Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

December 1, 2022

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Public Hearing

General Assistance Ordinance revisions

6:30pm

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Susan Goulet, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, and resident Ken Violette.

Present via Zoom: Residents Richard Dyer, Nanci Weed, Dan Larochelle, Chad Casey, Lennie Eichman, Natasha Cote, and Sara Nickel.

Cathy opened the Hearing at 6:35pm.

The Department of Human Services revised the definitions list in the ordinance and asked for the Board to approve the changes. Discussion included assistance with property taxes, approved payments are issued to the vendor such as oil companies, not the applicant, emergency general assistance cases may be eligible as determined by the GA Director even if income is slightly higher than the maximum listed in the ordinance.

The hearing ended at 7pm.

I Cathy called the Board meeting to order at 7pm.

II Cathy motioned to approve the minutes of November 17, 2022 Selectmen’s meeting. Susan second. All in favor=3.

III. Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 11 and Payroll Warrants of November 23, 2022 and November 30, 2022. Lee second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: Richard reported that the November 21st meeting included discussion of hiring a second school resource officer for Rumford and Mexico schools. The first three out of four years of the cost will be covered with existing funds. Next meeting will be held on December 12, 2022

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

3. Constable Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the Constable (attached).

4. CEO Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the CEO/LPI (attached).

5. ACO Report: The Board reviewed a complaint concerning the Animal Control Officer. Susan will contact the ACO and the complainant.

6. Planning Board Report: None.

7. Ordinance Committee: None.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the Treasurer (attached).

a. Ballot Clerk wages as of 1/1/2023: During the 2022 budget season a budget committee member stated that the 2023 minimum wage would increase to $15.00/hour but the actual amount will be $13.80 per hour. In July of 2022 the Board approved the ballot clerk wages to be $15.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2023. Cathy motioned to pay ballot clerks $15.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2023 as previously approved. Lee second. All in favor=3.

V Calendar Reminders

 a. Rabies Clinic December 10, 2022

 b. Public hearing CEBE grant December 14, 2022 7pm & January 12, 2023 7pm

VI Unfinished Business:

1. General Assistance Ordinance revisions: Lee motioned to approve the latest revised general assistance ordinance as presented by the Department of Human Services. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

2. Junkyard License update/Harlow: It was shared that some equipment has not been relocated as required by the Board. The reason may be that the applicant is waiting until the ground freezes for better access to the area.

3. Beach Policy: Lianne stated that she would like to have a final policy in place soon so that we have time to hold a hearing on fee changes, notify residents of any changes, order new stickers if needed, and to sell passes before the spring months. The Board scheduled a workshop for January 11, 2023 7pm at the Town Hall with limited public input to work on the policy.

The Board received a letter signed by several residents opposing the recent request to have a resident act as beach monitor as a volunteer in addition to the Constable.

VII Open Session:

a. A resident asked if alternates were allowed on committees. MMA Legal had advised to not to appoint alternates to committees without an ordinance allowing the appointments. The Board may want to amend the ordinance to allow alternates.

b. A resident commented on the minutes of August 4, 2022 stating that one of her comments concerning the messy yard ordinance was not in the minutes and that messy yards affect the values of nearby properties. Lianne stated that only decisions are required to be noted in minutes and that she does not include every comment made at meetings.

c. A resident asked if a beaver dam problem he saw a post on Facebook has been rectified. It was stated that the Game Warden attends to wildlife issues. The prior ACO held a trapper license and was an agent of the State, so he was able to help with some wildlife issues.

VIII New Business:

1. Solid Waste Committee: private dumps: A Solid Waste Committee member stated that she was not sure when private dumps were discussed or why they were discussed. A Board member stated that the subject came up because people were keeping metal appliances on their properties until the recycling prices increased. MWAC in Auburn can take items for disposal since we have only one bulky pickup per year in Hartford. A resident asked what it would take to set up a transfer station. A Board member answered that we would need a trash compactor, permits etc. and that we had a design to create a transfer station at the salt shed site but would have been too costly to complete and to operate.

2. AVCOG request for letter of support: Lee motioned to approve the signing of a letter to AVCOG supporting a grant they are applying for. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

IX Appointments/Resignation: None.

X Training: None.

XI Review Correspondence: None.

XII Meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

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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

December 1, 2022

The road crew has finished shoulder work and shimming driveway entrances on Perry Road, Pratt Hill Road and Green Acres Road.

Summer road work has ended for the season.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

Report from the Code Enforcement Officer

Date: November 30th , 2022

Year to Date Report:

Year to Date Building Permits Issued: 29 - last yr. 46

Year to Date Plumbing Permits Issued: 21 - last yr. 27

 Complaints:

None

Inspections:

1785 Bear Pond Road – Goodwin Project: Inspected setbacks to ensure the new building met minimum requirements and erosion control practices were being followed.

Other:

 None

Respectfully Submitted

G. Scott Mills

CEO/LPI Hartford, Me

Town of Hartford

Constable Report

December 1, 2022

I received two phone calls with complaints of people hunting on their property without permission. I informed them to contact the Game Warden.

Submitted by

Steven Elsman Sr.