

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 24, 2023

PRESENT: Eric Holmgren, Sheila Stone, Kevin Wilson

Lister John McNeil, Assistant Clerk Diane Waters

ABSENT: Town Clerk Angela Eastman

GUESTS: Marsha Bancroft, Rod Coronado, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Erin Brenan, Carmella Tucker, Emily Ruff, Lee Youngman, Dirk Anderson

Call Meeting to Order: Chair Holmgren called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approve Agenda:

- Emily Ruff questioned why "Public Comments" was not on the agenda. Holmgren said it was a lengthy agenda with emphasis on storm damage review. However, the board agreed to listen to any public comments.
- Carmella Tucker and Erin Brenan requested to address the board about Tucker Road.
- It was agreed to combine Items 4 and 5.

Public Comments: Tucker complained about the bad condition of the section of Tucker Road from Bedard's to Child's. She questioned the integrity of the bridge since the flooding and feels the recent filling of potholes will not hold up. She requested the selectboard inspect the road and the bridge and to see how the road condition is causing her driveway to wash out.

Consider Documenting Current Hunting and Trapping on Town Land Policy: Holmgren stated they are not adding anything to the town's current policy, but putting it in writing instead of the board having to address one request at a time. Ruff expressed concern that Zoom was not working so others could comment on the proposed policy. McNeil explained he was not able to get it to connect. On a motion by Stone, seconded by Holmgren, the board voted unanimously to table this item until the next meeting. Holmgren stated he will not be recusing himself from voting on this policy and that a decision on the policy will be made at that meeting.

Discuss/Consider Tax Bill Due Date Issue: McNeil stated that September 15 was printed on the tax bills as the date the first installment is due instead of August 15. He has spoken with the District Advisor and Town Attorney Jim Barlow. Because of the lateness of time, McNeil feels we should let it go instead of going to the expense of sending out notices to taxpayers. Payments are coming in and the delay should not cause a financial problem. On a motion by Holmgren, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to not send any notices and to allow payments to be collected up to September 15 with no penalty added.

Listers' Errors & Omissions: McNeil presented four Errors & Omissions to the board for their approval - (1) Parcel #040107 – Paul Anderson – remainder of subdivision was not made active; \$0 tax bill due to technical error; (2) Parcel #013120 – Red House LLC – remainder of subdivision was not made active; \$0

tax bill due to technical error; (3) Parcel #001349 – Tetreault et al – inactivated driveway was erroneously activated; (4) Parcels #029200 & #029240 – Kottkamp Irrevocable Trust – two parcels are adjacent and should have been combined. None will significantly affect the Grand List or the tax rate. On a motion by Stone, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to approve the listers' Errors & Omissions.

Storm Damage Update: Wilson said all roads are passable; Smith Road culverts are being fixed; Provencher has a single lane; there is a slight washout on the side of the road in East Orange. He expressed appreciation to John Barnes and Matt for their hard work.

Holmgren read a letter from Mike McAdams regarding the road damage on Provencher Road. Ruff stated it is not passable enough for emergency vehicles or fuel trucks. Stone agreed that services need to get through.

Holmgren explained that it is not an overnight fix. They are presently working and planning the repair projects with our 2-person road crew, along with consideration of the budget. Stone said she hasn't heard anything from the National Guard crew that inspected the road, but she will contact them tomorrow. Wilson advised VTrans inspected the bridges that were under stress from flooding. He is waiting to hear back from them. Holmgren discussed the town's 5-Year Road Plan. It is finished but not adopted and will need a public hearing first.

Discuss/Consider the Local Emergency Management Plan: All contact people were called by Eastman to see if they wished to remain in the Plan. On a motion by Stone, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to adopt the town's Local Emergency Management Plan.

Discuss/Consider the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan: Holmgren signed the Municipal Adoption Form on behalf of the selectboard.

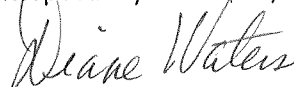
Discuss/Consider the Animal Control Ordinance: The board selected September 11 at 6:00 p.m. as the public hearing date. The hearing is to be posted and put in the paper and on Front Porch Forum. If potentially the town will need to hold a bond vote for flood costs, it will be enough time in advance to advertise both together.

Approve Warrants – Payroll and Accounts Payable: The selectboard reviewed and signed the Payroll Warrants for 7/17/23 and 7/24/23 and the Accounts Payable Warrant for 7/24/23.

Review Journal Entries: None

Adjourn: On a motion by Stone, seconded by Wilson, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Waters, Assistant Town Clerk