Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

 March 17, 2022

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Public Hearing 6:30pm: Winter Road Closings 10 years

Present in person: Selectmen Lee Holman, Cathy Lowe, Lori Swan, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Road Commissioner Bim McNeil, Planning Board members Robin Farrar, Theresa Bennett, Fiddlehead

Environmental Consulting Watershed Specialist Jeff Sterns, Ordinance Committee member Susan Goulet and residents Morrill Nason, Steve Elsman, and Mike Christman.

Present via Zoom: Budget Committee members Robert L’Heureux, Lennie Eichman, and residents Jen Bonaventura, Chad Casey, Richard Dyer and Julia Samson.

Public Hearing

Proposed Winter Road Closures

Cathy opened the hearing to discuss Winter Road Closings for a period of ten years at 6:30pm.

Cathy read the list of roads proposed for winter closing:

1. Darrington Road, from 298 Darrington Road North to the end of the road

2. Swan Pond Road from the intersection of Hartford Spring Way North to the end of the road

3. Marble Road

It was noted that the winter closings did not mean that the roads were being permanently discontinued, only discontinued to winter maintenance and this must be voted on at town meeting every 10 years. It was requested by a resident who recently purchased land on Swan Pond Road in the section proposed to be discontinued to winter maintenance, that it not be discontinued due to the fact she plans to use her lot year round in the near future. Swan Pond Road is currently plowed to the intersection of Hartford Spring Way and would cost extra to plow to the end and create a turnaround at Marble Road. The Board will consider this request.

Selectmen’s Meeting

7pm

I Lee called the meeting to order at 7pm.

II Cathy motioned to approve the Selectmen minutes of March 2, 2022 workshop, March 3, 2022 meeting, and March 9, 2022 workshop. Lori second. All in favor=3.

III Lee motioned to approve Warrant 22 and Payroll Warrants of March 9, 2022 & March 16, 2022. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

1. RSU 10 Report: It was reported that the straw vote on March 14th passed and the School Board will be working on the Budget next.

2. Road Report

a. Grants-Goding Road & Pratt Hill/Jeff Stern: It was confirmed that the Board and Road Commissioner were in favor of keeping the $90,000.00 cost sharing grant to repair the Pratt Hill Road culvert. Cathy will contact John to let him know. Jeff is still working with John McLain to agree to a less expensive design for the culvert replacement. Jeff suggested using concrete waste blocks for the project. Heather, of the Army Corp. of Engineers is working on designs for the Darrington Road and Goding Road culvert projects. It was shared that the Goding Road Culvert/Bridge I beams are rusted and could collapse. Bim suggested using the ARPA funds to correct the two issues since it is allowed to use the funds to improve water quality and erosion issues. Jeff is also working on grants to help with the cost of the Darrington Road and Goding Road projects.

b. Winter Road Closing Order: Lee motioned to order the closing of Darrington Road from 298 Darrington Road North to the end of the road and Marble Road during the months of October, November, December, January, February, March, and April for a period of ten years. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

3. CEO Report: None.

4. ACO Report: None.

5. Planning Board Report: The Board reviewed the approved meeting minutes of February 7, 2022.

a. Amended Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Certification for Town Meeting: It was suggested that the Board send the proposed ordinance to Colin Clark for review before town meeting.

The Planning Board members explained the most recent corrections that were noted at the Planning Board public hearing on March 14, 2022.

Lee motioned to approve the certification of Shoreland Ordinance amendments to be voted on at town meeting and send the ordinance to Colin Clark to be reviewed. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

6. Ordinance Committee: It was noted that the committee did not meet this week but would meet on March 22nd at 7pm in person and via Zoom. Draft amended Administrative Ordinance copies are available at the town office to committee members.

7. Fire Warden Report:  None.

8. Treasurer Report

 a. Bank Reconciliation February 2022: The Board reviewed the bank reconciliations.

 b. Audit 2020-2021: The Board received copies of the audit.

V Calendar Reminders: None.

VI Unfinished Business

1. American Rescue Plan Funds Article for Town Meeting: Discussion included paving the RR Bed to allow stroller and wheel chair access-it was noted that it costs $200,000 per mile just for paving, not including preparing roads, replacing the beach boardwalk with pea stones but there is a vernal pool under the boardwalk so many thought that was not allowed, water quality of the two major water bodies due to erosion, and using the funds for nice to have items not needed items.

Lee motioned to use $5,000.00 of the American Rescue Plan funds to improve the board walk and access to the town beach and to use the remainder, approx. $123,000.00, to help purchase culverts we need. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

 2. Town Hall Furnace repair: Four estimates were received for the Town Hall furnace repair:

 a. Fabian-$15,300.00

 b. Murray-$9,935.50

 c. Steve Elsman-13,350.48

 d. Steve Elsman-8,250.39 (smaller 145 BTU furnace)

Discussion: Research showed that the smaller furnace would provide efficient heating for the entire town hall, Elsman offered to install thermostats at no cost, and could complete the work in mid-April.

Lee motioned to award the furnace replacement project for the 145 BTU furnace to Steve Elsman at a cost of $8250.39 and to use $7,500.00 from the Capital Outlay account and the remainder from the Contingency account. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

VII Open Session: None.

 VIII New Business:

1. MMA Risk Reduction Grant Program: The Board agreed to apply for the MMA Risk Reduction Grant for Town Office outdoor lighting due to the fact that the Edward MacFarland Grant we applied for did not cover lighting unless it was intended for road construction.

2. CMP Location Permit: Lee motioned to approve the CMP Pole permit on Town Line Road. Lori second. All in favor=3.

3. Budget preparation 2022-2023: The Board reviewed the proposed expense budget worksheet and suggested budgeting $2,500.00 to be placed in the Capital Outlay account. Budget meetings begin April 6th.

4. Shoreland Zoning hearing notice: The Board signed the hearing notice and return.

5. Local Option Hearing notice: The Board signed the hearing notice and return.

IX Appointments/Resignation: resignation from Road Committee: Lee motioned to accept the resignation of Jason Landry of the Road Committee with regrets. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

X Training: Lee motioned to approve $60.00 for Lianne to attend the Vitals Training Webinar. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed correspondence.

XII Lee motioned to adjourn at 9:30pm. Lori second. All in favor=3.

Minutes approved by:

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Lee Holman Date

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lori Swan Date