

**TOWN OF BEDFORD  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
September 26, 2018  
BEDFORD MEETING ROOM  
10 MEETINGHOUSE ROAD**

**6:45 PM – Interview for Conservation Commission**

Chairman Duschatko acknowledged William Carter who applied to be on the Conservation Commission. He thanked him for volunteering to be on the Commission. Mr. Carter gave a little background about himself and why he applied to be on the Conservation Commission. He has lived in Bedford for 10 months and he previously served on the Salem Conservation Commission where he was Chair. Councilor Murphy also thanked him for stepping up and getting involved.

**7:00 PM**

**1. ROLL CALL:** A meeting of the Bedford Town Council was held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018 at the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meetinghouse Rd. Present were Bill Duschatko (Chairman), Melissa Stevens (Vice Chair) and Councilors Phil Greazzo, Dave Gilbert, Kelleigh Murphy, and Chris Bandazian. Also present was Town Manager Rick Sawyer. Catherine Rombeau was absent.

Chairman Duschatko opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

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

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS** –

Ted Gatsas, ex-Mayor of Manchester, 105 Birchwood Road, Manchester came forward to address the Council. He is running for Executive Council and is touring the 17 towns that he's running in to tell them that if he's fortunate enough to be elected, he would give the Council members his cell phone so if they have a problem they can reach him.

Councilor Greazzo wanted to know the 17 towns. Mr. Gatsas stated that they are Lee, Loudon, Londonderry, Auburn, Goffstown, Bow, Hooksett, Pembroke, Chichester, Pittsfield, Epsom, Nottingham, Northwood, Barrington, and Bedford. It's a large district and people have questions like if they are going to do something with roads can they do it jointly; will the State pitch in like they did in Londonderry if the local community can come in with funds to do some of the renovations at exit 4A. Those are good questions and he's willing to help communities. Sometimes the smaller communities are forgotten about in 10-year plans and when they need help, they need help.

Councilor Murphy appreciated Mr. Gatsas taking the time to come down, particularly when there are people that represent local communities like Bedford. Sometimes it's difficult to put a face to a name, because they don't cross paths that often.

#### 4. Meeting update with Scott Wiggin, Fire Chief

Chief Wiggin and Deputy Chief Scott Hunter came forward.

### 2018 Fire Department Organizational Update

- Fire Department
- Emergency Management
- Building Department
- Health Department



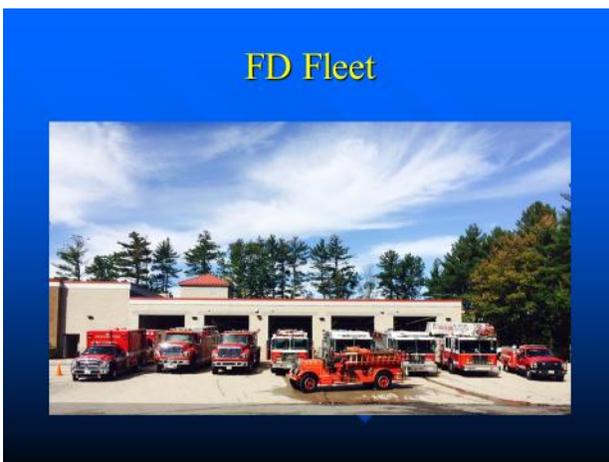
The patch is red with a gold border. It features a central emblem with a fire hydrant, a ladder, and a fire truck. The text 'BEDFORD' is at the top and 'FIRE N.H.' is at the bottom.

### FD Services

- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Fire (Structural, Motor Vehicle, Wildland)
- Rescue (Water, Ice, Rope, Motor Vehicle)
- HazMat
- Prevention (Enforcement, Education)

### 2018 Fire Department Staffing

- 38 Fulltime Personnel and 9 Call Personnel
  - 1 Fire Chief
  - 1 Deputy Fire Chief
  - 1 Captain of Prevention
  - 1 Captain of Training/ EMS
  - 1 Inspector
  - 1 Admin Assistant for fire, building and health departments
  - 4 Shift Lieutenants
  - 28 Shift Firefighters
  - 2 Call Lieutenants
  - 7 Call Firefighters



### 2017 Demand for Fire / EMS Services

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| ■ Ambulance Calls    | 2096        |
| ■ Fire Calls         | 631         |
| ■ Service Activities | <u>1630</u> |
| ■ Total              | 4357        |

## 2018 Building and Health Departments Staffing

- 1 Code Official
- 1 Building Inspector
- 1 Part Time Health Inspector

## Building and Health Departments

- YR 2017 a total of 3,294 Inspections
  - Commercial and Residential
- 460 Inspections
  - Restaurant and Pools

## Proposed New Development

- 140 Bed assisted living facility- Old Bedford Road
  - Chestnut Drive Apartments
- Maple Ridge Apartments- 43 Technology
  - Elliot Urgent Care- 25 Leavy

Projected to have increase impacts on Fire, EMS, Building, and Health Departments

## New Firefighters



## Local 3639



## NH-TF1



## Stop The Bleed



### Bedford Fire Department Would like to Thank

- Citizens for their continued support
- Town Council
- Town Manager Rick Sawyer
- All Personnel
- Bedford Professional Firefighters
- Bedford Firefighters Association



### Any Questions?

Thank You.

Scott A. Wiggin, Fire Chief  
603-792-1370

[swiggin@bedfordnh.org](mailto:swiggin@bedfordnh.org)

Scott Hunter, Deputy Fire Chief  
603-792-1369

[shunter@bedfordnh.org](mailto:shunter@bedfordnh.org)

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube

Chief Wiggin mentioned that it used to be Fire Prevention Week, but now it takes a whole month to do the community including the daycares, kindergarten, and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Councilor Murphy mentioned that not only do they go to the public schools, but they also go to BYPC and the other preschools and Montessori school and they take the time to educate the kids.

Councilor Bandazian commended those that went down to North Carolina. He was happy the 3<sup>rd</sup> ambulance is back in service. He mentioned taller buildings in Town wanted to know if they see a heavier use of the ladder truck in coming years. Chief Wiggin stated that the ladder truck was a critical piece of equipment. They've had balcony and window evacuations. Sometimes the ladder truck will be staged; it doesn't get committed to the front of the building at every event until the assessment is made of where it's going to be most effective and efficient. It's a rolling toolbox on wheels. It's not just the aerial portion of it.

Chief Wiggin mentioned the swiftwater team. Ben Selleck that was very instrumental in starting that swiftwater project in the Town of Bedford, training the guys locally and then went regional and from regional went to State and now it's gone National; all from someone who just took the initiative on his own and it's all grant money.

Chairman Duschatko read the following proclamation:

*WHEREAS, Bedford Fire Department members Captain Ben Selleck, Lieutenant Keith Folsom and Firefighter Jon Strong elected to go on a mission with the New Hampshire Task Force 1 Swiftwater/Floodwater Rescue team in response to North Carolina's Emergency Management request for assistance in the Hurricane Florence disaster; and*

*WHEREAS, Capt. Selleck, Lt. Folsom and FF Strong elected to gain and maintain the certifications necessary to be credentialed to serve the public in this capacity, which represents hundreds of hours of readiness preparation; and*

*WHEREAS, Capt. Selleck, Lt. Folsom and FF Strong sacrificed time away from their families and other duties at home to assist the victims of flood waters and worked as a team to provide direct rescue/evacuation assistances to over 50 flood water victims; and*

*WHEREAS, They endured mechanical and logistical challenges typical of such a response effort and overcame all obstacles to complete their mission; and*

*WHEREAS, They established positive, trusting relationships with professionals and the public in North Carolina and all states between as ambassadors of New Hampshire representing the Town of Bedford; and*

*WHEREAS, They gained the insight and experience while on the mission that can only come from such a deployment that would be indispensable in the event of a nature disaster closer to home; and*

*THEREFORE, Be it declared that we, the Bedford Town Council, do hereby acknowledge Captain Ben Selleck, Lieutenant Keith Folsom and Firefighter Jon Strong for their willingness to respond in times of disaster, their selfless dedication to complete their mission, and thank them for representing the Town of Bedford and the State of New Hampshire with professionalism and expertise.*

*PROCLAIMED BY THE Bedford, NH Town Council, THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF September 2018.*

Lt. Folsom came forward to accept the proclamation and there was a round of applause.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Schedule a public hearing in accordance with RSA 31:95-e for the acceptance of gift from New England Heart and Vascular Institute of a Lifepack 15 Monitor Defibrillator**

Mr. Sawyer explained that the Town is required to hold a public hearing because the amount of the gift is over \$5k. In this case, the estimates range between \$30k and \$33k. He thanked Catholic Medical Center for having this program and thanked the team at the Fire Department for having the forethought to approach them to be able to obtain the defibrillator for the 3<sup>rd</sup> ambulance.

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the Bedford Town Council schedule a public hearing in accordance with NH RSA 31:95-e for October 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM for consideration of a gift from New England Heart Vascular Institute Foundation. Seconded by Councilor Bandazian. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

- b. **Schedule a public hearing for the consideration of Transfer Station rate changes**

Jeff Foote, Public Works Director, explained that the purpose is to allow them to amend tipping fees at the Transfer Station. He made it clear that under this proposal, Bedford residents will continue to dispose of their municipal solid waste and household trash, recycling materials, brush and compost at the Transfer Station for free. There is no change proposed for any of those services.

Mr. Foote talked about the efforts to ensure who should be there and who should not be. As a result of those efforts, by increasing the amount of Transfer Station stickers, their revenues are projected to be up over \$100k this year at the Transfer Station. In addition, municipal solid waste is down almost 300 tons this year to date, which is another \$20k. These efforts coupled with the proposed tipping fee adjustments and the new recycling contract should serve the residents and Town well and reduce the tax burden on the taxpayers. He mentioned a handout showing rates for Bedford and surrounding communities. He went through some examples of why they are changing the rate including the disposal of mattresses, TV monitors and tires.

Councilor Murphy mentioned the comparable amounts for residential, but she doesn't see comparable commercial rates. Mr. Foote stated that many of the other towns don't distinguish between residential and commercial. Councilor Murphy gave some examples of other towns and indicated that what Mr. Foote is proposing is well within the ballpark if not below neighboring communities.

Mr. Foote thought that there was antidotal evidence that their rates are a little bit low and may be attracting folks from other communities, because of the comparables they

are seeing. He thought this would level the playing field for the commercial aspect while having no effect on residents. It's mostly housekeeping items that they are proposing.

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the Bedford Town Council schedule a public hearing for October 10, 2018 at 7 PM to consider amending the tipping fee schedule at the Bedford Transfer Station. Seconded by Councilor Gilbert. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

**c. Schedule a public hearing for the consideration of dog licensing rate changes**

Lori Radke, Town Clerk, explained that she is proposing that they raise the dog fees. For an altered dog, go from \$6.50 to \$7.00, for an unaltered dog, go from \$9.00 to \$10.00. The charge for the first dog for seniors is \$2.00 and she's proposing they keep that at \$2.00. The fees for the dogs has been at this level since before she was Town Clerk. According to State statute they are allowed to increase the fees by \$1.00. She mentioned that civil forfeitures have dropped, because they've been educating the dog owners to get their dogs licensed. The increase will help offset some of the money used to send out letters, postcards, and postage. She mentioned that sometimes people come in to register their dogs and they don't have the \$.50 in change, so with the increase they would only be dealing with dollars.

Councilor Murphy wanted to know what neighboring communities were charging to register dogs. Ms. Radke stated that about 80% charge \$7.50 for an altered dog, which is the maximum and about 30% charge what Bedford currently charges. Councilor Murphy thought that logically, the argument she heard is because people are registering their dogs on time, they should charge them more and she doesn't love that. If there was alternate reasoning that would appeal to her...she's rolling it around in her head.

Ms. Radke stated that from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018, they licensed 3,346 altered dogs and puppies and about 211 unaltered dogs and 345 senior dogs and 19 group licenses. They are keeping group licenses the same at \$20.00. She mentioned that the number of licensed dogs increases every year. They have about 3,500 registered dogs. They bring in about \$18k in revenue and it costs about \$2,500 for expenditures, but that doesn't count her salary. That's just strictly postage, postcards, dog tags, etc. If they increase the fees as proposed it would be an additional \$1884 in revenue each year. The State will take a portion of that, \$2.50.

Councilor Stevens wanted the numbers for surrounding towns. She also wanted to know about the difference in fee for senior owners; was that typical in most towns. Ms. Radke stated that it is by State statute. For 65 and older, they can license their first dog for \$2.00. Additional dogs would be the same fee as everyone else.

Councilor Bandazian wanted a ballpark figure of how dog owners pay; do the majority come in and use Town Clerk or counter clerk time or do they use credit cards. He wanted the breakdown. Ms. Radke stated that if she can get that information, she will.

Councilor Murphy wanted to know if they are paying by credit card, what the Town pays in fees. Ms. Radke stated that it's \$1.95 extra paid by the dog owner.

**MOTION by Councilor Bandazian that the Bedford Town Council schedule a public hearing to increase dog license fees for the October 10, 2018 Council meeting at 7 PM. Seconded by Councilor Murphy. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

#### **d. Primary Election update**

Mr. Radke stated that the percent of people that came out to vote was about 24%. The results of the Election are on the website including the total number of ballots cast for each of the races. Democrat - 2,321 ballots cast, Republican – 2,637, Libertarian – 15. She mentioned that she noticed early on during the absentees that more were picking up a Democratic ballot, so she was proactive and contacted the Secretary of State's office and asked them to send all of the over runs on the Democratic side. At the end of Election night they only had 50 Democratic ballots left. They would have run out had she not asked for more. She stated that of the registered voters, there are 7,770 Republicans, 3,893 Democrats, 13 Libertarians, and 5,572 undeclared.

Councilor Murphy wanted to know what the split was on independents picking up ballots. Ms. Radke stated that of the undeclared voters, 569 picked up a Republican ballot, 892 picked up a Democratic ballot and 8 picked up a Libertarian ballot. They had 158 people register to vote at the polls. She told a story of someone from Oregon that came into her office to register to vote and she asked him what they do in Oregon to vote. He stated they are all sent a ballot through the mail and they have to send the ballot back. He had gone to the polls to vote and he said that compared to Oregon's vote by mail, it was a pain, especially parking; however, in Oregon no one stand's at your mailbox and says, 'Thank you for voting.' Several supporters did that on the way out. They also had their kids with them and the kids thought the whole ordeal was exciting so that's good for the future.

#### **e. Roads Program Update**

Mr. Foote gave an update on the roads program. He referred to a map on the screen [attached to minutes] showing roads under construction, roads that will be finished in 2019, 2019 projects and 2019 potential new projects.

##### **1. Campbell Road**

- Finished earlier in the year and included a reconstruction of intersections and reclaim and pave in other spots.

##### **2. Pulpit Road & 'Three Corners'**

- Roadway was constructed on Pulpit earlier in the year. Found failed pipes in the Three Corners area - spent over \$80k in additional closed drainage work.

- Contractor is scheduled to be on Pulpit Road the first two weeks in October to mill the Three Corners area and to pave Three Corners and Pulpit Road down to New Boston Road.
- 3. Polly Peabody Road
  - No action since they completed the preliminary design in January. 2019?
- 4. High Street
  - Completed with SB38 monies earlier in the year – paved and added curbing
- 5. Liberty Hill Road
  - Delayed as a result of the PFOA Back River Road Project (#7)
  - In 2019 – additional side streets – Old Sawmill, Strawberry Lane
- 6. Gage Road, Pheasant Run Road & Barrington Drive
  - Contractor will be in late fall to work on Barrington, Gage and Pheasant Run
- 7. PWW PFOA Back River Road Project
- 8. Sebbins Pond Drive, Sandy Pond Parkway, Mulberry Lane, Bayberry Court, Heather Drive & Teaberry Lane
  - Contractor has installed closed drainage, under drain
  - Reclaiming Heather, Teaberry and portions of Mulberry
  - Goal is to have that area substantially complete this fall
  - Finish 2019 area – DES application on closed drainage and water quality improvements as part of their wetlands application – not approved yet.
- 9. Cider Mill Road Bridge Project
  - Began in late August – Completion is scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 10. Donald Street Project, Constance Street and Sandstone Drive
  - Started the design process
  - Applied for an ARM Grant for up to \$500k towards project. If successful will move forward in 2019. If not, scale back some of the improvements.
- 11. South River Road/Meetinghouse Road
  - Waiting for Encore and former Macy's site to complete their offsite improvements, so they can mill and overlay those sections of roadway.
- 12. Holbrook Hill Road
  - Regraded and paved the intersection. Aligned with New Boston Road at a more perpendicular angle and drainage improvements
- 13. Olde English Road
  - Improve in 2019 when they are working on Liberty Hill Road.
- 14. Grafton Drive, Wentworth Drive & Gage Girls Road
  - Good candidates for 2019
- 15. Bedford Center Road & Burleigh Terrace
  - Put a band-aid on it last year to make it passable.
  - When the Route 101 project is substantially complete, the goal is to go in and improve the sections shown (mustard color)
  - Reclaim and pave Burleigh Terrace
- 16. Greyrock Road, Dearborn Lane, Elk Drive, Blanford Place, Beaver Lane, Wind Song Circle, Freedom Way and Hunters Road
  - Needs some attention and will combine with #14.

Mr. Foote stated that they are working on invasive plant control. Japanese Knotweed along the road impacts maintenance of the ditches and grows to reduce site distance. They will be putting something on the website in November to get input from people on where they have seen it, so they can introduce a program to eliminate it along the road.

Mr. Foote stated that on October 1<sup>st</sup>, the notice of intent for the MS4 general permit must be submitted to the EPA. It will allow the Town to discharge stormwater waters into the waters of the United States. It's nearly complete and the goal is to have the Town Manager sign that application so they can forward it to the Federal Government. The next large deliverable will become more specific as they move forward. They will have to identify and reduce pollutants the Town's waterways.

Councilor Murphy mentioned a discussion occurring on Facebook as to sidewalks and she thought there was a lot of misinformation. She mentioned that the road bond language precluded sidewalk work as part of the road bond funds. She wanted him to speak to as to what cost is involved. Mr. Foote stated that the cost is very variable depending on where you are and the process and what has been completed to date. If there was already closed drainage, it would be about \$200k-\$250k to complete the sidewalk. Planning got an estimate to complete a sidewalk as if there was nothing; an after the fact effort, and it was closer to \$500k. Councilor Murphy stated that she told people that if they do it in conjunction with road repairs as they are going through it significantly less expensive. Mr. Foote stated that the big component of it is the closed drainage, which is necessary to build sidewalks. If that can be put in during the road construction, it's more favorable cost wise. Councilor Murphy wanted to know if it was a general rule that about 50% of the cost of construction of sidewalks lies in the drainage component. Mr. Foote stated that he wouldn't say it's 50%, but it's more.

Councilor Stevens heard that the Town was responsible for the maintenance of the new sidewalks on Route 101 and Mr. Foote confirmed that they are. Councilor Stevens wanted to know if the Town would be maintaining them in the winter or will the sidewalks be used as snow storage. Mr. Foote stated that they would be maintaining them in the winter. Councilor Stevens wanted to know if the Town had the equipment for that. Mr. Foote stated that they are short staffed in Public Works. Sidewalks as a result of the Route 101 project are going to increase dramatically. They are going to have to mow it and maintain it during the summer and also maintain it during the winter. That is a big commitment for department personnel. There are several other areas why they need a couple of more people at the Department of Public Works. One of them will be funded through general fund and the other will be funded through the sewer department. Chairman Duschatko would like to deal with that during the budget.

Councilor Gilbert wanted to know if there was a plan to look at doing some pothole filling on Liberty Hill. Mr. Foote stated that they are trying to have those responsible for the PFOA contamination come in and do that, because they would have done it this year, so it's an added expense. They don't know how successful they are going to be.

Councilor Stevens heard that the State was planning on repaving New Boston Road and wanted to know if he had heard any timeline on that. Mr. Sawyer stated that the last update he had was the shimming they did last year was in preparation of a 2019 paving of the entire road, but didn't know when in 2019.

Mr. Sawyer stated that 2019 is the last year that they go with their last authorization of the \$30m road bond, so they have \$10m worth of work that is proposed. Mr. Foote talked about road life and the conditions of previously reconstructed roads. Mr. Sawyer stated that it's an important element of the Capital Improvements Plan. The Local Roads program in the CIP calls for increasing the funding on that over time until they get to \$2m, because they are working their way out of reconstruction and into the maintenance, which will be paid for out of the local roads fund of \$2m a year.

#### **f. 2019 CIP Update**

Mr. Sawyer stated that to be CIP eligible it needs to be a project of \$25k or more and have an extended lifespan of three years or more. The Plan is put forth in accordance with RSA 674 and the Town Charter. The Charter requires that the Plan be submitted to the Town Council one month prior to the budget submission, which is required to be at the end of October. The Plan is also submitted to the Planning Board for their review and comment especially on project rankings. The rankings and the entire Plan remains flexible all the way through the budget process until the Budgetary Town Meeting.

Mr. Sawyer stated that the total CIP for the 10 years is \$80m as its currently proposed and about \$10m in 2019 with \$4.6m of that \$10m being just debt service for the local roads program. \$238k was added to the debt service for the proposed 2019 Plan because of that 3<sup>rd</sup> road bond installment. It also includes \$4m for the Parks Plan, which should be significantly reduced if they moved forward with bonding that project, which is what he's recommending.

Mr. Sawyer stated that the Parks Plan is currently in draft form. Public Works has been working with the Recreation Department and the MOLD committee over the past several months to develop a master plan for all of the parks. The Plan is in draft form. Jeff presented the Plan to the Parks & Recreation Commission earlier this month. They needed more time to review it and come up with a recommendation, so they are meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. One of the elements of the Plan would move the Little League complex to Swenson's Field. They are building two new diamonds there. They can't put any lights at the current location of the Little League complex, because it's a former landfill. They could then turn the current Little League complex into a practice field area. Another major element being recommended is Sportsman Field being redone with artificial turf and replacing the lighting. Using synthetic turf would allow for extended play at night and earlier and later in the seasons. It would add about \$500k-\$600k to the cost of the program. That decision makes a major impact on how many fields they can do in the first year of the program.

Mr. Sawyer stated that included in the CIP for 2019 is the Assessing revaluation, impact fee update, Library parking lot and septic fields, improvements to the Transfer Station, document management system, highway backhoe, dump truck, and a leased to own wheeled excavator. 2019 will be the last year of the landfill closure bond. No money has been included for any of the structures identified in the Facilities Master Plan.

Chairman Duschatko wanted to confirm that it's \$80m over 10 years; this year is \$10m, which includes \$4.5m of debt service, and \$4-\$4.5m for fields. Mr. Sawyer agreed with those figures. Chairman Duschatko thought they were talking about an incremental increase of about \$1.25m to \$1.5m, which Mr. Sawyer stated that was correct.

Councilor Bandazian mentioned useful life of a turf field versus sod. Mr. Foote stated that sod is 8-10 years and turf can be 10 or more years. The turf field is synthetic and the comparable hours they can use it per year goes from 1100-1200 hours to 2700 hours of available time. Councilor Gilbert added that with the plan of moving the Little League fields down to Swenson and using the current Little League field as a practice field would help take the strain off of Riley and Sportsman. Mr. Foote stated that when they looked at the actual cost per hour, the sod field versus the synthetic field, it went from about \$19/hour to just over \$30/hour. So even though it's more, they gain quite a bit in hours used in the spring and the fall. Councilor Bandazian asked about maintenance. Mr. Foote stated that the yearly differential was about \$50k/year, but gaining the potential for 2.5 times the hours of use. Chairman Duschatko thought it was about \$56k in favor of the artificial field. Mr. Foote stated that a synthetic turf field is more expensive, but when they include the potential hours to use it, it closes the gap.

Councilor Stevens wanted to know the cost difference of maintenance for the grass field and the turf field. Mr. Foote stated that he didn't have that information. Councilor Stevens asked if there was a greater upfront cost to putting in turf, but then when maintaining it 10-15 years down the road if the cost was that much less. Councilor Gilbert stated that the School was spending almost \$1m to replace their turf field, but they have more surface than Sportsman. Mr. Foote stated that the number of people that use the fields is easily in the thousands and that didn't include the passive use. For \$4.1m, he thought there would be a lot of benefit to a lot of people in the community.

Councilor Stevens mentioned charging a fee to the leagues. Mr. Foote stated that it was a policy decision. Councilor Gilbert stated that they discussed it and based on what they go forward with, they will discuss it again and come up with a plan. Councilor Murphy stated that it's multitiered because some of the leagues per the contract with the Town are paying for various aspects of maintenance. She thought that the reason it was left open was because some leagues do a ton of work to the fields and some do almost nothing, so it probably needs to be addressed on a case by case basis. Councilor Gilbert stated that if a recreation league in Town uses the fields they don't pay, but a league that has kids from other towns, they would have to make arrangements. He thought it was sort of like doing the roads in a road bond. It's a need, not a want. Mr. Sawyer thought that they would have to come up with a policy for what happens on the fields once they rebuilding them such as vehicles and putting up tents.

**g. Appointment to the Conservation Commission**

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the Bedford Town Council appoint William Carter as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire in 2021. Seconded by Councilor Gilbert. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

**h. Approval of 2019 Town Council meeting dates**

Mr. Sawyer mentioned some changes due to school vacations and a Jewish holiday.

**MOTION by Councilor Bandazian that the Bedford Town Council approve the 2019 Town Council meeting dates as appended to the staff memo dated September 20, 2018. Seconded by Councilor Stevens. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0 (Councilor Murphy was not present for the vote).**

**i. Other New Business – None.**

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. PFC Update**

Mr. Sawyer stated that tremendous progress had been made for the installation of water lines along Tirrell Road and Back River Road that they've completed. They are also working on house line connections. For the South River Road project area, there is still no contract in place for those water lines to be extended along South River Road. The State has completed the paving project and he's disappointed that St. Gobain and the State didn't get it worked out to get the work done before the State paved. Talking with the State and St. Gobain representatives last week, the State is not happy and he's not happy. In his opinion, St. Gobain deferred why that contract is not in place. They are saying part of it is they can't get contractors and part of it is they anticipated that Manchester Water Works would be completing the work. He thought there was some misunderstanding. He thought the State was just becoming aware of that contract not being in place about the same time he was.

Mr. Sawyer stated that the State was moving forward with studying what the ambient groundwater quality standard should be. They will be holding hearings in Concord and the seacoast and they are looking to hold one in the Southern NH area. It will probably take place in Litchfield. Also, the Department of Health and Human Services is also considering holding a health fair in the region in a 6 weeks or so.

Councilor Bandazian wanted to know how long the people in the PFA area on South River Road had been on bottled water and Mr. Sawyer stated that it's about 12-18 months. Some of the homes along Green meadow have been on bottled water for three years by the time they get their water.

**b. Town Council Retreat Updates**

Councilor Bandazian mentioned that the group and Lori Radke is working on an RFP for document management. Chairman Duschatko stated that Ms. Radke had prepared one. Councilor Bandazian was hoping it would get them a number in time for the budget.

Councilor Stevens thought she and Rick should connect about the mailer that they were talking about putting out for the Town Election in March.

**c. Other Old Business – None.**

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. Public Session – July 18, 2018**

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the Bedford Town Council approve the minutes of the July 18, 2018 Public Session. Seconded by Councilor Bandazian. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

**b. Public Session – August 15, 2018**

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the Bedford Town Council approve the minutes of the August 15, 2018 Public Session. Seconded by Councilor Gilbert. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

**c. Non-Public Session – August 15, 2018**

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy that the Bedford Town Council approve the minutes of the August 15, 2018 Non-Public Session. Seconded by Councilor Bandazian. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

**8. TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

- 1) Thanked Captain Ben Selleck, Lt. Folsom, and firefighter Strong who led the NH Swiftwater Task Force deployment to North Carolina due to hurricane Florence. They completed approximately 50 evacuations and rescues. They were gone for about a week and worked day and night, in the dark in the water, in an unfamiliar territory and congratulated them for stepping up and leading that team.
- 2) Governor Christopher T. Sununu and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services have issued a public health threat declaration in the southern part of the State for West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). The declaration is due in part to the 16 mosquito batches that have tested positive for WNV in New Hampshire since the beginning of July: nine in Manchester, three in Nashua, and one each in Salem, Keene, North Hampton and Rye. The risk level for human illness in Manchester is now at “High”. Additionally there have been three hawks and one crow that have tested positive in the area of the threat declaration. There have been no detections of EEE in New Hampshire yet this year. Residents and visitors should protect themselves and their family members by using an

effective mosquito repellent that contains 30% DEET, wearing long sleeves and pants at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.

- 3) The school parking program has gone very well again this year with 153 names being provided to us following the school lottery program. We have a total of 187 spaces. The lottery list had approximately 30 more names this year versus last year, but 25 of the names were students that did not have driver's licenses. The school does not require a license to enter their lottery however we do in order to get a permit. I still believe it is fairer to issue a parking space to those with a license. It is possible that if more students obtain vehicles in coming years there may not be enough spaces available so it will be critical that all students apply through the lottery. There are currently six spaces left. I do want to thank the students and their families for being so cooperative during the permit process.
- 4) Blueprint Bedford Art Contest is open until October 19<sup>th</sup>. There are two ways to participate: Take a PHOTO of your current favorite building, park or space in Bedford or DRAW a picture of what you imagine Bedford could be like in 20 years. All entries will be displayed in the Planapalooza Studio Space and public voting will open on November 2, 2018. Winners will be announced on November 5, 2018 during the Planapalooza Closing Event. Visit [www.blueprintbedford.com](http://www.blueprintbedford.com).
- 5) Blueprint Bedford is underway and had a community kickoff meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> with approximately 135 people in attendance. The team also met with staff and community leaders during the day. Planning is underway for the next major event "Planapalooza" which will be held on November 1-4 at a location to be determined.
- 6) September 29<sup>th</sup> – The Bedford Fire and Police Departments will be participating in Primary Bank's Second Annual Kids Safety Event, 10 AM – 2 PM.
- 7) October 8<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Day – Library will be closed to the public for staff training; all other facilities will open. The Transfer Station will be closed as is typical on Mondays.
- 8) NH DOT will hold a Public Hearing in at the Merrimack High School regarding the widening of the F.E. Everett Turnpike on October 3, 2018, at 7:00 PM, with doors opening at 6 PM for viewing of the plans.
- 9) October 8<sup>th</sup> – Police Department Swearing In Ceremony, Safety Complex, 9 AM.
- 10) October 9<sup>th</sup> – The Bedford Fire Department Open House, 5-8 PM at the Safety Complex, 55 Constitution Drive.

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

Councilor Greazzo mentioned that the Police were holding active attacker training on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at St. Elizabeth Seton. The Governor may be in attendance.

Councilor Gilbert mentioned a Zoning Board meeting in August and he was impressed by the turnout of people there to support the businesses. The ZBA Chair stated after public comment that they typically get people commenting against something, but tonight every comment was positive. Councilor Gilbert asked the townspeople of Bedford to get involved and be part of the process. Make your voice heard by coming to meetings, joining a board or committee, get involved, and be heard. He made these comments, 'You make what's important, important' and 'Silence is acceptance.'

Councilor Murphy mentioned attending the Highway Safety Committee meeting and applauded Chief Bryfonski. They had some concerns about traffic on Pilgrim and Puritan Drive and there were debates on how to deal with that and what to do, and Chief Bryfonski was very innovative and quick thinking on his feet and suggested they put temporary stop signs up and see how that goes and monitor speeds and see if that is effective. She also pointed out that speeding has been a big issue, especially with back to school. She asked that everyone slow down and be cognizant of the fact that the reason why they are all living in the community is because they have school age children and are interested in not only their education, but also in their general well-being and if they are speeding and someone gets injured, that defeats the purpose. She also pointed out that fines are doubled if speeding through a posted construction zone. BPD posted that on their Facebook page reminding everyone to stop speeding through the Route 101 construction.

Councilor Stevens thanked the Bedford Police Department for the engaging discussion during Old Towne Day. They enjoyed getting to meet some of the officers and learning about the wildlife in the area.

Councilor Bandazian mentioned that the Department of Environmental Services was holding another PFAS program in Merrimack and impacted communities including Bedford are encouraged to attend. It's on October 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm at the Masticola Upper Elementary School all purpose room, 26 Baboosic Lake Road. He was hoping that BCTV could cover it.

Chairman Duschatko mentioned a new program being held on October 27<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of October 28<sup>th</sup>. It's a joint presentation of the Friends of the Bedford Cemeteries and the Historical Society. It's a tour of the old section of the Bedford Center Cemetery suitable for children under 12. They will have a costume contest and refreshments. It will be a combination of entertainment and education. The education will go towards the paranormal end of things. The name of the event is Ghost Whispers of the Past. At 5:00pm there is an adult, children over 12 years old, and another one at 7:00pm. They are separately ticketed and are limited. They are available online and there is a group discount for early bird payments at [Friendsofbedfordcemeteries.org](http://Friendsofbedfordcemeteries.org).

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

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Councilor Murphy to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Stevens. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 6-0.**

The meeting ended at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Boufford