



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Sept. 7, 2022

6:30 p.m.

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

Others Present: Town Clerk/Treasurer Mary Anderson, Road Foreman Frank Jones Jr.

Wes Daniel called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approve Summary of Aug. 31, 2022: Motion to approve summary by Tom Johnston, Mitch Garnett seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated Sept. 8, 2022:

P/R Warrant #75: \$31,278.44, which includes most stipends

A/P Warrants #76: \$12,161.44

Motion to approve 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

8/29: Moved stone and rock after winter sand was screened

8/30: Steven and David moved rocks; Frank took a sick day

8/31: Made sawhorses to set the sanders on to work on them; Frank called HP Fairfield about P-600 plow to see if they will fix it

9/1: Frank worked in the shop; Steven and David fixed road signs, cut and moved downed trees on sides of roads; Steven from HP Fairfield came to look at P-600 plow and will tell Frank the next move

Tom asked Frank if he had any cold patch for potholes on town roads. Frank said he's been waiting on the supplier – all suppliers are busy with state work at this time. Wes suggested contacting a previous supplier located in Turner but Frank said he no longer has the contact information. Wes will try to find the contact.

CEO Report: None

Health Officer Report: None

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: The checking account balance is \$276,287. The remaining \$50,000 borrowed from the line of credit has been repaid with interest.

There will be a gathering in memory of Christopher "Kit" Lascoutx on Saturday for those interested.

Mary completed and emailed the Workers Compensation renewal. Public Works' Frank, Steven and David, and Mary met with Deb from Maine Employees Health Trust about vision and dental plans.

Other Agenda Items: None.

Other business: Select Board members set Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. as a public hearing on General Assistance appendices. They will meet with Mark Ouellette from Axiom at 6:30 that evening.

Questions/comments: None.

Tom made a motion to recess the Select Board meeting until after the road closure public hearing, Mitch seconded; all in favor, motion carries. Meeting recessed at 6:40 p.m.

Wes called the public hearing regarding closing Lincoln Road to winter maintenance to order at 7 p.m. Present were Select Board members Wes Daniel, Tom Johnston and Mitch Garnett. Also present were Town Clerk Mary Anderson, Road Foreman Frank Jones Jr., and Lincoln Road residents Bryan and Amiee Gess and Wayne Miller.

Frank said it's been difficult to keep the road plowed because the right-of-way (ROW) is not always clear and the road isn't wide enough to safely turn the plow trucks around.

Wayne said it's been fine for 30 years but in the past two or three years, with a change in plow drivers, it's suddenly become a problem.

Wes said items in the ROW haven't always been there in the past. Frank said the smaller town plow truck can get in and out fine but the larger trucks can't pass between Wayne's buildings without the plow wing up or the buildings will be struck and damaged.

Wayne argued the property is his home and he can park where he likes. Frank and Wes emphasized the ROW is a measured distance that is considered public property. Tom said the town could ditch the whole road if it wished and remove anything in the ROW such as Wayne's garden or woodpile – the town has no plans to do so.

Select Board members made several suggestions to Wayne that would help the plow trucks safely operate without damaging Wayne's property.

Bryan asked where the town road ends. It ends at Wayne's buildings where the hot-top stops. Wayne asked about installing a turn-around on Bryan's property and Wes said that would require an easement from Bryan because it is private property, not town-owned.

Previous years, the plows have turned on private property with a verbal easement. Last year, instead of turning, Frank said trucks either backed into the road and plowed out, or plowed in and backed out. He said he's concerned that if a town truck strikes Wayne's buildings there will irreparable damage.

Wayne agreed to try to keep the ROW clear and Frank will bring a plow truck to the property so Wayne can see the area that needs to be kept clear.

The public hearing closed at 7:21 p.m. following a motion by Wes and second by Mitch to resume the Select Board meeting. Wes made a motion to recommend not closing Lincoln Road to winter maintenance this year and to revisit the issue next year if Wayne doesn't follow through with keeping the ROW clear. Wes asked if Bryan would be willing to grant an easement for a plow truck turn-around and Bryan said he would. Tom seconded Wes' motion; all in favor, motion passes.

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