



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Dec. 6, 2023

7 p.m.

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

Others present: Town Clerk Mary Anderson, Code Enforcement Officer Corey Fortin, Broadband Chair Sara Bullard, resident Jeff Grinnell

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

Approve Summary of Nov. 22, 2023: Motion to approve summary by Kate, Mitch seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated Dec. 7, 2023:

P/R Warrant #97: \$7,450.07

A/P Warrant #98: \$11,037.75

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

11/27: Called out for downed trees townwide; washouts; Frank marked Mountain and The Firs roads for DigSafe; Wes and Frank went to look at the pressure washer at Eagle Rentals

11/28: Worked on P500 wing replacing pins and bushings

11/29: Started to ditch on Mountain Road (P600, P300 & excavator)

11/30: Went to get new pressure washer; ditched on Mountain Road; Steven picked up oil pan for P100

CEO Report: Corey approved a stack of permits including building, septic and internal plumbing. He followed town attorney Peter Drum's advice about a problematic property on Waldoboro Road by reaching out to law enforcement. Officers stated the only recourse on their part would be summonses for trespassing or littering. Corey let Peter know and is awaiting word on the next steps. Certified letters sent to the property owner were accepted but the owner has not yet reached out to the town about the code violations or dumping of human waste. Corey also checked on several other violations in town that are in Peter's hands. Sara Bullard, a neighbor, weighed in briefly about the Waldoboro Road property and ongoing issues there.

Health Officer Report: None.

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: An LRAP check totaling \$53,536 was received Friday. Mary completed a survey about the broadband insurance policy as not applicable and returned it. The checking account balance is \$825,194. Stephanie completed the Safety Data Sheets for the town office and library, as required by the Bureau of Labor.

Broadband update: Sara has been working with town residents through the National Digital Equity Center to sign up for the Affordable Connectivity Program. She requested Select Board members consider waiving the \$60 deposit for those who qualify for the ACP, citing the additional cost on top of current internet fees may be a barrier for signing up. It is probable that fewer than 30 households in town would qualify for ACP. The Broadband Board will have a meeting soon to discuss options, as there were concerns expressed that other residents might view a waiver of the fee as inequitable.

Other Agenda Items: None.

Other business: The Select Board will meet at 6 p.m. next week, with a Budget Committee meeting following at 7 p.m.

There will be a public hearing about the Knox County budget on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m. It is the last meeting before the budget is voted on and the vote may take place that evening.

Select Board members expect to discuss the updated Personnel Policy at next week's meeting.

Jeff Grinnell submitted a letter of interest in joining the Comprehensive Plan Committee as well as taking the chair position. When the committee meets, members will choose a chair. Those who have voiced interest are Peg Hobbs, Mary Anderson and Sara Bullard. It has been suggested that Fire Chief Phil Meunier also participate. The committee will work with the Midcoast Council of Governments to develop a new Comp Plan. We asked that appointment papers be ready for next week's meeting. Mary will give Jeff a hard copy of the most recent Comp Plan, which was approved in 2005.

Questions/comments: None.

Kate made a motion to adjourn, Mitch seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:31p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell