

Town of Loudon

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

Present: Chairman Gilman, and Selectman Griffin

Also present: Road Agent Russ Pearl, Fire Chief Tom Blanchette, Police Chief Dana Flanders, Town Administrator Brenda Pearl, Zoning Board Representative Alvin See and Planning Board Representative Rodney Phillips

I. Call to Order

Chairman Gilman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Gilman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Consent Agenda

Selectman Griffin made a motion to accept the consent agenda as listed. Chairman Gilman seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.

IV. Board of Permit

- a. Chairman Gilman opened the Board of Permit at 6:01 PM.
- b. *NHMS 50/50 Raffle*: The application was reviewed and there were no objections from the Zoning Board, the Planning Board, Department Heads or the Board of Selectmen.
- c. *Dudley's Ice Cream Tent Permit*: The application was reviewed and there were concerns raised by the Fire Chief as to whether or not this was an outside vendor setting up on the Dudley's property or if the owner of Dudley's was setting up their own tent on their own property. This may be an outside vendor that normally sets up at Rapid Refill and has approximately 10 tents which can cause a problem with the view of traffic due to the location. The owner of Dudley's was contacted and advised the Board that this permit is for an outside vendor, and she is requesting 1 tent sized 20' x 40'. The tent will need to be inspected, and the vendor will be arriving tomorrow. No other concerns were presented, pending inspection approval. All appropriate parties signed.
- d. Chairman Gilman closed the Board of Permit at 6:17 PM.

V. Appointment: David Cossette

- a. Mr. Cossette owns Terry Drive, a 350 foot long private road in Loudon and he wishes to pave this road. He spoke with the Board in order to get their blessing and to inform them that he plans to take proper precautions. For example, Mr. Cossette explained that there is already an improved turn around for emergency vehicles at

the end of the road. Chief Blanchette expressed concern about liability if the pavement cracks under the firetruck.

- b. Mr. Cossette spoke extensively with the Road Agent, the Fire Chief and the Board about signage at the end of the road regarding parking and where the sign should be located and whether or not it would be enforceable.

VI. Police Department

- a. Chief Flanders advised the Board that National Night Out was a great success and thanked all those who donated to the event and the Fire Department for their participation.
- b. Chief Flanders thanked MV Senior, Jameson Butler of Boscawen, for painting a mural in the PD lobby.
- c. Beginning Thursday at 4:00 PM, there will be around the clock details for NHMS, and the business line will be open 24 hours per day. Dispatch will be onsite at NHMS, for the track and the town.
- d. Chief Flanders would like to enter an auction on Municibid for a retired cruiser in Pennsylvania. He requested to spend up to \$25,000.00 plus 9% to replace the cruiser damaged in the Beanstalk incident.

VII. Fire Department

- a. Chief Blanchette advised that there have been over 630 calls so far this year.
- b. Early Monday morning there was a structure fire in town, which resulted with only one minor injury. Chief Blanchette thanked all mutual aid partners to include Lakes Region and Capital Area.
- c. Like the Police Department, there will be 24 hour/day dispatch at NHMS beginning at 7:00 PM Thursday until noon on Monday at NHMS. There have been some staffing struggles for the weekend. Chief Blanchette has a retired Fire Chief from Franklin who is available to help and asked the Board for permission to hire him for the weekend. The Board agreed.
- d. All equipment is currently working and Chief Blanchette provided an update on recent preventative maintenance and repairs.
- e. The new live-in student has successfully moved into Fire Station 2.
- f. Chief Blanchette advised the Board that he responded to a literal dumpster fire at NHMS earlier that day and that it could have been very dangerous due to the close proximity of all of the campers for the race this weekend.

VIII. Highway Department

- a. Road Agent Pearl advised that the yellow lines will be painted on School Street tomorrow.
- b. Highway Department members attended a Culvert installation class hosted by UNH T2, in order to become certified Culvert Installers as the crew is steadily cleaning out current culverts.
- c. Road Agent Pearl told the Board that roadside mowing is currently underway.

- d. The Highway Department is currently cleaning underneath the Lower Ridge Road bridge and filling with epoxy cement to extend the life of bridge.
- e. The Road Agent advised the Board that the dirt roads are holding up well with minimal dust due to the rain that we have had.
- f. Road Agent Pearl is currently obtaining quotes for tree removal throughout town.
- g. Chairman Gilman inquired if the training from UNH was free. Road Agent Pearl advised that the Highway Department gets free seats to the classes since we allow them to host the classes in Charlie's Barn. Chairman Gilman followed up by asking if Primex offers any relevant training. Road Agent Pearl stated there is a chainsaw class, but most are already certified. There will be a Flagger certification in the spring and a plowing class in November to prepare for winter.

IX. New Business

- a. *Paving (N. Village)*: Chairman Gilman made a motion to shim and overlay on North Village Road for 2 miles of road in 8 separate locations requiring 274 tons of asphalt at \$150.00 per ton totaling \$41,100.00 money to be paid from account 01-22200-000-002. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.
- b. *Paving (Lovejoy)*: Chairman Gilman made a motion to shim and overlay Lovejoy Road on the 475' x 20' area which will require 120 tons of asphalt at \$150.00 per ton totaling \$18,000.00 money to be paid from account 01-22200-000-002. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.
- c. *Paving (Oak Hill)*: Chairman Gilman made a motion to shim and overlay Oak Hill Road on the 1,300' x 20' area which will require 325 tons of asphalt at \$150.00 per ton totaling \$48,750.00 with \$14,494.51 coming from account 01-22200-000-002 and the remaining balance of \$32,255.49 coming from the Highway Block Grant account number 01-43120-900-012. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.
- d. *Paving (Currier)*: Chairman Gilman made a motion to shim and overlay two paved hills on Currier Road; Joe Brown's hill requiring 250 tons of asphalt and Roger Maxfield's hill requiring 210 tons of asphalt all at \$150.00 per ton totaling \$69,00.00 all of which to be paid from the Highway Block Grant account number 01-43120-900-012. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.
- e. *Drainage Work (Fire Station 1)*: Chairman Gilman made a motion to expend up to \$20,000.00 for repairs to the drainage system in the front parking lot and then the paving of it from the Arthur Colby Safety Complex Upgrade CRF account number 105-520-024. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor the motion carries.
- f. *Ambulance Write-off Requests*: Chief Blanchette advised that since 2019 it's been a process of cleaning up ambulance billing and building procedures. Some accounts will time out, and the credit agency has already worked them if they have, but eventually they become uncollectable. Small claims court isn't the best option anymore like it used to be for uncollectable accounts. This item was tabled to the next meeting when there is a full board. Chief Blanchette advised that there is no timeline for a decision, this is just an accounting process.

X. Old Business

- a. *Cruiser*: The Board and Chief Flanders discussed what the potential insurance payout will be versus the cost of this used vehicle on Municibid. The other option is to not file a claim and used the damaged/cleaned cruiser as a detail only car. The used car is a 2021 Ford and Chief Flanders has all of the service records, to recently include new tires and brakes. Chairman Gilman made a motion to allow the Police Chief to engage in an auction for a used cruiser not to exceed the amount of \$27,250.00. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.
- b. *Mowing*: The Board stated that a plan needs to be made moving forward since the current contracted individual is not available to continue for the remainder of the season. A current part-time Transfer Station employee has asked the Road Agent for extra work, and he was referred to the Cemetery Custodian. The previous mower invoiced for approximately \$1,550.00 weekly to include the mowing of 4 cemeteries: Lovering, Village, Mt. Hope and Moore. The cemetery maintenance budget line holds \$18,000.00 each year. The Cemetery Custodian has completed 44 hours of mowing thus far, in about a month. Weed control would be helpful to make the mowing less time consuming. The Cemetery Custodian wants the Board to walk through the cemeteries to review some stones in need of repair. The Board will wait for all three members to be present to discuss appropriate compensation for mowing.

XI. Important Dates

- Aug. 19th – 6:00 PM – Charming Fare Farm Petting Zoo – Rec Fields
- Aug. 20th – 7:00 PM – Planning Board meeting
- Aug. 27th – 7:00 PM – Zoning Board meeting
- Sept. 16th – 9:30 PM – CIP meeting

XII. Public Comment

Jason Gerhard of Northfield, NH spoke to the Board about accountability in the State House and believes that a Grand Jury is the best option. He provided documentation to the Board to support his argument. Chairman Gilman inquired about Merrimack County jurors versus others and Mr. Gerhard advised that all of the Grand Jurors in the State are being selected from Hillsboro County.

XIII. Nonpublic Session

- a. Chairman Gilman made a motion to enter nonpublic session at **7:23 PM** per RSA 91-A:3, II (b) *The hiring of any person as a public employee*. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Chairman Gilman - yes, Selectman Griffin – yes. All in favor, the motion carries. Fire Chief Blanchette was present during the nonpublic session.
- b. Chairman Gilman made a motion to come out of nonpublic session at **7:41 PM**. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.

- c. Chairman Gilman made a motion to hire Brad Weilbrenner as a call/per diem fire fighter / paramedic. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.

XIV. Nonpublic Session

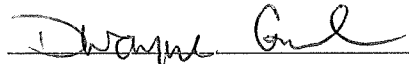
- a. Chairman Gilman made a motion to enter nonpublic session at **7:44 PM** per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.* Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Chairman Gilman - yes, Selectman Griffin - yes. All in favor, the motion carries. Administrative Assistant Ashley McGinn was present during the nonpublic session.
- b. Chairman Gilman made a motion to come out of nonpublic session at **8:18 PM**. Selectman Griffin seconded the motion. All in favor, the motion carries.

XV. Adjournment

Selectman Griffin made a motion to adjourn at **8:18 PM**. Chairman Gilman seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley McGinn, Administrative Assistant

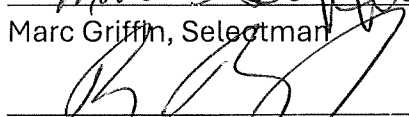
Loudon Board of Selectmen



Dwayne Gilman, Chairman



Marc Griffin, Selectman



Roger Bilodeau, Selectman