Water & Roads Committee

January 30, 2026 – 9:00 AM

562 Winterbrook Rd., Campton, NH 03223

Members in Attendance: Gerry Panuczak (chair), Anthony Patti, Archie Jackson, Stan Bujalski, Bob Haskins (9:08 AM, Zoom), Scott Monroe (9:09 AM).

Other Attendees: General Manager Helen Chatel, Water Department Administrator Allison Smith, Water & Roads Supervisor Steve Baert (9:25 AM).

Call to Order: Mr. Panuczak called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Water Master Plan Project Update

Ms. Smith gave an update on the status of internally drafted 2026 Warrant Articles that include replumbing Liberty Lane and the additional storage tank at Pegwood. Staff feel properly bonding any project would not be possible due to timing and the need for thorough preparation. Ms. Chatel stated that the aeration tank is still needed due to radon being present in test results. Mr. Panuczak suggested that Verdantas be approached regarding replacing the tank and potential solutions if it were to fail.

Roads Master Plan Update

Ms. Smith reported that according to recent Verdantas correspondence, road borings will be done by end of March and the report will be ready for review by end of May.

Water System Update

Mr. Panuczak invited Ms. Chatel to update the committee on the issue with the variable frequency drive (hereinafter VFD) that occurred over the Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Day weekend. Ms. Chatel reported that Mr. Baert received a notice that the wells were not pumping and called the electrician. Fuses were replaced in the VFDs for well 1 and well 2. Well 1 came back online after restart but well 2 popped. A new VFD was ordered as soon as possible and by Friday, January 23rd at 5pm well 2 was up and running. Ms. Chatel directed Mr. Baert to order a 2nd VFD to replace the other VFD which is also 30 years old, and due for replacement.

Mr. Panuczak said that the age of the VFDs was news to the committee. Mr. Bujalski stated that the Water Improvement Plan should be revisited to ensure that assets are being replaced on schedule.

Roads Update

Mr. Panuczak said that District roads have been excellent this winter – cleared quicker and sanded more than town roads – and thanked the team for their work. He asked Ms. Chatel if she had spoken with the Town about plowing. Ms. Chatel confirmed she has and that the new road agent said they would get better. She emphasized that the recent storm was hard for everyone, as even District trucks struggled.

Mr. Panuczak asked about supply levels. Ms. Chatel confirmed that the District has enough sand and salt at this time. Mr. Panuczak asked how the trucks are holding up. Ms. Chatel indicated trucks are doing well and that there is a warrant article drafted for buying a truck that has broken repeatedly in the past. Ms. Smith stated that unless it is purchased through unreserved funds the District would have to finance

it. Mr. Jackson asked about CIP. Ms. Smith explained the committee hasn't met yet and a brief discussion about what the CIP process ensued.

Other Business

Aeration Tank

Mr. Baert joined the meeting and agreed with the Committee that the aeration tank failing would be catastrophic. Mr. Baert is currently trying to get verification from engineers whether or not the tank is needed because he has received conflicting information from other vendors. Once Mr. Baert is able to get that clarification, he will begin planning for replacement or removal.

New Well

Mr. Baert stated that he has contracted with a company to come out and dig test wells.

Vehicles

Mr. Baert reported that the 2016 truck Mr. Bennett drives did break and the truck is in the shop now.

Metering

Mr. Monroe asked about developments on water meters. Mr. Panuczak said nothing has happened. Mr. Monroe proposed the consultants draft a letter for the committee regarding why their installation is important. The committee could then vote to support the consultant's letter and develop a plan for their installation. Mr. Monroe's suggestion is that new homes need meters and then homes that are transferred (sold) need meters, then move to telling homeowners they have so many years to install a water meter themselves (meter provided by the District). Mr. Monroe emphasized the importance of having the Commissioners say that they are important. Mr. Panuczak and Mr. Patti said that the option went to the annual meeting in a prior year and was defeated. Ms. Smith stated that the committee ranked meters after all the projects that have already been discussed and that post annual meeting vote the Commissioners chose to return stock, walk back requirements, and issue refunds to those that installed them. Mr. Jackson agreed that more meters are better for the system, but that there needs to be more public interaction to get buy-in. Mr. Panuczak and Ms. Smith agreed there would need to be more outreach and Ms. Smith explained the challenges faced when the District was trying to meter previously. Mr. Jackson volunteered to craft a statement for the next meeting.

System Progress

Mr. Baert stated that the community ran on one well all week which hasn't happened before and is a great achievement.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Panuczak. Motion carried with a 6:0 roll call vote: aye – Panuczak, Monroe, Jackson, Patti, Haskins, Bujalski.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 AM

Minutes prepared by Allison Smith