



**Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary
January 4, 2023
7 p.m.**

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

Others Present: Town Clerk Mary Anderson, CEO Corey Fortin, EMA Director Don Grinnell

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

Approve Summary of Dec. 28, 2022: Motion to approve summary by Tom Johnston, Mitch Garnett seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated Jan. 5, 2023:

P/R Warrant #1: \$6,564.39

A/P Warrant #2: \$16,379.56

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

12/26: Holiday

12/27: Patched washout on Old County Road, used 11 loads of gravel and 7 loads of rock

12/28: Moved and cut up downed trees; started to patch washout on Dorman Road (4 loads of gravel); back to Old County Road (4 loads of gravel); sanded

12/29: Patched washout on Old County Road (4 loads of gravel); took 12 loads to Mountain Road; all dirt roads are patched

12/30: Worked on FEMA report with Don Grinnell and Wes Daniel for the 12/23/2022 storm

Mitch asked about the FEMA reporting and if the town might be reimbursed for hours worked; Wes said it is possible.

CEO Report: Corey Fortin has been reviewing an application from CMP that will affect two Washington properties as well as an application from Scrap Dogs – both will be before the Planning Board for preapplication meetings on Tuesday. Mitch asked what Scrap Dogs does; Corey said it's a composting business. Corey has been conducting septic inspections and making site visits with people planning future projects to answer questions.

He asked Select Board members about the fee for CMP because typically the charge is by the square footage of the project and CMP's is only lines and poles. The application fee is \$100 in addition to a

minimum fee of \$50 per project. Mitch suggested Corey look back at past projects to see how the fee was handled.

Corey has prepared and will send a violation letter to PBNJ Storage. He consulted with town attorney Peter Drum about the storage units on the property and concluded the violation is because the site plan has not been amended to allow additional units. Select Board members looked over the letter.

Mitch asked Corey about a newly constructed building on Old County Road. Corey said there is an approved permit for a barn. Tom asked why there is no 911 address number for the location. Corey said he isn't sure. Tom requested the property owner be informed a 911 address and a driveway entrance permit need to be applied for because the current entrance is considered a temporary one for logging. Corey noted the building looks more like a house than a barn but there are no plumbing permits and it appears to be boarded up for the winter.

Mitch also asked about subdivision applications. Corey said currently there are no formal applications but he is aware of a few locations to keep an eye on.

Health Officer report: None

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: The bank account balance is \$803,998. Town Clerk/Treasurer Mary Anderson closed out the town books for the year on Saturday and has sent the reports to the auditors and Budget Committee members. She will wait to complete the Workers Compensation that is due in February until after W2s are done. Town report materials are starting to come in already. The town received a \$378 reimbursement check for Unemployment Compensation.

Guy Bourrie has taken out nomination papers for RSU 40 School Board and Tom Johnston has taken out papers for Select Board. Both currently fill those positions.

The town's computer guru, Lynn Carroll, has asked if there's interest in switching to a cloud-based back-up for town files. She said she is happy to answer any questions or address any concerns but the company she works with, Datto, provides first and second level encryption and the cost would be about \$1,380 per year. Tom made a motion to add \$1,400 to the computer supplies line in the budget, Wes seconded; all in favor, motion carries. Don said he's concerned about the town being hacked and unable to recover its records, as has happened in other towns. Tom noted the cloud back-up is more secure. The Select Board members would like Lynn to come to the next meeting to answer questions. Mitch asked if other towns could be contacted to see what they use for back-ups.

Broadband update: Tom said he still has questions for Mark Oullette of Axiom Technologies, mostly about pole ownership. Mary suggested putting a list of questions together in advance of a meeting with Mark to help keep on-topic without repeating information we have already heard from Mark. Mitch said he talked to Mark earlier in the week and there are no updates on Somerville's project yet or if lower insurance amounts will be accepted. Mark asked Mitch to reach out again next week.

Don suggested asking Mark about the recent storm and the response times to repair any damaged broadband infrastructure. Mitch said a meeting with Mark can't happen next week, as there is a Budget Committee meeting; however, Lynn can be on the agenda for next week.

Other Agenda Items: Wes made some calls about the price of materials. He talked to Dave's World and Stan Millay and came up with prices of \$9/yard for bank run gravel, \$30/yard for surface gravel; \$22/yard for stone and \$10/yard for RipRap. Wes made a motion to use those prices, Tom seconded; all in favor, motion carries. Select Board members signed the pricing list and it will be placed in the roads book.

The Roads Committee has not yet met and Select Board members decided on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. in the library (the Historical Society has been meeting in the Bryant Room the third Tuesday of each month). Mary will check with Misty to be sure it's OK for the committee to meet in the library.

Other business: The town received a letter from Waldo Theatre requesting a few minutes to speak about its programs. Select Board members agreed to hear the short presentation during its Jan. 18 meeting.

Questions/comments: EMA Director Don Grinnell said he would like to finish making changes to the Emergency Operations Plan but said everyone else could leave while he and Select Board members finished the update. The plan will be voted on at a later date during a meeting.

Wes made a motion to adjourn, Mitch seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell