

The sign on Stage Road

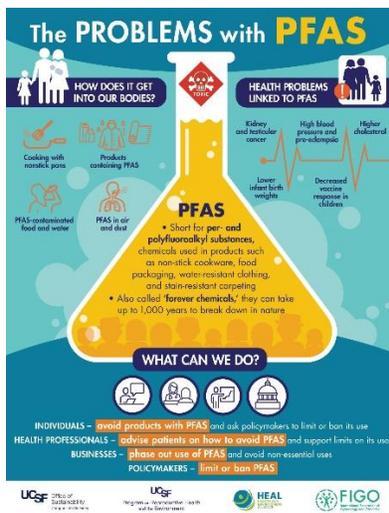
Nottingham Board of Selectmen Meeting February 27, 2023

Steve Soreff, MD

Following a cool but not too cold day with a snow storm forecasted for Tuesday, the Nottingham Board of Selectmen (BOS) met Monday at 6:30 PM on February 27, 2023, in the Community Center. The COVID Nottingham: 13 new cases last 14 days; 1237 total as of February 27, 2023. Present were 3 members of the Board, Donna Danis, John Morin, and Tony Dumas as well as the Interim Town Administrator (ITA), John Scruton. Others there were members of Conservation Commission, Frank Gonsalves, and residents of Lamprey Drive.. The BOS acted on and reviewed at a number of town buildings, town roads, and fire department problems, an organizational new chart, and the new Town Administrator (TA) and heard from 3 groups of town residents and their concerns.

After the Pledge and the approval of the Manifests, and the Minutes, the BOS checked in on committee assignments. Planning will meet on March 7. There were no committee reports from Budget and CIP. Marston is working the plans for dugouts. The 300<sup>th</sup> funds will be determined by a Warrant Article for the Town Meeting 2024.

Interim Town Administrator (ITA), John Scruton started his report. He praised Kelly Dallaire's work in getting [green cards](#) mailed to all town residents with vote and voter information for the March 14, 2023 election. He reviewed a number of town building problems and ways to cover the costs. There will be a need for an expensive water softer to be installed in the fire station. The well pump to the Town Hall froze. There were problems with the boilers and hot water system at the Fire Station. There are copier issues. The one in the Town Hall (TH) one's lease is up; the one in Police (PD) Department is slow; the Fire Department (FD) in not working well. The solution was to lease for 5 years with maintenance agreement a new copier for the TH. Take TH copier to PD and PD copier to FD. The BOS approved this. There was a language problem with the SAU 107 and the terms to terminate the Afterschool Program at the Nottingham School. Later it was determined that there must be a 9 month notice of that event written in to the program.



He added the State of NH has sued the 3 M Corporation over the use of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). “PFAS are a large, complex group of manufactured chemicals that are ingredients in various everyday products. For example, they are used to keep food from sticking to packaging or cookware, make clothes and carpets resistant to stains, and create firefighting foam that is more effective... Human exposure to PFAS is widespread but variable by geography and occupation. These manmade chemicals have leached into our soil, air, and water. People are most likely exposed to these chemicals by consuming PFAS-contaminated water or food, using products made with PFAS, or breathing air containing PFAS. Assessments of human exposure are in progress.” As a result of the suit. the town, as other communities, has been subpoenaed for many documents. This will lead to many legal expenses.



Left Dallas Huggins and right Kristen Lamb

Next two members of the Conservation Commission (CC) Dallas Huggins and Kristen Lamb addressed (CC) the BOS concerning the bate traps now being used at the Town Hall. Lamb is the Executive Director of the [Center for Wildlife](#) in Cape Neddick, ME, besides being a member of the CC. The town is paying about \$6,200 to an exterminator company which uses an anticoagulant poison to ultimately kill mice, However, the mice eat the poison and go out a die in the woods. There other animals and birds of prey eat the mice causing much damage to these critters. They recommend looking at alternative methods like sealing the building and clearing bushes from the around the building. They indicated the CC would take the lead in volunteer efforts to seal or clear. The BOS suggested they first work with the present exterminator and the new TA and report back.



Frank Gonsalves addressing the BOS

Next Frank Gonsalves presented to the BOS. He lives on Kelsey Road, is a 45 year resident of Nottingham, and is very concerned on the amount of salt and chloride dumped on his road. It is endangering his well and that of his neighbor's which are 25 feet from the road. The high salt is bad for his health and is killing area trees. He noted several times they salted and did not even plow. He also said the town has already salted 27 times this year. He wanted the BOS to be aware of this and wanted the town to use sand not salt.



Residents Lamprey Drive Left Paul Grobo and Right Brooke Schaefer

Then several of the residents on Lamprey Drive appeared before the BOS. They had one request which also led to a possible second one. They wished retain their home numbers on Lamprey Drive. Here is the back story. In the 1960's Lamprey Drive was accepted as a town road. However, it was only part of it was completed. There was 200 foot section which was to complete the loop, was not done. In the 2021 the town started the [E911](#) process. The town decided to address only a few number of problematic streets in the change. Lamprey was one of them. Then the town TA worked with them so that if that section was actually completed so that their home numbers would be preserved. They finished that section. After much debate, the BOS agreed within the E911 system to keep their numbers and rename a part that road from Dolloff Dam Road to where Lamprey Drive splits in front of resident number 28 to be called Channel Road. The BOS wanted an engineer check the new section before accepting it. Finally, a compromise was reached where the Director of Public Works would survey the section. He would report to the BOS if an engineer report was needed.

Finally, Interim Town Administrator (ITA), John Scruton completed his report. The BOS accepted his organization chart. He noted \$8,500 worth of damage occurred in the winter ice storm, especially from fallen trees. This expense would be covered by NH Department of Transportation (DOT) funds. There was a tabled idea to have something to recognize Nottingham soldiers Missing in Action in the Town Hall. CC was concerned about salt near wetlands. Eversource is replacing wooden transmission poles with steel ones in the area. The Director of Public Works would like an office in the TH. There will be costs for heating and cooling in the Community Kitchen in the TH. And the new broadcasting equipment for the TH will cost about \$14,000. Roger Richard said a very quick hello.

Finally, Donna Danis announced a new TA had been selected, Ellen White .White had experience of being the TA in [Ossipee](#) and [Freedom](#), NH. Danis thanked Scruton and he and the new TA would work together for a week in the transition.

Before going into Non-public Session, the BOS approved 1 Elderly Exemption and 7 Veterans' Credits.

It was busy night.