



**Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary  
March 29, 2023  
7 p.m.**

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

**Others present:** Town Clerk Mary Anderson, Fire Chief Phil Meunier

Wes Daniel called the Select Board meeting to order at 7 p.m. He thanked Tom Johnston for his years of service on the Select Board and welcomed new Select Board member Kate Grinnell.

Mitch nominated Wes as Select Board chair, Kate seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

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

**Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated March 30, 2023:**

P/R Warrant #25: \$15,223.94

A/P Warrant #26: \$12,996.87

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

3/19: Frank called in Steven, Jonathan and Ricky to sand

3/20: Put up new stop signs on Crystal Lake and McDowell roads; washed trucks

3/21: Fixed turn-arounds on Mountain and Lenfest roads; replaced broken wheel on P500

3/22: Steven had doctor's appointment in morning; fixed lights on P300 and started on loader lights; changed rear tires on P100 and wing cable; plowed an area for spools of wire

3/23: Worked on loader lights and P200 back-up lights (needs a new switch); greased trucks and loader

3/25: Frank called in Steven, Jonathan and Jimmy to plow

**CEO Report:** None

**Health Officer Report:** None.

**Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report:** Town Meeting on Saturday went well.

Mary received an email from Jake at The First: the interest rate is increasing to 4 percent from 3 percent as of April 3.

Funding for a new town website was approved at Town Meeting, Mary gave the Select Board the agreement to sign. As well, a letter authorizing the town to offer disability insurance at the employee's cost was provided to sign; a meeting will be set up for employees.

Consolidated Communications will be at the town office Friday to upgrade equipment that's hoped to increase the internet speed.

Kathy Ocean called about browntail moth nests in trees outside the library and town office. Treewise has given a quote of \$250 per tree for a total of \$1,000. Kathy hopes the town will pay a portion of the cost. Wes made a motion to split the cost with the library evenly, Kate seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

First quarter taxes are paid. The checking account balance is \$315,703.

Mary requested permission to purchase a new laptop for town office use to replace a very old, very slow one. Lynn Carroll has quoted a cost of about \$1,000, which includes Microsoft Word, etc. Mitch asked if there is a recurring fee for the Microsoft programs and Mary said she would check. Wes made a motion to approve purchase of a new laptop, Mitch seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

**Other Agenda Items:** Fire Chief Phil Meunier said there was a bait trap frozen in the ice on the fire pond by the town office and he is concerned it may have fallen on or near the hydrant strainer. He does not know who it might belong to or if it was retrieved before the ice melted out.

Phil also asked for guidance on how to approach the Select Board and Budget Committee with a request for setting aside funding for air packs (SCBA). The town last year purchased new packs but they will have to be replaced in 15 years or less; the current cost for one is \$1,100. Wes said it's too late for this year's budget but recommended Phil present the information to the Select Board and Budget Committee in the fall when budget talks begin. Wes asked if there was money available in the equipment fund and Phil said there is but he prefers it to be earmarked for SCBA. The department kept four of the old packs for training purposes to prevent scratches and such on the new packs and Phil is talking with Frankfort about purchasing the remaining old air packs.

Wes informed the other Select Board members he has signed the Health Connections drug pool agreement.

Wes and Frank met with a representative of Performance Paving today about McDowell, Fitch and Crystal Lake roads and were told it could be done at the same cost quoted from 2022. McDowell Road would be shimmed and paved; Fitch Road shimmed, and, if there is time and money left, Crystal Lake Road would be shimmed. Waldoboro uses Performance Paving. Mitch asked if the project had to be put to out to bid. Wes said he talked with the town auditors about it and was given the go-ahead without the bid process, which is becoming more common. Mitch said he would like to see a time factor included in any paving agreement.

The Select Board will now meet each Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. for a workshop. Wes has already let Frank know and Mary will reach out to Corey to let him know as well. The workshops are open to the public.

Select Board members signed appointment papers for Micah Nelson (full member, Planning Board) and Jane Carroll (member, Recreation Committee).

Wes will order signs for town properties tomorrow or Friday. Mitch suggested ordering extra signs, as he expects some might disappear quickly.

**Broadband update:** Several rolls of materials for the broadband project have been delivered to the Public Works Garage property. Make-ready applications to CMP and CCI were submitted by Axiom Friday. Sara Bullard emailed that Tilson and Maine Connectivity Authority representatives are looking into options for the excluded census block – it is possible those properties could be covered under the grant.

**Other business:** Wes asked if he should reach out to Travis Perez about the town garage roof insulation, as it will take him time to plan around his schedule. Mitch said the guys are inside the garage more often this time of year, so it would be better to start the project later in the year.

**Questions/comments:** Mitch asked if Don and Frank have met with FEMA reps again. Wes said not yet. Mitch mentioned he heard the legislature approved \$25 million for ambulance services in the state but he didn't know how it might affect our local service. Wes asked if the Ambulance Advisory Committee is organizing informational meetings or if it is up to the town – Mary said she believes the meeting(s) will be in Union.

Mitch made a motion to adjourn, Kate seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell