

**TOWN OF BEDFORD  
TOWN COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 14, 2022  
10 Meetinghouse Road**

**1. ROLL CALL:** A meeting of the Bedford Town Council was held on Monday, March 14, 2022, 10 Meetinghouse Road. Participating were re-elected Dave Gilbert (Chair), Bill Carter (Vice Chair) and Councilors Sue Thomas, Bill Duschatko, Lori Radke, and newly elected Councilors Kathleen Bemiss and Phil Greazzo. Also present was Town Manager Rick Sawyer.

Chairman Gilbert opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

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

**3. TAKING OATH OF OFFICE BY NEW COUNCILORS**

Town Clerk Sally Kellar swore in Dave Gilbert, Kathleen Bemiss and Phil Greazzo.

**4. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

**MOTION by Councilor Radke to nominate Bill Carter for Chairman.  
Seconded by Councilor Thomas. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

Chairman Carter took nominations for Vice Chair.

**MOTION by Councilor Thomas to nominate Lori Radke for Vice Chair.  
Seconded by Councilor Greazzo. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

**5. BOARD & COMMISSION ASSIGNMENTS**

Chairman Carter read the appointments of Councilors to Boards & Commissions:

**Zoning Board**

Citizen Primary: Dave Gilbert

Citizen Alternate: Sue Thomas

**Water & Sewer Advisory Committee**

Primary: Phil Geazzo

Alternate: Bill Duschatko

**Telecommunications Subcommittee**

Primary: Bill Duschatko

**School Board**

Primary: Bill Carter

Alternate: Lori Radke

**Poles & Wires Committee**

Lori Radke

**Planning Board**

Primary: Bill Duschatko

Alternate: Phil Greazzo

**Parks & Recreation Commission**

Primary: Dave Gilbert

Alternate: Sue Thomas

**Historic District Commission**

Primary: Lori Radke

Alternate: Bill Carter

**Highway Safety Committee**

Primary: Lori Radke

Alternate: Phil Greazzo

**Energy Commission**

Primary: Sue Thomas

Alternate: Lori Radke

**Conservation Commission**

Primary: Bill Carter

Alternate: Kathleen Bemiss

**BCTV-WBNH**

Primary: Bill Carter

Alternate: Kathleen Bemiss

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Schedule a public hearing to consider Ordinance 2022-01 amending Chapter 262-6, Speed Limits, to establish the speed limit along the entire length of Hamilton Way, Kennedy Dr., Roosevelt Dr., Jefferson Rd., and Presidential Rd., in the Town of Bedford at 25 MPH**

Mr. Sawyer stated that this was a recommendation from the Highway Safety Committee following a request and petition from a number of residents that live in that neighborhood. There is only one way in and one way out, so they shouldn't need the higher speeds that they might have on a collector road or a through road.

**MOTION by Councilor Gilbert that the Bedford Town Council scheduled a public hearing on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM to consider Ordinance 2022-01 amending Chapter 262-6, Speed Limits, to limit the maximum speed on Hamilton Way, Kennedy Dr., Roosevelt Dr., Jefferson Rd., and Presidential Rd. to 25 MPH. Seconded by Councilor Radke. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

b. Other New Business – None

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

a. Other Old Business – None

## 9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Public Session – February 23, 2022

**MOTION by Councilor Radke that the Bedford Town Council approve the minutes of the February 23, 2022 Public Session. Seconded by Councilor Duschatko. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 5-0-2 (Bemiss and Greazzo abstained).**

b. Budgetary Town Meeting – March 9, 2022 – moved to next agenda

## 10. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

- 1) At the most recent election we had 5,133 voters or a 32.2% turnout up from the 2021 election where we had 3,018 voters or 15.6%. I want to thank our Town Clerk, Town Moderator, Supervisors of the Checklist, Poll Workers, and DPW employees for all of their efforts in making the election successful. The Supervisors registered 152 new voters on Election Day bringing our total to 15,953.
- 2) Bedford Cares is encouraging Bedford residents to support those escaping the war in Ukraine through a partnership with the Bedford School District who will conduct a donation drive from March 14-25 with drop off boxes located at each school. The list of items most needed:
  - blankets
  - non-perishable food items
  - thermal underwear
  - air mattresses
  - clean containers for water, fuel
  - tents
  - first aid kits
  - stand-alone candles, lamps, flashlights
  - sleeping bags

Denise Ricciardi stated that Bedford Cares has partnered with the School. There will be boxes at all six schools for a 2-week period, March 14 – March 25, however, the additional drop off is at the headquarters of Bedford Cares, 29 Magazine Street. You can drop off items there for the next two months. They have volunteers that will pick your items up. You can find Bedford Cares on Facebook, [www.bedfordnhcares.com](http://www.bedfordnhcares.com), or 792-1319.

- 3) Recently the Town Council and Bedford Historical Society gathered to celebrate the signing of a long term lease in support of the Society's efforts to open the Stevens Buswell Community Center.
- 4) PFAS Contamination – Please respond to any requests for well testing received from Nobis Group, Golder Associates, or State of NH.
- 5) COVID-19 Pandemic – Bedford has 10 current COVID-19 positive residents and has had a total of 5,108 cases. Bedford has 62.8% fully vaccinated residents.
- 6) The Town is accepting applications for those interested in serving on our many boards and commissions with applications due by March 25, 2022. Applications can be found on the Town Manager's webpage, Town Council webpage, under News
- 7) The Town currently has employment opportunities for full-time, part-time & seasonal positions. For more information go to [www.bedfordnh.org/jobs](http://www.bedfordnh.org/jobs).
- 8) March 19 - NH Big Tree Program Introduction and Winter Tree Identification Workshop with Mike Gagnon, 1:30 – 3 PM, Bedford Library Lower Parking Lot. Please register in advance on the Library website.
- 9) Camp Witzel Signup and other summer camps. Go to Town Recreation website.  
Camp Witzel: 7 weeks, June 20-August 5, 6-13 year olds, 9 AM – 4 PM, arts, crafts, sports, field trips
- 10) April 3 – Concert & Cookies Series, 2:30 PM “Cold Spring Trio – Folksy/Bluegrass” at the Library. Please register in advance on the Library website.
- 11) April 10 – Cinema Sunday, “High Noon”, 1:30-4:30 PM, Bedford Library. Please register in advance on the Library website.
- 12) May 29 – Memorial Day Parade, 1 PM, Bedford High School to McKelvie Intermediate School via County Road with a theme of “Freedom through Unity”.
- 13) June 25 – Household Hazardous Waste Day, 8:30 AM – 3 PM, Highway Garage, 19 Chubbuck Road.
- 14) April 16h – CUB Road Club Spring Event – 9 AM – 1 PM.

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

Councilor Greazzo thanked everyone who helped him during the election. He thanked the Town of Bedford. He thanked everyone who signed up. It's not an easy thing to do and he thanked them for their efforts. He looked forward to serving the Town.

Councilor Thomas thought Election Day was great. She thanked all of the volunteers and they always need volunteers. She congratulated everyone who won and thanked everyone who ran.

Councilor Duschatko welcomed Phil and Kathleen. He looked forward to working with both of them and knew they would do a great job. Thanked everybody who took the time and trouble to run for office. It's tough when you don't win, but they appreciate them helping out and trying hard to do it.

Councilor Bemiss thanked everyone for coming out on voting day and making her welcome to the Town Council.

Councilor Radke welcomed Councilor Bemiss and Councilor Greazzo. She was very excited to have them there and looking forward to working with the both of them. She thanked everyone for coming out on Election Day. The numbers speak volumes of people getting engaged in their civic duty and showing up to the polls. They have a couple more elections coming up this year: the Primary in September followed by the General Election in November. Hopefully they can keep those numbers rising.

Councilor Gilbert mirrored everyone's comments and congratulated Phil and Kathleen. He thanked everyone for helping and coming out to vote. He stated that the EFJH would be hosting an Easter egg hunt for the kids on April 9<sup>th</sup>. There were four timeslots between 10 AM and 2 PM. If interested go to [www.efjh.org](http://www.efjh.org).

Chairman Carter congratulated the boy's hockey team. They come up one game short; they lost to Concord. Girls basketball runner-up and boys hockey runner-up; great season for the sports teams in Bedford. They are putting together a logo for the Conservation Commission. He thanked those that won on election night. He worked the ballot boxes and he got to meet a lot of people. There was a man that was only two months away from turning 100. He was very proud to say that he was 99 years old and he was there and put his ballots in. The CUB clean-up event will be April 16<sup>th</sup>, the bags are available on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. He stated that there were a limited number of CUB Club T-Shirts. Anyone interested and was going to participate on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April, email him at [wcarter@bedfordnh.org](mailto:wcarter@bedfordnh.org).

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Councilor Gilbert to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Radke. Vote taken – Motion Passed – 7-0.**

The meeting ended at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Boufford