



## Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Oct. 6, 2021

7 p.m.

**Select Board members Present:** Wes Daniel and Tom Johnston

**Others Present:** Code Enforcement Officer Corey Fortin, Town Clerk Mary Anderson

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

**Approve Summary of Sept. 29:** Motion to approve summary by Tom Johnston, Wes Daniel seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

**Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated Oct. 6, 2021:**

P/R Warrant #82: \$7,046.44

A/P Vendor Warrant #83: \$12,647.53

Motion to pay warrants by Tom Johnston, Wes Daniel seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

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

9/24: Frank met with Vaugh Stephens from Hagar to look at McDowell and Crystal Lake roads for paving; called out for downed tree on Bill Luce Road.

9/27: Frank took a vacation day; Steven and David worked on P500 dump body and changed oil.

9/28: Unplugged culverts on Old Union Road; Frank showed David the plowing route he will be doing this winter.

9/29: Frank graded Sprague Road and half of Skidmore Road; Steven and David took gravel to Sprague and Skidmore roads; unplugged culverts on Old Union Road.

9/30: Frank graded half of Skidmore Road then started Dorman Road; Steven and David greased trucks and loader

**CEO Report:** CEO Corey Fortin said he made a site visit regarding a compliant of tree-cutting near the water – he had previously spoken with the owner about cutting dangerous trees that were threatening a building and okayed the work. He also processed a septic permit as well as the solar permit for Sukeforth Pit. While out of the office for several days, Corey spent his time inspecting gravel pits. There are five pit owners/operators who have not yet paid for inspection and Corey will issue stop-work letters to those five. He said there are six pits remaining to inspect.

**Health Officer Report:** None

**Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report:** Mary Anderson said the insurance money for the fire department claim arrived, a check for \$5,027.73, and will go back into the equipment line for the fire department. There are 69 accounts signed up for the tax club this year, slightly lower than usual, but some tax club members from years past already have paid in full and didn't need to sign up. The checking account balance is \$1,257,450.95. Mary emailed Don Grinnell about the hazard mitigation grant forwarded by Knox County EMA and Don advised a cost-benefit analysis is required. Most small towns do not have that so Mary will not pursue that grant. Absentee voting is open at the town office and mailed ballots may be returned to the library drop box out front (town office employees are the only ones with a key to the box until the election). Dog licensing reminders will be mailed soon. The 2016 and 2017 tax commitment books will be sent to UMO for hard-cover binding. The Trunk-or-Treat event will take place Sunday, Oct. 24, from 3 to 6 p.m. – rain date of Saturday, Oct. 30 – the road will be closed and there will be no bouncy house.

**Other Agenda Items:** Wes Daniel read proposed wording for an ordinance change: *Proposed wording to be inserted in Article IV, Section 2, subsection E of the Land Use Ordinance. Any conforming residential or commercial building/structure which is hereafter damaged or destroyed by fire, or any cause, may be restored or reconstructed and used as before within 24 months of the date of said damage or destruction, with permit approval by the Code Enforcement Officer. Expansion of the prior structure during reconstruction shall be governed by Article IV, Section 6, subsection A.*

Tom Johnston asked if structures within a flood zone would be governed by the proposal or if those would fall under the unconforming section of the Land Use Ordinance. Corey Fortin said he believes those structures would fall under the nonconforming ordinances.

Wes made a motion to place the ordinance change on the November ballot pending the outcome of a public hearing. Tom seconded the motion. Mary pointed out that anyone who already has been sent an absentee ballot can contact the town office to be sent the local ballot as well, after the public hearing. All in favor, motion carries.

Wes read two emails from town attorney Peter Drum. One dated July 19 stated there had been no counter offer from the Prescott Road property owners who had cut trees close to Washington Pond. The second email dated Oct. 1 asked for a monetary number for the settlement. Wes said Select Board members may have settled on a lower number but were waiting for a counter offer. Tom agreed that Select Board members have been waiting to hear the property owners' response. Mary said it is not necessary for Peter to go over Bob Temple's records because the case already had been appealed. Tom added the option to go to court after Appeals Board has passed. He said the property owners are "stuck" and the town should inform them of the settlement costs or lien the property.

**Questions and Comments:** Tom asked if Corey would be sending stop-work orders (to pit operators). Corey said he needed to look into it. Mary said those would be sent with proof-of-mailing.

Corey said Maine DEP met him at the pit operated by JC Stone, which has erosion issues; however, JC Stone told Corey they are no longer operating that pit. Corey reached out to the pit owner, Barbara Ludwig, but has not yet heard back.

**Motion to Adjourn** by Tom Johnston, Wes Daniel seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell