Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

July 3, 2014

Draft Minutes

6:00pm Road Committee/Selectmen workshop

6:45pm Public Hearing/General Assistance ordinance amendments

7:00pm Selectmen’s Meeting

Present: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Margaret Poskus, Road Commissioner Jeremy Johnson, CEO Bill Kennedy, Road Committee members Alan McNeil, Leslie Boness, Harley Swanson, Barry Langer, Dan Maddox, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Planning Board members Arthur Harvey, Morrill Nason, Budget Committee member John Plumley, and resident Thomas Hamilton.

The board of selectmen and road committee held a workshop to discuss road projects. The road committee disagreed with the board’s recent decision not to place two road projects out to bid. Discussion included local ordinances, statues, and duties.

Lee opened the public hearing to discuss the General Assistance ordinance amendments at 6:55pm. The proposed changes would affect Appendix A of the ordinance. The new overall maximum for a family of 3 would change from $979.00 to $992.00 per month, $1284.00 for a family of five and an additional $69.00 added per person.

1. Lee called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
2. Reports
3. Road report: the board reviewed one complaint concerning Spring Road grading. Lee mentioned that she received phone calls about the decision made at the last meeting not to place Church Street out to bid. Margaret motioned to rescind the decision made at the last meeting to repair Church Street and Gurney Hill Road without going out to bid and to pay the current contractor for work that has been completed. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

Jeremy stated that the cost to finish the Gurney Hill Road project including blasting would cost $40,000-50,000. Discussion included fairness to the current contractor since projects have been started, cost of projects completed locally versus going out to bid, effects on the one and five year road plan, and the bid process. Lee motioned to reconsider the Gurney Hill Road project. Margaret second. All in favor=3. It was suggested by a road committee member that the board write specs for the Gurney Hill Project and have the contractor sign a contract. Lee motioned to allow the road commissioner to go forward with the project as planned and supply a list of what remains to be done and the cost to serve as a contract for the project. Margaret second. All in favor=3. The road committee requested a copy of the list when available.

1. Road Repair contracts: the board signed road repair contracts with David Bragg, Alan McNeil and Jeremy Johnson.
2. CEO report: the board reviewed three permits. Morrill pointed out a discrepancy found in the shoreland zone ordinance concerning tree cutting. Bill felt that there was a section in the ordinance that covered the permit requirement for tree cutting in shoreland zoning.
3. ACO report: none.
4. Planning Board report: none.
5. RSU#10 report: none.
6. Unfinished business
7. Dumpster Issues: discussion included concerns that if dumpsters were locked, keys would be lost and locks could be cut. It was suggested to send the waste ordinance to the ordinance committee for amendment to include dumpster usage.
8. School House Lease renewal: Margaret abstained from discussion and voting on this item since she is an elder of the Hartford Community Church. The board signed the one year lease of the school house to the church to be used as a clothing center.
9. Road Committee member terms: The road committee appointments made at the prior selectmen’s meeting were given terms of one year each as was done the year before since it was planned to combine the budget and road committees and the budget committee term is for one year for each member. The road committee was not in agreement with the term limits. Lee contacted MMA Legal who suggested having the appointed members resign and reappointing the members for terms indicated in the ordinance.
10. Open session
11. Tom Hamilton stated that a beaver dam was removed in the Whitney Brook area causing the beaver pond to drain and become mud. Tom stated that the Canton Lake water quality is diminishing. It was suggested that DEP be contacted about this issue. Lee will relay the problem to our CEO.
12. Arthur was not happy with the vote to disapprove the two amended ordinances at the last annual town meeting. It was stated that residents should review ordinances at the scheduled hearings and present any issues at that time. Arthur has no interest in serving on the ordinance committee if members are not constructive and will attend future meetings if it is clear that members will follow procedures that are laid out such as reviewing ordinances, attending hearings, and making changes before town meeting vote. Leslie stated that she did not review the ordinances until the day of the town meeting and it did not bode well for the town to enact ordinances with errors in them. Lee will contact the chair of the ordinance committee to find out when the next scheduled meeting will be held and suggested to hold a special town meeting to vote on the two ordinances once corrections are made.
13. Resignations: Lee motioned to accept the resignations of Dan Maddox, Alan McNeil, Leslie Boness, Harley Swanson and Barry Langer from the road committee. Margaret second. All in favor=3.
14. New Business
15. General Assistance Ordinance amendments: Lee motioned to approve Appendix A of the general assistance ordinance as amended. Cathy second. All in favor=3.
16. Appointments: Lee motioned to appoint Daniel Maddox as road committee member for a term of 5 years, Harley Swanson for a term of 4 years, Barry Langer for a term of 3 years, Alan McNeil for a term of two years, Leslie Boness for a term of one year, and John Plumley as alternate for a term of one year. Margaret second. All in favor=3.

Lee motioned to appoint Arthur Harvey as Planning Board member for a term of five years. Margaret second. All in favor=3.

1. MMA Legislative Policy Committee ballot: The board filled out the ballot.
2. Bank reconciliations May: the board reviewed.
3. Lee motioned to approve the June 19, 2014 Selectmen minutes Margaret second. All in favor=3.
4. Lee motioned to approve Warrants 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 1& 2. Margaret second. All in favor=3.
5. Review correspondence: reviewed.
6. Meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm

Minutes approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Margaret Poskus Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Lee Holman Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cathy Lowe Date