



Town of Boscawen

116 North Main Street, Boscawen, NH 03303 | Telephone: 603.753.9188

March 2024 Monthly Newsletter

Economic Development: The EDC met on March 5th. Members of the EDC, town staff, Charlie Niebling, and Don Moyer (Friends of the Northern Rail Trail) conducted a site walk of the Boscawen Town Park and Dorval House. The mission was to review sites for the future pavilion location (behind Dorval House or between the ball field and tennis courts). Elements of the project included a 30'x50' pavilion, an observation deck overlooking the bridge abutment and river, a potential 14x18 interpretative kiosk with historical information to include pieces of the former bridge, a security wall running along the slope using cut stone salvaged from the Commercial Street Mills, and a possible expansion/renovation of the Dorval House restrooms. The consensus was to go with the Dorval House location being as close to Depot Street for visibility, easy access to potential water source/electrical, and as close as possible to river shoreline that allows for a nice vista of the river. The next step will be to have the subcommittee sort out the letter of intent for the EDC and Select Board to approve. After approval, the town will then apply for the grant.

Planning Board: The Planning Board met on March 5th. The Board reviewed the Zoning Ordinance to identify topics to update in 2025, including Camping/Recreational Vehicles, Manufactured Homes, and Tiny Homes/Other. The Board reviewed the Master Plan Housing Chapter with final edits made to the Boscawen Elementary School section on page 7, the Elderly Housing section on page 10, and the Impact Fee section on page 11. The Board reviewed the Impact Fee schedule and discussed amendments including reallocating funds from "Public Schools", adding a new section for "Public Safety" and how the Public Works department could be included. Any changes made to the Impact Fee schedule will require a Public Hearing.

Agricultural Commission: The Agricultural Commission met on March 11th. The Commission received feedback for updating the "Welcome to Boscawen" signs. A different color scheme and redefining several letters that have been filled in over time was suggested. The Commission will keep a file with suggestions for when the time comes to replace the signs.

Conservation Commission: The Conservation Commission met on March 19th. Josh Megyesy, NH Fish & Game Wildlife Biologist, who is with the 'non-game program' made a presentation regarding Turtles. The Commission discussed placement of turtle crossing signs. High turtle areas are on Queen Street and Corn Hill Road. A suggestion was made to utilize the flip signs so they can flip them up when it is not the turtle season. The Commission accepted the resignation of Mr. Lyman Cousens with regret after many years of service.

Energy Committee: The Energy Committee met on March 19th. The Committee reviewed a proposal from Affinity LED to replace the streetlights in town. If the Select Board approves the proposal, the town will enter a contract. The town would then pay 50% of the upfront costs. Affinity will perform an audit of all fixtures in town and comes up with a plan. The town will then review and approve. Fixtures are ordered, installed sometime in late May or early June, then the Town pays the remaining 50%. The proposal showed the total project costs are approximately \$38K. Unitil has already approved a \$24K+ rebate, leaving a balance of approximately \$13K. Fixtures are \$17K, that and the balance, will equal about \$31K with Unitil over 5 years at 0%.



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The savings after paying off the loan will amount to about \$6200/year which is about 80% of the electricity amount on the bill.

Zoning Board of Adjustment: The ZBA met on March 26th. The ZBA held the 2nd out of 3 required meetings to adopt changes to the Rules of Procedure. The ZBA is looking for a regular member and alternate members.

Joint Loss Mitigation: The JLMC last met on December 5th.

Beautification Committee: The Beautification Committee last met on February 28th.

Planning Board Technical Review Committee: The TRC last met October 20th.