



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Dec. 1, 2021

7 p.m.

Select Board members Present: Wes Daniel, Tom Johnston and Mitch Garnett

Others Present: Town Clerk/Treasurer Mary Anderson, Code Enforcement Officer Corey Fortin, Animal Control Officer Nicole Bissett, Corey Belcher

Wes Daniel called the Select Board/Assessor's meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Approve Summary of Nov. 24: Motion to approve summary by Mitch Garnett, Tom Johnston seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated Dec. 1, 2021:

P/R Warrants #99 and #101: \$8,978.69 and \$1,066.16

A/P Vendor Warrant #100: \$9,124.38

Motion to approve by Tom Johnston, Mitch Garnett seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Road Foreman Report: Written by Frank Jones Jr. and read by Wes Daniel

11/22: Checked roads and unplugged culverts; checked over trucks, P100 has an exhaust code and Travis checked the code, then Frank called O'Connor's for the part, which will cost \$700

11/23 through 11/25: Thanksgiving break (includes Veterans' Day as well as Thanksgiving and Friday)

11/26: Frank was called out to plow; Frank called in Steven, David and Jason to plow

11/27: Plowed and sanded

CEO Report: CEO Corey Fortin said he met with Bill from George Hall & Sons last Wednesday to inspect the company's Washington pits. He found no major issues. Corey also inspected the tank-to-field septic lines at Hometown Towing (in compliance); in-ground/in-foundation septic pipes at 15 Windy Hill Lane (in compliance); and gave the OK to cut five trees at 81 Steele Lane that are leaning over a camp.

Corey has been working with town attorney Peter Drum's office on outstanding violation cases. He found some have been corrected but there are some that still require follow-up. Tom asked if any of the cases have gone to court and Corey said none have; Peter's office asked Corey for updates for the cases as well as site visits before any court action.

Tom also asked if Corey is able to document in writing the authorization to cut trees near Washington Pond and if Corey takes pictures. Corey confirmed that he did take photos but said the town doesn't currently have a form for tree-cutting approval; however, Appleton has a form he likes that could work.

Tom advised Corey to proceed with written documentation for his own protection against any possible legal action.

Health Officer Report: None

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: The checking account balance is \$994,055.84. Town Clerk/Treasurer Mary Anderson said a title search of 10 Waldoboro Road uncovered that several years' tax liens had not been discharged (but were paid) so documentation from 1981 through 1992 was collected and submitted to the Registry this week. She has reached out to Neal Goldberg at MMA regarding the correct category to use for air packs purchased with ARPA funding. Mary also asked about adding a gutter over the back door to the office so the steps don't get as icy and town office staff (and others) aren't forced to stand in a downpour off the roof when opening the door. The interest rate through The First has dropped to .30 percent from .45 percent. Sara Bullard from the town Broadband Committee emailed to let the town know a decision on the NTIA grant won't be made until early 2022. Sara expects to hear if the town received the planning grant later this month.

Other Agenda Items: None.

Questions and Comments: Wes said he picked up a wreath for the town Monument and it was donated by Nancy and Berkley Linscott.

ACO Nicole Bissett spoke about loose pigs on Razorville Road and asked about the procedure for seizing habitually escaped livestock. She said, in this case, because of a court backlog, the owner will not go to court until Jan. 24 and she feels the animals are in danger of being hit because they are crossing the road. Nicole said the town of Waldoboro and Lincoln County have a person who will transport livestock and board it, billing the owner of the animal(s). She noted if the owner does not pay the transportation and boarding costs, the town is responsible. Wes asked what is done with the animals when boarded. Nicole said the owner typically has a time frame to build a secure enclosure and pay the transport/boarding fees, then the animal(s) can be returned to the owner. If the owner fails to meet the time frame, the person in possession of the animal(s) gains ownership.

Tom asked if Nicole is currently writing summonses under town or state rules. Nicole said a little of both. He asked if the pig owner has a slaughter date for the pigs and Nicole said she does not believe so, but if there is a planned date, it would be only for one of the three/four pigs on the property.

Tom suggested Nicole look into other municipality rules regarding seized livestock and boarding and get back to Select Board members.

Mitch suggested the owner might be willing to sell the smaller pigs and, if that is the case, Mitch said he would be willing to help locate a buyer. Nicole said she would ask the owner about selling the pigs.

Nicole said she's already given the owner two summonses and will not hesitate to issue more. She noted it is up to the DA if fines are levied for each summons.

Corey Belcher said he tried to secure use of the Bryant Room for 4-H meetings and was denied. He said the mission statement of Gibbs Library as well as that of public libraries says they are to be used as public spaces and are allowed to host meetings. Corey Belcher pointed out there is an exception that applies to the Bryant Room for recurring meetings, which he feels conflicts with its mission statement. He said he now understands why recurring meetings are prohibited and his 4-H group will be holding its meetings at the Grange. Tom said the Fire Station meeting room is another option for the group, as long as there are no other training or meeting conflicts. Corey Belcher said he would be willing to donate a gift certificate to his business for use of a building and will keep the Fire Department in mind, as he feels bad that a Grange member has to come lock up the building when meetings are over. He said the 4-H group includes kids from Knox and Lincoln counties and covers a range of topics; meetings used to be held in Windsor but because of a health issue, the group was forced to find a new meeting space.

Nicole said she was at Pope Memorial Humane Society recently and staff members gave her a tour and run-through of what she needs to do when dropping off animals there.

Corey Fortin mentioned that he received an email from someone asking about having pigs in the Village District. He said while piggeries are not allowed in the Village District, there is no upper limit of number of pigs where they are allowed. Wes said he believes the limit in the village for large animals is five. Mitch noted that the Village District only extends a certain distance back from the road and abuts the Farm/Forest District, which has fewer restrictions.

Other business: None.

Motion to Adjourn by Mitch Garnett, Tom Johnston seconded; in in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell