed and paved as time permits. He would like to combine that with Greenfield Parkway while the contractor is there, but that will be a timing issue. Number 7, Holbrook Hill Road, plans are more than 85% complete and working on securing easements. They are hoping to start in the next couple of weeks. Number 8, Meetinghouse, is a water line project to mitigate for PFAS. They had a preconstruction meeting last week and they're going to be starting that project late next week or the week after. There should be a variable message board going up for the first phase, which will be right outside this building. They are going to close that road for a couple of days while they install the water line from Old Town Hall to the parking lot to service the house across the street if they desire. Number 9, Beals Road Bridge, they made some progress with DOT on that and they are probably going to advertise that project around the first of the year for construction in 2024. Number 10, Plummer Hill, Rundlett Hill, White Ave., Bellemore Drive areas, Plummer Hill will get a reclaim and the other roads may get a combination of reclaims and overlays at the end of the year if time permits.

Councilor Strand wanted to know what a reclaim was. Mr. Foote explained that a paved road in such poor condition that it's not economical reasonable to crack seal it and put an overlay on it, they go in with a big rototiller and rototill the existing pavement down up to 6 inches maximum. They mix those materials, and then go in with a sheepsfoot roller, roll it, water it, reestablish the crown, pave the binder course and come back at a later date and pave the road with the wearing course. Councilor Strand wanted to clarify that it's a total repave of the road. Mr. Foote responded yes, but it's not full box reconstruction.

Mr. Sawyer wanted him to go into more detail on what 85% meant. Mr. Foote stated that they had preliminary design and as the plans advance, they have field visits, meet with abutters and come up with the best plan they can. They manipulate the center line; move it up or down and they'll move drainage. At 85% they have a really good idea of where they're at. They aren't at 100% and they will continue that process through final design and then even after they start construction, if they think there is a way to improve the project and make it a better project they will do so after the fact. They may have final design, but they are always willing to improve things for the Town and for the abutters.

Councilor Greazzo wanted to know the current annual maintenance cost of Holbrook Hill Road. Mr. Foote stated that it varies depending on the weather. There is annual maintenance for the grader and fixing erosion, which they do frequently. They also have the winter maintenance. Since it's gravel they don't send the truck with salt; they send a special run out each time they want to perform maintenance. It was significant for that area; they're up there a lot. They were on Meadow a lot and that's been alleviated as a result of paving that. It's not \$10K; probably north of \$50K a year. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know the cost to pave it. Mr. Foote wanted to clarify pave it or drainage and

total improvements and Councilor Greazzo responded the total improvements. Mr. Foote stated that the preliminary estimate was in the \$600-700K for Holbrook and King Road.

Councilor Thomas wanted to know if the road stayed a dirt road what would need to be done to it. It has been flooding this week. She drove it yesterday and it was interesting. Mr. Foote stated that they've been on that path since 2005 when the Council was moving towards paving the roads because of maintenance, increase in population, and the grader. It's 24 years old; their goal is to get rid of it, so they don't need to CIP that anymore. That was the other cost involved. They've probably heard that they can go out and regrade the road for pennies on the dollar, but he can't seem to find anybody to do that.

Councilor Strand wanted to know if the maintenance cost included labor and staff or only running the equipment/materials. Mr. Foote stated that it's the equipment. They had the grader and loader up there. Yesterday he saw at least two loads of gravel go up. It's including the labor; their time could be used elsewhere if they weren't performing those routine maintenance tasks. Councilor Strand wanted to clarify that there could be some costs involved that they can't quantify in a \$15K quote. Mr. Foote stated that the amount of time they spend on that road far exceeded any of the other gravel roads remaining.

Councilor Greazzo wanted to know the procedure to discontinue the road. Mr. Sawyer stated that they need a petition from the residents. The Town could propose that, but without acceptance by the property owners, he didn't think he or legal counsel would advise that. If all of the residents petitioned the Council, they would hold a public hearing and release public servitude of the road back to the people who previously had it.

Chairman Carter opened the discussion up to the public. Anyone who wished to speak was addressing the Council and not asking any questions to Mr. Foote. It was just addressing their concerns when it comes to this matter on their street.

Jacob Silberberg, 47 Holbrook Hill Road, thanked the Council for hearing them and for their public service which is a lot of work and thankless at many points. He thought that the Council would hear from people who have horses that they run on the road; who chose Holbrook Hill Road for the rural setting; that Bedford had thousands of dead end paved cul-de-sacs, but not a lot of choices if you want to be in a rural setting; worried about speed on the road; setbacks; people who were interested in preserving the 18th century nature of the road. Holbrook Hill Road predates the incorporation of Bedford. The house he is in predates the incorporation of Bedford. It's sort of dark humor that once that road is paved they could literally reach out the window and touch the pavement from their living room. He stated that as far as he could gather, there are 17 lots on the road whose access is gravel; 15 of those lots want to stay gravel. As best he knows, although Mr. Foote said that he's been meeting with people and talking to them about how to address concerns, at least 7 of those lots meaning his lots, he hasn't come out. He talked to Mr. Foote on the phone a couple of months ago and hadn't seen him, no card at the door, no knock, no 'hey I'd like to address your concerns.' A couple of people asked questions about the cost to maintain the road. He thought every project you have to start off and think is this a project you want to do or not, and if you don't want to do it, you'll always

find numbers to support that. One of the things that he's learned since he was before the Council a couple of months ago was meeting with not only people to do the work on the road, but a road agent from another town who came and looked at the road and said that it was obvious the road was washing out; it's not properly maintained. They were spending too much and doing it the wrong way and the results show that. What he's learned about the history is that Bedford used to employ a guy who was really experienced at operating the grader. He thought those that had been on the road that long remember that he did a great job, 10 or 15 years ago. They've learned that the road has to have a crown and it has to have a ditch for the water to go in. The ditch didn't have to be 3 feet deep; it could be 6 inches, but it had to have a ditch at every point. If it doesn't, they are just crossing their fingers and hoping the water guesses where it should go. What they've seen in the last couple of years is the Town brings loads and loads of gravel and just dumps it on it and smooths it nice and flat; including this week. You can use a grader or you can use a bulldozer as they learned from the road agent in New Boston, but you can't use an excavator. The results they are getting are suboptimal, because they have a person who works for the Town who is not expert in this and that's not his fault; it's just not his field and he's got the wrong equipment. From a numbers standpoint what he's proposed to them is the Town has lots of areas in which its personnel is not expert and they hire them out. They hire people to build buildings, they hire experts in all kinds of areas, and this is an area for that. The Town has lots of connections to lots of contractors. They have found contractors that would do it for \$3K a grading and they grade other private roads. They say twice a year; in the spring and in the fall. You don't need a water truck. You do it properly and you get good distance out of it. If the Town sets its mind to it they could find the right people to do the right job. If you think about the amount of effort that's being put in now, if you're doing it the wrong way, you're going to do 3 times more work to get a suboptimal result. In terms of funding, the Town has bonds; he's reviewed the documentation for the bonds. They have to be used to rebuild and repair roads. Presumably there are enough roads to spend the money on elsewhere. On a \$600K or \$700K project, you're looking at \$40-50K a year of interest that the Town gets to pay for 5-7 years until the bond matures. A bond is just a loan. In 5-7 years it's not like it goes away; they have the privilege of the Town can pay back that loan and write a check for \$600K or \$700K. That's a lot of money that would go a long way at \$10K or \$20K a year. On \$1M worth of interest, plus principle, which is what they would have to pay, at \$10K a year, that's 100 years for it to be worth it to pave the road on the math. At \$20K a year, that's 50 years. The math doesn't make sense. He's speaking from history and from math.

Barbara Kimball, 9 Holbrook Hill Road, stated that as you come up Holbrook Hill Road, you will experience a wonderful canopy that keeps the homes cool in the summer and if they cut the canopy away they will lose the whole experience of Holbrook Hill Road. The oak trees in front of her house are magnificent. They're probably 200 or more years old. Holbrook Hill Road use to be a carriage road with a hotel at the end of it. It was the old road instead of New Boston Road. In the 1700's there was an inn and it was a carriage road. For those of you who are interested in history, they would like to preserve it and keep it the way it is. The Town has proposed this money and they feel like it's burning a hole in their pocket; that it has to be done. There are other places in Town that would benefit the Town more than the money being spent for 13 families. She's concerned about

how close the road building was going to come to their house. They will be able to reach out and touch the road from their homes. Their homes sit close, because they were built before there were any setbacks put in place by the Town. Her house was built in the '40's and it was simply put where it was convenient to be built. They've spent 45 years in their home, homesteading it, turning it into their home. Building the road will totally change that. With the oak trees being gone, they will have no barrier to the road being so close to their home. That will be a real problem for them. Another concern she has is just the construction itself; the noise, air pollution, noise pollution, traffic for 13 families. It was not worth the effort in her opinion. Another grievance is Mr. Foote's idea that when the road is being built, have them go out King Road. If you have ever gone out King Road and tried to make a left, you cannot see traffic coming. There will be accidents. She never makes a left out of King Road. You can make a right, but you cannot make a left. You can put a sign up that says 'Traffic entering and turning'; that won't make a difference to the guys on a motorcycle doing 80 MPH up New Boston Road. The other grievance she has and real concern is now they would be able to bring salt up their road. Once they bring salt up their road, they have a shallow well. The salt would wash into her well and will ruin her water supply. She thanked them for listening to what she had to say. She's going to leave the money aspect up to Jacob (Silberberg); she thought he had a very good handle on it.

Mike Nesmith, 23 Holbrook Hill Road, stated that they moved in, in 2005. They were attracted by the dirt road; it was rural, quiet, and kind of unique for them. His parents lived in Bedford and he's lived in Bedford since '77. It was very attractive to them to begin with. Losing that is a concern. They have a number of trees that would have to be cut; just a rudimentary measurement from the plans that he saw. It's going to change the nature and aesthetics of his part of the road. They have an old stone wall would that would have to be moved; they have questions/concerns about what happens to that. A greater concern is they've just recently been able to get their well to function properly. Also, there is a large piece of ledge that is right in front of their house where the hill goes up and it's going to need to be blasted. That's something that could affect the well; it may or may not. He's not interested in finding out; to have a road paved that he really doesn't want to see paved to begin with. They live on a dirt road and make accommodations and adjustments in their lives, in their vehicles and the way they live to accommodate that. There's obviously some people who may find those things detrimental, but there's a lot of good aspects to having it a gravel road, dirt road, that he thought made up for it in his opinion.

Thomas Cote, 20 Holbrook Hill Road, stated that most of his concerns mirror what they've already heard. He's the new person on the road. He bought the property in 2018 after he retired from the military. He looked all over southern NH for the right setting. This was going to be his retirement home. He ended up on Holbrook Hill Road for a number of reasons; the aesthetics of that road, the canopy of the road as you drive up it, the old stone walls on that road; those all matter to him, that's why he's there. If those didn't exist he may not have moved to Bedford. Sharing the concerns about the well, the quality of the well post construction was a big concern. He wanted to convey to them the real reason why he moved there. It was the house that he chose, but the aesthetics of the road and the peacefulness that he felt moving in there was what drew him to Bedford and what drew him to purchase that particular piece of property.

Councilor Greazzo wanted to know if they were voting on this; was it an actionable item. Chairman Carter stated that it was up to the Council. They were missing two Councilors. Councilor Greazzo thought they should be part of the discussion. Chairman Carter stated that if that's a motion that he wants to hold any discussion on this. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know what timeframe Mr. Foote was looking at to make any decisions to start paving the road if that were the case. Mr. Foote stated that they were prepared to start the construction. There's an easement they were very close on that they need. There's another that would be optimal to have, but they don't need it. There were a couple of others that would be desirable, but not necessary to start the project. The one that they need to start, they were very close with their legal team in presenting that to the abutter. He thought they could have that complete by the end of next week. They are preparing to move forward. This project was approved in 2022 as part of the Roads Program, so they've been proceeding as if the project was ready to move forward. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know about addressing the trees and the stone walls. Mr. Foote stated that there were some trees that would need to be cut. There are some that will need to be removed. As far as the stone walls, he thought if they've driven throughout Town over the course of his 20 years there, they'll see that every project they've been on, the stone walls look much better when the project is completed than when they started, so he didn't think there was any discussion about that. They have a long track record of improving stone walls and making people whole at the end of the project.

Councilor Strand thought a motion would be required to do anything, but maybe this would be an opportunity for people to discuss and look at revisiting when the full Council is here.

Councilor Gilbert wanted Mr. Foote to address the salt contamination issue. Mr. Foote stated that he had that with one of the residents. He's done it on Gage Girls Road when that converted from a gravel to a paved road. There is a sign there that says 'low salt area'. Before they do any blasting, if they are allowed into the home, they can perform a water test, which they've done on several projects including the Library parking lot in 2022. On Bedford Center Road when they were constructing that in 2005/6; it's standard procedure. Councilor Gilbert stated that the lady who questioned it lives on the corner at the bottom of the hill and he wanted to know if there was any way to divert it away from there onto the main road. Mr. Foote stated that the plan shows a closed drainage system. Today, the sediment from King Road travels all the way down to the intersection of New Boston Road, on Holbrook from King, so they were proposing to introduce closed drainage in that area and, if the road is crowned properly, half of that stormwater will flow to that side. Nothing is being directly anywhere. They are just going through the normal procedure. If they want to make it a lot salt road or a no salt road they can do that.

Councilor Thomas stated that considering two Councilors weren't there, she wanted to know if tabling it for a month would do a lot to the schedule. She wanted to know if he was planning on starting early July; their next meeting is July 19th. Her understanding is if they don't do anything, it's a go. The only way to stop it is to make a motion to stop it. She knows that at least one Councilor that isn't there has opinions about it. Councilor Strand wanted to know if they could motion to postpone construction, not stop, pending

a future discussion with the full Council. Chairman Carter stated that the only question he would have is they can't build 12 months a year here in NH.

Mr. Strand wanted to know if there were any members of the public there who would be affected. Councilor Thomas stated that he couldn't ask the public. Councilor Strand wanted to know if they had any against. Councilor Thomas stated that they've all said something and it doesn't matter. Councilor Strand apologized; he just wanted to see if there were two sides. Chairman Carter stated that this was on the agenda. If there were people that wanted it, he's sure they would have been there.

MOTION by Councilor Greazzo that they postpone any action taken on Holbrook Hill Road until their next meeting. Seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Mr. Foote mentioned the question if they could postpone it. He thought they could still advance where they were going. They can postpone any construction, but engineering wise and easement wise, they would like to stay on track. The contractor wanted to layout the proposed center line and start laying that out tomorrow. He wouldn't give him the electronic file until after this meeting. He would like to stay on track where they're going and complete that, what they need to complete until July 19th if that's acceptable to them. Councilor Thomas stated that when she asked him it was more when they actually start the work; not the prep work. If they do move forward with it they need the prep work done.

Mr. Sawyer stated that they won't do any tree clearing or earth movement or anything until they decide.

Councilor Gilbert requested that if they postpone this, they ask the two Councilors who were not there to watch the meeting instead of going through all of this again. Chairman Carter agreed; meeting minutes and watch the proceedings of this meeting. Councilor Gilbert stated that he wanted the public to be heard, but doing it over again didn't do anything. Councilor Thomas stated that's the beauty of having it recorded. Councilor Strand stated that sensitivity to the burden on DPW, labor, planning, Town personnel, if there was some writing on the wall, which he's getting a sense there may be, although not knowing the minds of any of the other Councilors, he wouldn't want to waste time and efforts. Councilor Thomas didn't want him to assume that because she made a second that she made a vote. Chairman Carter stated full discussion on the 19th and everybody behind this desk will have their opinions, but they can't slow down the process, because if the process is to move forward then they need to continue to be ready.

Councilor Greazzo wanted to know the cost of the preliminary work that they would be doing between now and the next meeting that may or may not then go away. Mr. Foote stated that the plans were at 85% and he thought they were further along than that as far as the engineering consultant goes. They've committed to that, so it's his leg work and other staff members. Councilor Greazzo wanted to know the cost of the contractor. Mr. Foote stated that they have a long relationship with them and he wasn't concerned that

they would even invoice them for that. The Town attorney was composing the documents, so there would be some surveyor legal stuff that would be involved as well.

Councilor Gilbert wanted to clarify that the motion and the second was to postpone the decision until the 19th. Chairman Carter stated a decision from this Council will be made on the 19th with all seven Councilors being here, able to speak their mind, speak their opinion and put on a formal vote of the complete Council.

Vote taken – Motion Passed – 4-1 (Gilbert-nay)

Councilor Gilbert thought they had a quorum and they could do it now; that's his opinion.

Chairman Carter thanked the residents from Holbrook Hill Road for coming out and speaking their minds about what they think about this.

Mr. Foote stated that on the 3-phase power on Chubbuck Road, they've been in the cue to have poles set since February 27th. The pole sets would begin next week for the extension of the 3-phase power so they can build the solar field. They received 4 RFP responses yesterday. He spent some time on them; there were some good responses and proposals and thought they were in good shape. They had 7 people attend the mandatory pre-proposal submittal; 4 submitted proposals and in this economy he thought they were in good shape. They should be very encouraged by what they received.

Mr. Foote stated that in May of 2023, Municipal Solid Waste was fixed at \$115.52/ton. The May average for comingled recyclables was \$99.18/ton; every time in May that you chose recycling over throwing it in the trash, it saved the Town \$16.34/ton or 16% savings. If you decide to food compost, the cost for composting is \$0. It is a big savings to the taxpayers. They were looking for some sort of metric if composting was increasing or not and they think it has. The foreman said that for the longest time they were at about a ton a week. Now they are at about a ton and a half a week; they are seeing increases. Their goal is to get to 300 tons a year, which is about 6 tons a week. They are 25% of the way there. He's encouraging people to compost. They are going to try and get the display into the schools. It was a big hit with the Library. Jerome Spooner and Jess Reade spent quite a bit of time along with Councilor Bemiss putting that display together. They need to keep getting the word out and talking about it and maybe they pick up one or two people watching this that will engage in that. Chairman Carter thought maybe they could have a Town Compost Day. Mr. Foote stated that it's every day except Sunday and Monday.

Mr. Foote stated that he was very encouraged. They are going to see the 3-phase and then next year after they figure out who they're going to choose to do the work, then get it financed and go through that process. They're moving along, so it's all good stuff. The proposals are very competitive compared to their estimate. They were expecting in the 1.1 megawatt a year generation and some of them were actually more than that, but at the similar cost than what they were expecting, it's very positive.

Councilor Gilbert stated that they've starting haying the field and wanted to know Mr. Foote's plan to use the composted material and if he's talked to Steve Blais. Mr. Foote stated that he hadn't talked to Mr. Blais. Councilor Gilbert stated that he's mowed half of it; the upper half. He thought they were going to do it before they did the 2nd cut. Mr. Foote responded absolutely. They are going to follow Mr. Blais' lead. He's the expert and they sent him their soil reports. Councilor Gilbert wanted to know how much they had to cover. Mr. Foote stated that what they have processed at this point; he thought Mr. Blais said it was more than enough to do that field. He read in the newspaper that there were other towns trying to pull food compost out. It's becoming more popular and thought they were ahead of a lot of other communities. They want to stay in that direction.

a. Other New Business – None

6. OLD BUSINESS – None

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

b. Public Session – June 14, 2023

MOTION by Councilor Gilbert that the Bedford Town Council approve the minutes of the June 14, 2023 Public Session. Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0.

8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- 1) Tax bills have been mailed with a July 3rd due date.
- 2) The Bedford Farmers Market continues on Tuesdays from 3-6 PM until October at the Murphy's Taproom parking lot, 393 Route 101.
- 3) Bedford Memorial Pool & Splash Pad – M-F 12-6:30 PM, Adult Lap Swim – 6:30–7 PM, Sat/Sun 12-5 PM.
- 4) The Summer Concert Series – Starts on June 28th and runs every Wednesday night through August 9th at 6 PM at the Bedford Village Common.
 - June 28 Dr. Harps Blues Revue Band
 - July 5 North River (Americana Band)
 - July 12 Judy Pancoast (Family friendly songwriter/signer)
 - July 19 Bel Airs (Doo Wop Vocal Quintet)
 - July 26 Roxanne & The Voodoo Rockers
 - August 2 Bedford Big Band (Swing Era)
 - August 9 Manchester Community Music School
- 5) July 13 – Thursday Theater, "A League of Their Own", 2 PM, Library, Free. Register on the Library website.
- 6) July 13 – Thursday Theater, "Dungeons & Dragons", 6 PM, Library, Free. Register on the Library website.
- 7) July 15 – Household Hazardous Waste Day, 8:30 AM – 3 PM, Highway Garage, 19 Chubbuck Road.

- 8) Market in Motion Presentation - On July 18, 2023 at 6 PM Doug Irvine, Bedford Chief Assessor will conduct a session at the Bedford Library for those interested in more information on navigating current real estate trends for an equitable 2023 revaluation.
- 9) PFAS POET Rebate Programs:
 - Town of Bedford
 - Up to \$6,500
 - Outside of the Saint-Gobain Consent Decree
 - Installed 9/30/2019 – 9/30/2026
 - State of NH
 - Up to \$5,000
 - Outside of the Consent Decree
 - Installed 9/30/2019 –
 - Saint-Gobain
 - Up to \$5,000
 - Inside of the Consent Decree
 - Installed 9/30/2019 – 5/10/2023
- 10) July 4th – Bedford Town Offices, Library, Transfer Station, & BCTV Closed for Independence Day. Transfer Station will have extended hours Wednesday, July 5th, 7 AM – 5 PM.

Mr. Sawyer stated that Meetinghouse Road/Bedford Center Road water line project will be starting on July 10th. There will be a lot of signage. This will be a disruption in traffic. The week after July 4th and the following week are typically their lowest traffic volume weeks of the year. Meetinghouse Road will be closed from Route 101 to the Library, so you will have to access the Town Office Building and the Library from Wallace Road. It's expected to be a 2-day closure, but then as the project moves down the road in front of the frame shop and that part of the road, that section will be closed. You will be able to come up to the Library from Route 101, but you would have to get to the Town Office Building from Wallace Road. It will be a moving target for the next couple of months. It should be done by Labor Day. All the work on those two sections of road are required to be done before Labor Day. The project continues from the Town Office Building to Primary Plaza/Primary Bank on Bedford Center Road after they get those first sections done. They know it's a nuisance, and they know there's going to be some confusion. Especially at the Route 101 traffic lights. If you're coming from South River Road up Meetinghouse Road, you won't be able to go across Route 101. You won't be able to turn left or right onto Meetinghouse from 101. There will be signage directing you to Wallace Road for that detour. Chairman Carter wanted to know if there would be a Nixle. Mr. Sawyer stated that there would be lots of Nixles, variable message boards put up, but it is subject to change day to day and weather dependent. One day you might be able to drive the way you typically do and the next day you may not and the following day you may be able to go back again. There will be signage, flaggers, and Police Officers throughout that project.

9. COUNCILOR COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Councilor Gilbert stated that they had a Facilities Communications Subcommittee meeting last night. Their goal is to present a preliminary architectural plan or information

at their Council meeting on the 19th. They are also working on their 2nd press release, a website, and a frequently asked questions page on that website. A detailed presentation is in the works. They'll have that later and show the public and have meetings.

Councilor Thomas stated that they had a ZBA meeting where they approved a variance for a shed. The next two variances for the same project were withdrawn without prejudice; they needed more information. The next four, which were for the same project was postponed to the next meeting. They need a lot more information that they will provide.

Councilor Greazzo stated that on Monday the Planning Board approved the 3rd accessory dwelling unit. The 55 and older condominium project requested to be postponed until the next meeting on July 17th. Yesterday, the Highway Safety Committee recommended a 25 MPH speed limit, which will come to the Council for an ordinance change.

10. NON-PUBLIC – RSA 91-A:3 (if necessary)

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Councilor Gilbert to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Boufford