



## Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Oct. 19, 2022

7 p.m.

**Select Board members Present:** Tom Johnston and Mitch Garnett

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

Tom Johnston called the Select Board meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**Approve Summary of Oct. 12, 2022:** Motion to approve summary by Mitch Garnett, Tom Johnston seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

**Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated Oct. 20, 2022:**

P/R Warrant #87: \$4,505.00

A/P Warrants #88: \$388,807.80 (includes payments to the county, school district and on a fire truck)

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

**Road Foreman Report:** Written by Frank Jones Jr. and read by Tom Johnston

10/10: Holiday

10/11: Graded Old County Road (Somerville end) while David and Steven hauled gravel (7.5 hours on grader); worked on the spare sander

10/12: Fixed oil leaks on the backhoe; started to take the spare sander apart, it needs new bearings

10/13: Steven took a vacation day; David and Frank worked on sander and checked culverts before the rain, got chippers and saws ready to go; P600 is going to HP Fairfield on Monday

**CEO Report:** CEO Corey Fortin said he heard from two pit operators after sending out stop-work orders last week: Willard Pierpont and Greg Boynton. Corey has spoken with town attorney Peter Drum about options for operators under the mining ordinance. According to the ordinance, a pit is considered abandoned if the annual fee isn't paid and the operator must go before the Planning Board before the pit can be reopened. As an alternative, Peter suggested a consent agreement between the operator(s) in violation and the Select Board. Tom asked who else failed to pay the fee in time: George Hall and PB&J Storage. Corey said both Willard and PB&J are inactive pits. He talked to Willard earlier in the day and his plan is to turn the property into a residential one. Willard did ask if he would be allowed to sell any remaining material once the residence is complete and Corey told him he believes he will have to go the Planning Board to resume sales.

Corey said last year, Select Board members gave pit owners/operators until the end of October to pay the inspection fee. Tom asked what a consent agreement might say and made several suggestions for

wording to include. Corey said per-day fines can be included for future violations and current fees should be doubled (other town fees are doubled when paid late). A draft agreement will be sent to Peter Drum for review. Mitch made a motion to offer the consent agreement to those in violation, Tom seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

The Welzels paid their fine to the town and Corey asked for clarification on if he should wait to issue their building permit until the check clears; it was determined he should. Mary said a check for Peter Drum also was given to the town from the Welzels and Mary sent it to Peter.

**Health Officer Report:** None

**Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report:** Town Clerk Mary Anderson spoke about an updated municipal valuation return prepared by Assessor's Agent Becky Adams. The update to the enhanced BETE program will result in the town receiving an additional \$4,000 revenue this year.

The checking account balance is \$1,214,795.69.

Mary received an email today from someone claiming to represent an insurance company who wanted permission from the town to inspect utility poles; however, when she called the person, he refused to disclose information about his affiliations. As well, The First reached out recently when someone attempted to gain login credentials for town bank accounts. She warned of the many scammers.

Mary and Stephanie successfully tested the voting machines and everything is in proper working order.

Tom made a motion to sign the amended valuation return, Mitch seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

**Other Agenda Items:** There will be a final vote on the Knox County amended budget on Nov. 3 at 5 p.m. Information about the changes is available online through the county website.

**Other business:** None.

**Questions/comments:** Tom has been in communication with several individuals and groups about the dam in Washington Pond.

Mitch made a motion to adjourn, Tom seconded; all in favor, motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell