



Dale Sylvia addressing the BOS

Nottingham Board of Selectmen Meeting April 25, 2022  
Steve Soreff, MD

After a warming, sunny day, the Nottingham Board of Selectmen (BOS) met Monday at 6:30 PM on April 25, 2022, in the Community Center for the 11<sup>th</sup> time this year. For the record, here is the COVID -19 report for Nottingham: 5 active; 1005 total (0 new) as of April 22, 2022. None of the BOS wore masks. Present were three members of the Board, John Morin, Tony Dumas, and Donna Danis as well as the Town Administrator, Chris Sterndale. Dale Silva and Shawn McLean. This reporter attended in person with a mask on. The BOS focused on its role as the town's Health Board, its assessing duties, and road issues.

After the Pledge of Alliance, approving manifests for April 18 and 19 as well as minutes from its April 11 session, BOS heard from committees. The Budget Committee had nothing to report. Planning was reviewing a subdivision on Smoke Street and working on policy issues. Marston had side fencing being placed in and electrical and pumping connections to the utility shed are made. The 300<sup>th</sup> had a successful reenactment of alarm and march to Medford on April 23, 2022. Town Administrator, Chris Sterndale then reported. It was productive Community Clean-up Day on April 16 and he cited the good work done by the NYA and PLIA. Although the legal challenge to the WaterCross event is still in the courts, the Northeast Watercross Championship in Nottingham is still scheduled for the weekend of May 20-22. The RFP for a technologic consultant was met with high bids. On the lowest bid's monthly cost was equal to what the town spends there for the year. The state legislature is working on ways to contribute to the police and fire retirement fund. The state is in the redistricting process. The senate district line will extend passed Concord, while the Executive Council lines have Nottingham still linked to the Manchester area. However, Nottingham still does not have its representative in the NH House of Representatives. The BOS will wait until all 5 of its members are present before looking at one particular waiver situation.

Before the BOS turned to its assessing duties, it considered three items. First, it will review in detail soon issues about the Recycling Center. Second, it will develop a town-building committee. There are two possible members already, Eris Danis and Gary Anderson. And third, it appointed Michael Koester as a trustee to the Trustees of the Trust Fund and Debra Kimball to the Conservation Commission. It then approved 2 Intent to Cut, 1 Land Use Change Tax, 3 Abatement Credits, and 2 Excavation requests. It denied 2 Elderly Exemptions. The BOS then had a long deliberation on a tax waive on a house's unpaid taxes. The building on Barrington

Road has been a town concern since 2015. The owner now resides elsewhere. The BOS denied the waiver.

Next Dale Sylvia addressed the BOS. Although he is the town's Building and Code Inspection, he did so in his capacity as the town's Chief Health Officer. In fact, at that moment the BOS meeting also became its yearly public hearing on the town's health. This is all part of [RSA 128:30](#) which says “**128:3 Secretary of Local Board.** – The health officer shall be the secretary and executive officer of, and, with the selectmen, shall constitute the local board of health for the town.” Thus, now the BOS and Sylvia serve as the local health board and town health officers. Sylvia outlined his 5 duties-“health\_nuisance, housing contagious diseases and areas like foster care”. He thought the town had few major health problems but did cite two areas of concern. One was junkyards. These especially are breeding grounds for rodents. He noted one situation where there were 6 unregistered vehicles in a yard. This was a code violation and also constituted a junkyard. The other was housing. He particularly focused on folks living in campers. Often there are inadequate septic systems for such residents. In both cases, he preferred to negotiate solutions rather than legal attacks. Danis then asked Sylvia to prepare a report for the BOS covering the status of each of the five duties.



The role of the town health officers

. In addition, the BOS asked him about the 2 town renovation projects that he supervises. The Community Center kitchen is almost completed. The Old Town Hall had run into problems when some of the walls were thrown down. These included mold and other issues. At both sites, the contractors were doing an excellent job.



Director of Public Works, Shawn McLean

Next Director of Public Works, Shawn McLean addressed the BOS. He reviewed the current road work status and schedule. He was pleased by the asphalt work done by [Brox Industries](#). The BOS voted to renew the town's contract with it. He talked about conflicting bids for work on Gerrish Drive. He cited the major complicated drainage project on Highland Avenue. It included a discharge system into Pawtuckaway Lake through the Jackson property. This meant the involvement of the NH Department of Environment Services (DES). He talked about paving work needed on Case Road. Some swale projects on McCrillis and Fort Hill Roads. He estimated the cost of these projects to be \$580,000. The BOS voted to delay work on Gerrish and focused on these other listed areas. McLean also reviewed the grading of the gravel roads schedule. The BOS urged him to publicize that schedule.

After a busy and productive session, the BOS went into a non-public meeting.