



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Sept. 1, 2021

7:00 P.M.

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

Others Present: CEO Corey Fortin

Wes Daniel called the Select Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Summary of August 25: Motion to approve summary by Tom Johnston, Mitch Garnett seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

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

P/R Warrant #71 - \$5,473.77

A/P Vendor Warrant #72 - \$9,474.58

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

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

8/23: Worked on chutes on trucks; called out for a downed tree on Old County Road; greased loader and started work on Youngs Hill Road

8/24: Frank took a vacation day; Steven and David patched potholes and put up new 911 signs

8/25: Worked on Youngs Hill Road shoulders (210 yards of gravel); used grader for two and a half hours

8/26: Worked on Youngs Hill Road shoulders (132 yards of gravel); used grader for two and a half hours

CEO Report: Corey Fortin said he inspected a new septic installation on Old County Road; advised CTL Land Management a permit for a 55-by-80 Quonset hut must go through the Planning Board; confirmed CTL completed and paid for the permit for the office building; and spoke with Chris Armstrong about his sign and was told it was an existing sign. Tom asked why Corey was looking into the sign – because the sign itself doesn't meet the sign ordinance or because the business is operating without a permit? Corey said signs typically have to be approved by the Planning Board but also there are other issues to discuss about the business. A complaint was received about a trailer without a house number owned by the Armstrongs that also never was issued a building permit. Tom said just past the Round House, there's a driveway that appears to be a gravel extrication area that perhaps began as personal use but appears to have expanded to business use – Corey said he is aware of that and has spoken with the state, which is not interested in pursuing action because it is smaller than 5 acres.

Following a fire, Corey has been working with Ron Jackson on permits to build a new garage. Corey has made several other site visits, including to American's Wood Company, which is hoping to create a better sawdust storage system.

There is work being done on Mountain Road without permits – so far just a driveway that appears will cross a small stream – Corey will continue to monitor the situation.

Site reviews are ongoing for Maine Audio Visual and an event barn in West Washington.

Gravel pit inspections continue.

Corey also stated a certified mail letter sent to an Augusta Road property was returned.

Tom asked about junkyard (auto graveyard) inspections and if Corey was familiar with the process. Corey confirmed he is familiar and had been talking with Ron Jackson about his situation in particular because Ron was concerned about not having a fence concealing his yard following the fire. Corey said he assured Ron the town would take the fire into consideration during his inspection.

Tom also inquired about two ongoing legal actions and Corey said the court system is bogged down and not doing much as far as land use issues at this time. He continues to communicate with the town attorney about the cases.

Health Officer Report: None

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: Mary Anderson said 22 notices of foreclosure were sent out Friday, Aug. 27, and automatic foreclosures will take place Oct. 13 for any outstanding 2019 bills. She dropped off the grant application to Knox County Tuesday afternoon. Mary also participated in a last-minute Zoom meeting with members of the FBI regarding election threats – any threats must be reported. Via email to Mary, Steve Ocean requested approval to attend an Oct. 27 Zoom meeting about updated marijuana rules and Select Board members approved. The checking account balance is \$249,275.04. Sara Bullard with the Broadband Committee has requested Select Board members meeting with her and Mark Ouellette from Axiom Technologies at 6 p.m. on Sept. 29 to talk about the next steps in the broadband planning process – Select Board members agreed and Mary will let Sara know.

Other Agenda Items: A public hearing on General Assistance Ordinance appendices A-H was set for 7 p.m. on Sept. 15 following a motion by Tom that was seconded by Mitch.

A public hearing for a Remote Participation Policy also was set to immediately follow the GA hearing on Sept. 15. Wes made the motion, which was seconded by Mitch. During discussions, Tom said he does not believe the town has proper infrastructure for remote meetings based on several remotely shared Broadband Committee workshops earlier this year that were plagued with technical difficulties. Mitch pointed out the ability to meet remotely could benefit the Select Board, particularly if one of them

should come down with Covid and be unable to meet in person. Wes and Mitch voted in favor of the public hearing, while Tom was opposed.

Wes informed Select Board members the generator located in the fire station that provides power to the fire station, town office and library during power outages needs a new water pump. Wes said the quote for a new water pump came back at \$1,850 plus labor, while a rebuild of the pump would cost an estimated \$180 plus labor. Wes already authorized a rebuild of the pump with the condition it be done in one day.

Select Board members signed the July bank statement.

While no owners have yet paid for their inspections, auto graveyard (junkyard) inspections were scheduled to take place Tuesday, Sept. 28, with members of the Select Board as well as CEO Corey Fortin. They expect to begin the inspections at 9:30 a.m. and Mary will let the owners know.

Questions and Comments: None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell