Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

November 2, 2023

7:00@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Susan Goulet, Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Constable Steven Elsman, Cemetery Committee member Ken Violette, residents Rebecca Elsman, Cindy Violette, Cassidy Bedard, Elizabeth Garcia O’Keefe, Rocky Libby, Ginny Libby, Davie Phair, Ken Rossi, Dan Brissette, Anita Brissette, Jessica Brooks, James Brooks, David Stiles, Sheri Stiles, Casey Morris, and David Theriault.

Present via Zoom: residents Anita Lewis, Raymond, Lennie Eichman, Roberta Manter, Thomas Hamilton, Christine Mumau, IPhone, and Arthur Harvey.

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

II Susan motioned to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

III. Susan motioned to approve Warrant 9 & Payroll Warrants October 25, 2023 and November 1, 2023. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: None.

2. Road Report: The Board reviewed the report from the Road Commissioner (attached).

3. Constable Report: None.

4. CEO Report: The Board reviewed the report from the CEO (attached).

5. ACO Report: The Board reviewed the report from the ACO.

6. Planning Board Report: None.

7. Ordinance Committee: The Board reviewed the report from the Ordinance Committee Chair.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report: The Treasurer reported that the draft Audit has been received, expense reports now include the budgeted amounts, tax bills are in the process of being mailed, and the town office damage check has been received from MMA Risk Mgmt. but a deductible of $1,000.00 was deducted from the amount. MMA has been contacted to ask why the town has to pay a deductible when the insurance company of the vehicle owner who caused the damage should be paying the cost. There has not been an answer to the question yet.

10. Cemetery Committee Report: A committee member shared that Fuller Cemetery stones are all repaired and cleaned. Two cemeteries are completely finished: Thompson Yard and Fuller.

11. Solid Waste Committee Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by a committee member.

V Calendar Reminders

 1. Career Center Job Assistance 11/6/23 10:30-12

 2. Planning Board Meeting 11/6/23 7pm

 3. Referendum Election 11/7/23 8-8

 4. Cemetery Committee Meeting 11/11/23 8am

 5. Town office closed 11/11/23 Veteran’s Day

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Beach Policy 2024: Discussion included: Turner charges $15.00 per pass up to 2 passes per family, Turner Beach is open Memorial Day to Labor Day 8-8, and has an employee checking passes at the gate, guests are allowed to visit Turner beach with residents and no air bnb passes are available for purchase, a resident asked the Board to allow free use of the beach for birthday parties since they cannot afford the $5.00 guest passes, the Constable and a resident stated that we should keep the same policy as last year, it was asked whether or not the Board would have to approve the use of the beach for each birthday party as it does for other gatherings as indicated in the current policy, and a resident suggested using tape to mark cars parking for birthday parties.

Susan motioned to make modifications to include special family gatherings and birthday parties in section G of the policy. Cathy second.

Susan rescinded the motion.

Susan motioned to table the policy to rewrite it- except keep the $15.00 resident fee for the 2024 season. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

2. ATV access on town roads: Discussion included: No complaints have been received concerning ATV’s since opening the roads, the club has closed the trails due to hunting season, research has been done, Brian Milligan inspected trails and assisted the club with requirements, the Bear Mountain ATV Club has been formed and is officially registered with the State and is in good standing, the club addresses complaints, roads will be used as little as possible, owner permission has been obtained to access land and trails, only a few roads will be used as access routes, other roads will be for land owner use only to access the route to trails, no adverse effects during trial period and asking Board to approve access, there has been one official club meeting, members communicate amongst themselves and have duties, there is not a lot of accident data, people think the rug was pulled out from under them as Adhoc Committee members, concerns are different than reasons, there will be warning signs for cars, members will be working on trails before opening roads to ATVs, 14 people told a resident that they want a town meeting vote on the subject, the trail master spent the last four months on getting land owner permission and has permission through Bear Mountain Road and to Peru, all sports have some participants who do not follow the rules, there have been 33 motorcycle deaths this year, we want to work with land owners, anyone injured cannot sue the land owner, they would have to sue the club or the State of Maine, ATV safety courses will be offered, the 14 people with concerns should submit those concerns to the club, Facebook comments are rude, club will not be rude and will follow up on each issue, the Board of Selectmen have the authority on the subject.

Susan motioned, since the trial period went well with no complaints, to approve continued ATV access on town roads with the shortest route possible. Cathy second. All in favor=2. Abstained=1.

3. Regional Animal Control Officer: The County Commissioners are asking the Board to contact them if there is any interest in creating a county wide Animal Control Officer Positon. No action taken.

4. Bulky Waste Planning/Archie’s: Archie’s sent information on how to determine how much construction debris to allow during the bulky waste collection. This information has been shared with the Solid Waste Committee. The Board will wait to hear from the Committee on the issue.

VII Open Session:

1. The ATV club had previously asked if money was available to the club from registration fees. The Treasurer shared that agent fees are increasing for ATV and snowmobile registrations from $2.00 to $5.00 and the ATV club could submit a request for funds at town meeting from the excess revenue.

VIII New Business:

1. Certificate of Assessment/mil rate 19.4: The Board signed the Certificate of Assessment for 2023-2024.

IX Appointments/Resignations: Lee motioned to accept the resignation of Steve Nelson from the Solid Waste Committee as requested by the committee chairman. Susan second. All in favor=3.

X Training: Vital Records 12/6 & 12/7: Susan motioned to approve $60.00 for a Vital Records webinar. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed correspondence.

XII Susan adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm.

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lee Holman Date

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Susan Goulet Date

Town of Hartford

Road Report

Week of 10/21-10/28/2023

November 2, 2023

Goding Road rainstorm damage has been repaired with ditching and gravel.

We installed a driveway culvert for the Gallant’s on Farrand Hill Road.

Swan Pond Road storm damage repair included ditching about 1500’, installing five 40’x24” cross culverts, two 30’x18” driveway culverts, and added gravel in spots.

McNeil Farms Inc. and Johnson Excavation stopped by Thompson Lane and donated a few hours on the beach parking area. We are ready for fill when Church Street work starts in the spring. The parking area should be ready for use by beach season next year.

We worked on the town office parking area and adverted water away from the front door.

Shoulder work on Berry road was completed and we smoothed up Pratt Hill Road for the winter.

The winter sand pile should be up by Tuesday, November 7th.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

Report from the Code Enforcement Officer

Date: October 31st 2023

Year to Date Report:

Year to Date Building Permits Issued: 23 - last yr. 28

Year to Date Plumbing Permits Issued: 10 - last yr. 18

 Complaints:

C03 Closed, Final Report filed 10/31/23

C07 Pending, Illegal greywater discharge, Main St

C08 Closed, Final Report filed 10/31/23

C09 Closed, Final Report filed 10/31/23

SLZ Inspections:

None

Other:

 None

Respectfully Submitted

G. Scott Mills

CEO/LPI Hartford, Me