



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary
October 18, 2023
7 p.m.

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

Others present: Town Clerk Mary Anderson, EMA Director Donald Grinnell

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

Approve Summary of Oct. 11, 2023: Motion to approve summary by Mitch, Kate seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated Oct. 19, 2023:

P/R Warrant #83: \$5,699.80

A/P Warrant #84: \$57,596.31

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

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

10/8: Frank checked roads in the morning after the rain

10/9: Frank unplugged culverts on Old County Road, put in salt

10/10: Unplugged culverts on Old County Road; worked on ditch on Old County Road at box 419 (48 yards gravel, P100, P200, excavator)

10/11: Put in salt; ditched on Old County Road before placing culverts on the west end

10/12: Steven went to get cold patch; ditched on Old County Road and unplugged culverts; put cold patch in

10/13: Frank unplugged culverts on Old County Road; road closure signs were taken

Mitch asked if there's anything that can be done about the beavers that keep plugging the culverts. Wes said Frank has contacted someone.

CEO Report: None.

Health Officer Report: None.

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: The town received a Tree Growth reimbursement check for \$5,087.68. The new website has been authorized to go live. The checking account balance is \$1,077,189. Becky completed and submitted to the state the municipal valuation return and paperwork totaling \$21,580.72 for property tax stabilization reimbursement. Stephanie tested the election machines and everything is ready to go.

Broadband update: There is a regular Tilson meeting on Friday. Mary and Sara Bullard will attend via video at the town office and Mary will send Mitch the link.

Other Agenda Items: Select Board members met with Lynn Martin, who specializes in municipal compliance, and she left a contract statement with quotes for Public Works and the town office. Mitch suggested including the fees in the 2024 budget but trying to find the money sooner. Kate said she would add the item to the budget worksheet.

Other business: Following a motion by Wes and second by Kate, Select Board members signed an easement for a snowplow turn-around on Lincoln Road.

Don said the final documentation and request for the December 2022 storm is ready. Estimated cost of that storm is \$66,127; \$49,595 is FEMA's share of the reimbursement. Don will submit the December paperwork Thursday and will schedule another meeting with Valerie from FEMA soon.

There are some damaged sites that will roll into 2024, including Mountain Road and Leigher Road paving.

Sprague Road has significant damage as well on the downstream side of the culvert that was installed several years ago. No repairs – not even temporary ones – have been completed on Sprague Road yet. Don suggested sending out an RFP (request for proposals) for engineering and design work, partly because the town Public Works Department is so behind on regular maintenance because of the other storm repair work. Frank/Public Works can perform temporary repairs in the meantime, work for which the town can be reimbursed.

Questions/comments: Don requested a change to the way the EMA director is paid. Currently there is an annual stipend for the position, but Don suggested a reimbursement of 1-percent of FEMA checks on top of the stipend.

The personnel policy changes being worked on will be put off until January.

Don spoke briefly about plans for the Grinnell Woods trail. There is a draft easement to be presented to the town and Don has met with Gavin McLain and Alan from CTL Land Management and determined the best way to cross wet areas is to use logging mats placed with an excavator. Don is meeting with the DEP Thursday because the property impacts part of the Rice Heath conservation area. The Grinnell family will pay for easement costs and the mats/installation upfront. Don asked about progress with the trail ordinance – town attorney Peter Drum will be at the Select Board meeting next week but has not yet advised the town on a draft. Don suggested checking with resident Dave Martucci if Peter is unable to draft an ordinance. The first week of November, Caleb Coffin will conduct a GPS survey of the proposed trail to create a map that will be included in the trail plan referenced in the easement. The town will need to accept the easement, deed and ordinance for the Grinnell Woods trail to move forward with the Recreational Trails Committee.

Kate made a motion to adjourn, Mitch seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell