Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

January 19, 2023

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Susan Goulet, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, residents Rusty Goulet, Ken Violette, Cindy Violette, Leah Violette, Lou Brann, and Al Borzelli.

Present via Zoom: Residents Richard Dyer, Tim Kirwan, Natasha Cote, Brenda Burmeister, Lennie Eichman, Sarah Nickels, and Dan Larochelle.

I Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

II Cathy motioned to approve the minutes January 5, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting and January 11, 2023 Selectmen’s Workshop. Lee second. All in favor=3.

III. Lee motioned to approve Warrant 14 and Payroll Warrants of January 7, 2023 and January 18, 2023. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: Richard reported that the new school building name will be Mountain Valley Community School. One teacher was approved for a leave of absence for one year.

2. Road Report: The Board reviewed one complaint of a boulder placed on a property marker. The Road Commissioner has been informed.

3. Constable Report: None.

4. CEO Report: The Board reviewed the report from the CEO/LPI.

5. ACO Report: Lianne shared that some of the kennel inspections have been completed.

6. Planning Board Report: None.

7. Ordinance Committee: Lou shared that the committee discussed the messy yard ordinance but it was tabled until a petition is received. There is confusion about what the Board is looking to regulate. A Board member stated that the Board can direct the committee to work on ordinances without a petition. Lou shared that the ordinance committee is waiting for input from the solid waste committee since they are meeting with the curbside contractor next week for information. Perhaps initiate a two week limit before bulky waste collection items can be placement by the road and try to prevent out of town bulky waste from being placed in Hartford. The ordinance committee is researching a place in Rumford to bring tires at no cost. CMP and DOT representatives will be meeting with the ordinance committee to discuss road side spraying and the no spray ordinance process. It was stated that it was a productive meeting with all committee members and others present.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report

a. Bank Reconciliations December 2022: The Board reviewed the reconciliations and current expense report.

10. Cemetery Committee Report/Request: The Committee met last Saturday with 9 people present. A request was received from the cemetery committee asking permission to purchase a tripod to lift grave stones. Maple Grove Cemetery Association is willing to donate $500.00 toward the cost of the tripod.

Lee motioned to allow the purchase of the tripod and other needed items up to $4,000.00 from the cemetery reserve account. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

The committee has deemed a member resigned due to the fact that she has not attended the past 5 meetings/gatherings.

Cathy motioned to deem Paula Dobbins to have resigned from the cemetery committee. Lee second. All in favor=3.

Ken has been approved for a civil war replacement stone by the US Dept. of Veteran Affairs and will work to have a stone provided for a veteran of the War of 1812 at the Thompson Yard cemetery replaced also. The committee also requested that the Administrative Ordinance II be amended to allow unlimited members from any town to be members as long as they have a connection to a grave in Hartford.

 Lee motioned to accept the recommendation of the cemetery committee to amend the Administrative Ordinance II. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

The Board will discuss adding alternates to the same ordinance at the next meeting.

V Calendar Reminders

 a. Waste Committee January 25, 2023 6pm Zoom & in person

b. Budget Requests & surveys due February 1, 2023

c. CEBE Grant hearing February 1, 2023

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Junkyard License update/Harlow: Mr. Harlow has removed the bus from the right of way. Remaining is a drivable truck and a disabled harvester. There was some discussion of whether the harvester is considered farm or construction equipment and exempt. A Board member stated that the equipment must be operable to be exempt. The Board is waiting to hear from the attorney. No action was taken.

2. Beach Policy revised: Discussion included: A Board member was approached by many residents stating residents should be required to accompany guests, other towns require annual fees, visitors will not be able to use beach on sweltering days, if office is closed-plan ahead, swimmers can use Canton swimming area, policy could be amended in future, Constable has to be there when weather is hot, parking issues, have to limit out of towners using beach, signage, towing, gates, and ID cards with State ID. Lianne is working with the maintenance person to get estimates for a new buoy system that would comply with State regulations and shared a draft warning letter to offenders.

Susan motioned to adopt the policy with fees with the amendment to require residents to accompany guests. Cathy second. All in favor=2. Opposed=1.

3. Beach Parking Area/Tree cutting: Discussion included now is the time to cut trees while ground is frozen, will not be tarred, and clean fill could be used to build up area.

Susan motioned to give authorization for the road crew to cut trees within the boundary of the proposed parking lot at the town beach. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

 4. Fee Schedule Hearing Date: tabled until July 1, 2023 (new fiscal year).

VII Open Session:

1. Richard shared that the ordinance committee worked on a marijuana ordinance in the past and the Board did not act on the ordinance. The Board directs the ordinance committee on new ordinances.

2. Al attended a Board of Pesticide Control meeting in Augusta recently and they discussed how to follow specific rules concerning road side spraying. The Chair of the Board was not familiar with pesticide directions. People are over spraying, ducks are eating the chemicals and dying, people are not following boundaries, and they are supposed to know property boundaries but are just checking CMP meters. It was requested that it be required for MSDA provide a list of ingredients in pesticides used and make everyone aware. CMP has cut back on spraying and is mowing more and is contracting with Lucas Tree and are not liable. CMP will be working with the ordinance committee soon.

3. Lennie shared that the waste committee does not make rules for the ordinance committee and will not do the ordinance committees job. Lou shared that the waste committee is working with Archie’s and to make things easier can pass info onto the ordinance committee. Keep it simple.

VIII New Business:

1. AED Defibrillator Battery Replacement: The EM Director noticed that the AED in the office needs a new rechargeable battery. Heather Bowlin has been contacted to see if we should replace the AED or just the battery since the machine may be outdated. The battery cost is $250.00. Perhaps a grant is available.

2. Newsletter Deadline 1/15/2023: Cathy motioned to accept the Board letter for the Newsletter as amended. Lee second. All in favor=3. Sue will make changes and forward the letter to Hartford News.

IX Appointments/Resignation: Lee motioned to appoint Joel LaClaire as cemetery committee member with a term to expire June 30, 2023. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

 1. Cemetery Committee/resignation: voted above under Cemetery Report.

X Training:

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed correspondence.

XII Cathy adjourned the meeting at 9:25pm.

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lee Holman Date

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Susan Goulet Date