



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

July 5, 2023

7 p.m.

Select Board members present: Wesley Daniel, Mitchell Garnett and Katherine Grinnell

Others present: Town Clerk Mary Anderson, Assessor's Agent Rebecca Adams, Fire Chief Phil Meunier

Wes Daniel called the Select Board meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Approve Summary of June 28, 2023: Motion to approve summary by Mitch, Kate seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated July 6, 2023:

P/R Warrant #53: \$10,042.96

A/P Warrant #54: \$14,225.08

Motion to approve warrants by Mitch, Kate seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

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

6/26: Reset 24-inch by 40-foot culvert on the swamp end of Old County Road (80 yards surface gravel, P100, P200, excavator, loader)

6/27: Frank returned roller to Eagle Rental and picked up new P600 plow from HP Fairfield; Steven and Jonathan worked in the pit getting ready for winter sand

6/28: Worked on Calderwood Road culvert (16 yards big rock over culvert and shoulder, 8 yards surface gravel, excavator, P100, P200, loader, P600)

6/29: Ditched on Vanner Road and continuing to fix washouts (16 yards surface gravel, P100, P200, excavator)

CEO Report: None.

Health Officer Report: None.

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: David Martucci has agreed to moderate the special town meeting on July 26. Kelsey from Maine Revenue Service conducted an assessing audit and all is well. A new quote for broadband insurance has been received for \$18,224.82. The checking account balance is \$93,022. Several town office email accounts have been hacked; Lynn and Consolidated have been notified and all passwords reset, still waiting on a call from Consolidated support to unlock the accounts. A \$1,200 check has been received from Axiom for the August broadband festival.

Broadband update: None.

Other Agenda Items: Becky presented appropriation figures and a range of mil rates for Select Board members to choose from. She noted changes such as less income from the solar projects because they are tax exempt and the town now has to wait for state reimbursements. Kate asked for an explanation of overlay amounts and Becky said it's extra money set aside for tax abatements that, if not spent, goes into the town's Road Reserve Account. Wes made a motion to set the mil rate for 2023 at .0168, Mitch seconded; all in favor, motion carries. The increase means an additional \$120 in tax per \$100,000 of value.

Phil spoke about scenarios and equipment that could qualify for reimbursement such as a fire suppression blanket for electric vehicles. If used, the vehicle owner's insurance company could be billed to replace it at a cost of \$1,300, as it is a one-time use. As well, if a policy were in place, the fire department could bill \$500 for structure fire responses, or for time/equipment/manpower for OUI crashes if a driver is found guilty. He suggested looking into policies other nearby towns use as a model for a policy for Washington.

Following a motion by Kate and second by Mitch, Select Board members unanimously approved the warrant for the July 26 special town meeting, which will establish a funding source for broadband insurance and a moratorium on apartment buildings with more than 10 units.

Other business: Mitch asked Mary to reach out to MMA regarding the proposed recreational walking trail for example ordinances. Mary will check with MMA as well as town attorney Peter Drum, who last was tasked with researching trail ordinances.

Questions/comments: None.

Kate made a motion to adjourn, Mitch seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell