Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

April 20, 2023

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Susan Goulet, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Constable Steven Elsman, Cemetery Committee members Ken Violette and Cynthia Violette, residents Leah Violette, Al Borzelli, Bonnie Bishop, Mike Maney, Natalie, Ann Marie, Nick, and Rebecca Elsman.

Present via Zoom: Residents Richard Dyer, Marla Winship, Sarah Nickels, Mary Cousins, Natasha Cote, Nanci Weed, and Lennie Eichman.

I Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

II Cathy motioned to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting. Susan second. All in favor=3.

III. Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 20 and Payroll Warrants April 12, 2023 & April 19, 2023. Lee second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: Richard reported information from the last directors meeting: Hartford’s share of the school budget may be less than previously reported and the $50,000.00 for the study of the BHS will be placed back into the budget for 2023-24.

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

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

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

5. ACO Report: None.

6. Planning Board Report: The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 6, 2023 meeting.

7. Ordinance Committee: None.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report

 a. Bank Reconciliations March: The Board reviewed the bank reconciliations.

b. 2020 Tax Lien Foreclosures: The Treasurer reported that all of the 2020 tax liens have been paid with the exception of Blanchard. It was reported that the Treasurer has been renewing CD’s at the best rate possible which means the terms may have changed (6 month rates are better than 12 month rates at the moment). Northeast Bank is planning to submit a proposal to the town office for the checking account/sweep services.

10. Cemetery Committee Report: Ken stated that the Cemetery Committee met last Saturday at the Hartford Center Cemetery and there are pine trees and limbs that have fallen and damaged stones. The committee voted to contact the abutter, since property lines cannot be determined at the back of the cemetery, to see if they would agree to remove or allow the removal of pine trees located in the road around the cemetery to prevent future damage to stones. Cutting of saplings located in front of the cemetery will be completed soon. Bim has agreed to remove the brush. Next workshop will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2023 8:30am at the Parsons Cemetery to fix the granite that has fallen from the front wall. The stairs and steps at Hartford Center Cemetery need repair.

V Calendar Reminders

 a. Budget Meeting April 26, 2023 7pm

b. Reports due for Town Report May 1, 2023: Susan will prepare the Selectmen’s Report for the annual town report and Lee will prepare the dedication.

 c. Taxes due May 1, 2023

VI Unfinished Business:

1. CEBE Grant process/Resolution: Cathy motioned to accept the CEBE resolution. Lee second. All in favor=3. The Board signed the resolution as required.

2. Turner Fire/Rescue Contracts 2022-2025: Susan motioned that each town that we have a contract with to provide fire services include the coverage area listed by road and the per capita cost. Cathy second. All in favor=3. Lee motioned to approve the Turner Fire and Rescue contract. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

3. Town Office Damage 4/1/2023: The estimator has inspected the damage. Some contractors are stating that the damaged could just be patched. Some are saying that the damage covers the whole front wall and to the main door. The Board agreed to submit estimates of bringing the building back to the original condition. This will require the building to be shut down for a couple of weeks for repair.

4. Town report cover photos: The Board chose the photo they prefer for the cover of the report.

VII Open Session:

 1. Newsletter deadline for submissions is May 15, 2023. Cathy will prepare a report from the Board.

2. Mike Maney, a new resident, asked how the condition of property in the town center (Main Street) can be allowed. Lots of junk and there are fire hazards. There is no fence but a structure by road and structures should be added to the square footage of total buildings. There are laws against what they have done. Discussion included the proposed property maintenance standard ordinance, ordinance committee recommendation to require prior junkyard license holders to submit new applications for their expired licenses.

3. Mike Maney is interested in purchasing the old school building on Church St. to move to the Church lot for a reasonably cheap price.

VIII New Business:

 1. Mowing Bid Opening: The Board opened two bids:

a. Kyle McCafferty bid $18,000.00 for each year and $5,000.00 extra for the first year to bring cemeteries back to the original footprint as required

b. Steven Elsman bid $13,000.00 per year

Cathy motioned to accept the bid from Steven Elsman in the amount of $13,000.00 per year. Susan second. All in favor=3.

The Board will inspect the cemeteries before the current contractor is paid the final installment. Steve would like to join them during the inspection in order to know what the Board expects.

The Board agreed to send a letter to the current contractor to remind him of the requirement to mow and clean all properties listed in the contract before Memorial Day.

2. Beach Policy: Cathy read the Beach Policy aloud. Discussion included: online petition with 60 signatures has not been submitted, beach passes sold to date for 2023 is 42, stay with policy or the Constable will have no control, improvements are planned with help from ARPA funds, pass is for parking, Turner charges $15.00 per pass maximum is two passes per year, used to pay $2.00 per person per visit when it was privately owned, Crescent Beach in Auburn costs $5.00 per day per person, plate number is on pass so that it cannot be placed on out of town vehicles, hard to plan for guest passes, online purchase of guest passes, we are violating the deed from Patton Corp by allowing non-residents to attend swimming lessons since it states residents and their guests, multiple vehicles will cost $30.00 or $45.00 per year, should make a policy people want, and public hearings have been held on the subject. No action taken. Tabled until next year.

3. Beach Walkway Repairs: It was suggested that we tear out the old beach walkway and replace with natural material and culverts. The current walkway is damaged and slippery. A Board member stated that DEP permits may be required. Lee motioned to move forward with beach walkway repairs as soon as possible. Susan second. All in favor=3.

4. Hall use/Free Sale June 2, 3, 4: Cathy motioned to require all who use the hall to sign the hall rental agreement. Susan second. All in favor=3.

Lee motioned to allow the Free Sale to take place on June 2 3, 4, 2023 at no charge and no requirement for insurance. Cathy second. All in favor=3. Steve will clear a section of the garage for storage of items for the sale.

5. Waste rules for Bulky Pickup: Lianne will contact Archie’s about fees for tires and suggested that we confirm with Archie’s items that are not to be picked up during bulky collection, with suggestions from the waste committee. Tabled.

6. Supplement tax bill/Blanchard 2022: Lee motioned to approve the supplemental tax bill for George Blanchard. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

7. Town meeting warrant articles/budget review: The Board agreed to write the article for the Darrington Road opening to include preparation cost and plowing to be raised from taxation and to include an article to recommend $30,000.00 from fund balance to reduce the 2023-24 budget.

Lee motioned to keep the summer road and winter road articles/account separate from each other. Cathy second. All in favor=2. Abstained=1.

Cathy motioned to include the $5.00/hour raise for the CEO and Road Commissioner in the 2023-24 budget. Susan second. All in favor=3.

The Board agreed to keep their recommendation of $10,000.00 for the revaluation reserve and $1,000.00 for town office maintenance. The Budget Committee recommended different amounts for these accounts.

8. RSU 10 student’s community service: Ken will contact the school to schedule students to help with cemeteries.

 9. Request to make recorded meetings available to public: Tabled.

IX Appointments/Resignation: None.

X Training: Lee motioned to approve $35.00 for the video of appeals board training from MMA. Susan second. All in favor=3.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed correspondence.

XII Meeting was adjourned at 10:35pm.

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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

April 20, 2023

Grading and rock raking has begun and will hopefully help the gravel roads to dry up.

We are working to create an invoice to send to the landowner on Perry Road who damaged the new tar with his equipment recently.

Jeff Sterns has been helping us with the application process to apply for infrastructure grants and I will be meeting with him in a couple of weeks to do site visits on proposed projects.

Submitted by

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

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| **Town of Hartford, Maine Plumbing Permit Log 2023** |  |  |  |
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| 2/3/2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date | Permit Number | Last Name | First Name | Location | Purpose |
| 2/3/2023 | 2023-P-01 | Salisbury | Debbie | R12-38.9, 9 Adam Lane | Internal Plumbing |
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| Town of Hartford, Maine Permit Log 2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 4/17/2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date | Permit Number | Last Name | First Name | Location | Purpose |
| 1/12/2023 | 2023-B-01 | Marsters | Paula | U04-020, 254 Camp Ext Road | Tree Cutting |
| 1/21/2023 | 2023-B-02 | Harvey-Garcia | Emily | U09-26.2, U09-6, 120 Pratt Hill Rd | Cabin |
| 1/21/2023 | 2023-B-03 | Pinoski | Jacob | U7-20.3, 302 Berry Rd | Addition |
| 2/20/2023 | 2023-B-04 | Pennini | Dorean | R5-12, 1734 Bear Pond Road | Pool |
| 3/9/2023 | 2023-B-05 | Myers | Matt & Heidi | R7-40, 57 Bartlet | Cabin replacement |
| 3/28/2023 | 2023-B-06 | Airuccello | Anthony | U13-12.3, 96 Beachway | Addition |
| 4/15/2023 | 2023-B-07 | Dyer | Ellery | U9-31, 143 Pratt Hill  | Tree Cutting |
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