Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

May 4, 2023

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Susan Goulet, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Cemetery Committee member Ken Violette, residents Julia Samson, David Legloahec, Paul Brochu, and Theresa Bennett.

Present via Zoom: Kathleen Theriault, Tim Kirwan, Natasha Cote, Lennie Eichman, Marla Winship, Chad Casey, Nanci Weed, Richard Dyer, Mary Cousins, Dan Larochelle, and Thomas Hamilton.

I Cathy called the meeting to order at 7pm.

II Cathy motioned to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting. Susan second. All in favor=3.

III. Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 21 and Payroll Warrants April 26, 2023 & May 3, 2023. Lee second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: None.

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

a. Sam Annis Road Complaint: The Board read the complaint submitted by Julia Samson of Ricker Hill Road, Hartford. The complaint stated that the culvert installed three years ago on Sam Annis Road is much larger in diameter and is sunk lower that the culvert that runs along the roadside and substantial flow of water is diverted to her private ditch that was not designed to manage the level of water and flooding is occurring. Lianne conveyed photos and a statement from the contractor who installed the culvert stating that the exact same size culvert was installed and a laser was used to place the culvert at the exact same depth.

Discussion included: Should have the Road Commissioner walk the property, Brochu (neighbor) driveway was washed out due to someone placing a piece of plywood at the cross culvert to prevent water from draining onto the Samson property (no one admitted to doing so), Brochu’s culvert is currently clogged although the driveway has been repaired, install check dams, problem began when prior neighbor asked Farrar to divert water onto the Samson property, Samson created a 100’ ditch to divert water from driveway and house and stated that the culvert should divert 50% of water along road and 50% onto Samson property, an engineer and a hydrologist designed the Samson ditch, Samson complained in January of 2023 and received no response, no one communicated with Brochu but have been inspecting driveway and ditch all week, David Legloahec was said to have confessed this week to placing the plywood at culvert to prevent water from going through, Cathy suggested inspecting the Samson property during a future rain storm, Cathy suggested having the contractor create a new ditch on the Samson property, turn outs do not work since water will jump, MMA Legal would have to be contacted to see if contractors can perform work on private property, Samson offered to just fill ditch in, Samson agreed to allow contractor to create new ditch on her property only if 50% of the water will be diverted to her property, Samson cannot get insurance coverage due to the water issue and has a business at the property, Samson will contact DOT to plan a solution and will install cameras at culvert site, Samson asked to be consulted each time the town makes improvements to the section of Sam Annis Road.

3. Constable Report: None.

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

5. ACO Report: None.

6. Planning Board Report: The Board reviewed the April 2023 approved minutes.

7. Ordinance Committee: None.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report: The Board received current expense reports.

10. Cemetery Committee Report: Ken shared that a meeting was held on April 23, 2023 at the Parsons Cemetery. Five members and four volunteers were present and repaired the stone wall along the road. Robert Cote, of Copperhead Lane, donated time and equipment to aid in the repair. Some stones were cleaned at the same time and seem to get brighter each time it rains and the sun will also help. School children will not be helping clear brush at Hartford Center Cemetery since they have found another community to help. An abutter to Hartford Center Cemetery may know where the rear property line is located. Tree cutting has been taking place and wood will be piled on hill for Bim to pick up.

V Calendar Reminders

a. Waste Committee meeting May 10 6pm

b. Region 11 Public Hearing May 11, 2023 6:30pm OHCHS

c. Absentee ballots available May 13, 2023

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Hartford News/Selectmen’s report: Lee motioned to accept the report which Cathy prepared. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

2. Town Report/Selectmen’s report: Lee motioned to hold a special selectmen’s meeting to approve the report on May 11, 2023 at 5pm. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

3. Town Report Dedication: Cathy motioned to accept the dedication that Lee prepared for the town report dedication. Susan second. All in favor=3.

4. Budget review/Town report cover layout: The Board agreed to use the cropped version of the photo for the cover so that the plastic bag, etc. in the photo does not show. The Board agreed to recommend the same amounts for CEO and Road Commissioner wages as the Budget Committee recommend.

5. Town meeting warrant approval: Lee motioned to accept the warrant as written with minor typographical corrections. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

6. Town Meeting Moderator: Cathy motioned to accept Scott Cole as Moderator for the Annual Town Meeting. Lee second. All in favor=3.

7. Bulky Pickup/letter to Archie’s: The Board signed a letter to Archie’s clarifying what is to be picked up during the collection.

8. Fire/Rescue list of roads covered: The Board reviewed road lists of local emergency service coverage.

9. Request to make recorded meetings available to public:

Discussion included: An informal request was made to have recorded meetings available online, people are welcome to attend meetings in person or via zoom and will depending how important it is to them, recorded meetings online may cause future meetings to last longer due to comments, approved minutes are available on the website, one Board member is open to the idea. Tabled indefinitely.

10. Tax Foreclosure/Bankruptcy case: No updates. Tabled.

VII Open Session:

a. Susan requested that ATV road use to be included on the next agenda.

b. Cathy and Susan visited the Harlow junkyard site and requested a log. Mr. Harlow submitted a log to the town office on May 4, 2023.

VIII New Business:

1. Community Concepts letter of support: Lee motioned to sign the Community Concepts letter of support. Susan second. All in favor=3.

2. Oxford County Tax Commitment: Cathy motioned to accept the Oxford County Tax Commitment in the amount of $135,925.00.Lee second. All in favor=3.

3. Town Hall refrigerator purchase:

Discussion included: Cleaning of underneath and back of refrigerator may correct the problem with the old refrigerator, replacement seals are available to purchase and easy to install, town hall maintenance budget currently has a balance of $303.00, and there may be a free refrigerator available. No action.

IX Appointments/Resignation: None.

X Training: None.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed correspondence.

XII Meeting was adjourned at 9:25pm.

Minutes approved by:

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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

May 4, 2023

Everyone is aware that we have had a major rain storm that has affected our roads. All roads that had work completed recently, where we placed new ditches and culverts, had very little damage. Most damage occurred on Swan Pond Road and Darrington Road. The brunt of the damage affected the dirt roads that had not had recent improvements. Most of the issues will be taken care of by the end of the week.

The May 1, 2023 rain storm was not a normal spring rain storm and may be considered a disaster by MEMA if damage estimates submitted reach the threshold.

I will be working throughout the weekend to gather information, photos, and estimates to submit to Oxford County Emergency Management.

We have issues with Julia Samson on Ricker Hill Road concerning a cross culvert that was installed three years ago. We installed new cross culverts on Sam Annis Road before it was paved and the new culverts had to be installed with the proper coverage over them to prevent any damage to them.

Most of our posted road signs have been taken down.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

Town of Hartford, Maine Permit Log 2023

Report from the Code Enforcement Officer

Date: April 30th, 2023

Year to Date Report:

Year to Date Building Permits Issued: 8 - last yr. 7

Year to Date Plumbing Permits Issued: 2 - last yr. 7

Complaints:

R02-028, Swan Pond – anonymous complaint about a new cabin built 3 years ago. Sent the owner a letter stating there was no permit on record for a cabin on their property and it hasn’t been taxed. Owner replied that the cabin has been there 20 years or more and was permitted by K. Hawkins. Still under investigation.

Inspections:

None

Other:

None

Respectfully Submitted

G. Scott Mills

CEO/LPI Hartford, Me

5/1/2023

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

4/22/2023 2023-B-08 Walker Carla U6-19, 84 Blueberry Tree Cutting

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| **Town of Hartford, Maine Plumbing Permit Log 2023** | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5/1/2023 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 4/17/2023 | 2023-P-02 | Hyland Interior Design | | R4-15, 233 Gurney Hill Rd | New Septic |
| 4/27/2023 | 2023-P-03 | Goodwin | Ira | U10-10, Bear Pond Rd | Internal Plumbing |
|  | 2023-P-04 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2023-P-05 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2023-P-06 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2023-P-07 |  |  |  |  |