Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

August 4, 2022

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Susan Goulet, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Road Commissioner Bim McNeil, CEO Scott Mills, residents Kenneth Violette, David Bowen, Isaac Haylock, Jeff, and representative for the CEBE grant assistance program Clair.

Present via Zoom: Ordinance Committee member Lennie Eichman, residents Richard Dyer, Planning Board member Dan Larochelle, Natasha Cote, Mary Cousins, Marla Winship, Thomas Hamilton, Tim Kirwan, and Sarah.

I Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:07pm

II Cathy motioned to approve the minutes of July 18, 2022 Special Selectmen’s meeting, July 21, 2022 Selectmen’s meeting and July 23, 2022 Selectmen’s Workshop. Lee second. All in favor=3.

III. Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 32 (2021-2022), Warrant 3 (2022-2023) and Payroll Warrants of July 27, 2022 and August 3, 2022. Lee second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: The Board reviewed the agenda of the next scheduled School Board meeting.

2. Road Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the Road Commissioner. A Board member noted that Perry Road was very smooth now and the old CMP pole has been removed. The Board reviewed a complaint of the condition of Green Acres Road including missing signs, bushes preventing view of traffic and potholes. The Road Commissioner plans to ditch a section of the road and bring the road back to gravel perhaps in September of this year.

a. CEBE Grants: Claire was present to explain the association she represents that received ARPA funds to assist towns in applying for grants for such items as culverts, heat pumps, etc. The first step would be to sign a letter of intent and then complete a self-assessment. The deadline to apply is August 31, 2022 and the program is limited to working with only five towns. They currently do not have any towns signed up for services. Lee motioned to accept the offer of partnership to apply for resilient grants pending hearing from Susan who will check with other towns who have participated to see what they think of the program. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

Two complaints were received concerning a double wide home in the right of way of Town Farm Road blocking the view of traffic, and other vehicles present on the property that are junk. The CEO will investigate.

The detour for the Main Street DOT culvert repair beginning August 22, 2022 will be Rte. 219 to Rte. 4 to Rte. 108 according to the signage in place.

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

4. ACO Report: None.

5. Planning Board Report: The Board reviewed the July 4, 2022 Planning Board minutes and noted an error concerning the erosion issue on Main Street, near Canton Lake. The Town did not contract for repair of the erosion caused by the driveway. Jeff Sterns is working with the property owner to apply for a mitigation grant.

6. Ordinance Committee: A Committee member stated that the first ordinance meeting of the new fiscal year was held July 19, 2022. Members were notified of the meeting by email and phone calls. Three people attended of which only one was a member. The member contacted members and asked for defacto resignations due to lack of attendance.

The member has researched the road side spraying issue and found that we should have a contract with DOT, CMP, and Lucas Tree Service to prevent the spraying. More research needs to be done. The member stated that an ordinance means nothing unless we have contracts.

The committee member could find no information on a messy yard ordinance, only property maintenance standards which require permits for yard sales and limit the number of permits used. The Town of Sumner abides by the State of Maine Junkyard Law.

A Board member stated that one of the regular members of the ordinance committee would rather be an alternate. A Board member suggested that current members attend meetings more regularly and that the Board pay attention to attendance.

7. Fire Warden Report:  None.

8. Treasurer Report

a. Tax Relief for Seniors/New law: The new law was explained and is available to residents who are 65yo. and older, who have qualified for the homestead exemption for at least 10 years in Maine, and residents must apply each year. There is not cost or loss of funds by the town. The exemptions are reimbursed to the town by the State of Maine.

V Calendar Reminders-Lake Days August 13- Annual Meeting 14: Canton Historical Building

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Hartford Beach Policy 2023: A Board member suggested providing local lodging businesses with the ability to purchase beach passes for their guests, charging residents $10.00 annually and requiring guests of residents to accompany the resident to the beach. A different rate may be determined for business passes.

The Board agreed to hold a Town Beach Public Workshop on October 6, 2022 6pm to 7pm at the Hartford Town Hall.

2. Work list for Maintenance employee: The Board agreed to include on the list: Town Hall door latch replacement, Wash Town Hall windows (outside), organize garage, and stain the Town Hall ramp railings.

3. Ordinance List/ Solid Waste Ordinance: Lee motioned to include the Solid Waste Ordinance on the list of work to be completed by the Ordinance Committee for the 2023 Town Meeting. Susan second. All in favor=3.

4. Tax Foreclosures: Lee motioned to allow the prior owners of Map R11 Lot 14.1 and Map R7 Lot 1-3 to pay all taxes due in full before October 1, 2022 in order for the town to sell back the property to them, their heirs, or assigns. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

VII Open Session:

1. It was requested that we find a volunteer to weed the flower bed at the Town Hall. Lee will look for volunteers.

VIII New Business:

1. Campers/Trailers on lots with no Septic Plan: A Board member has noticed people living in campers with no septic systems. The CEO stated that he observes whether or not they dispose of waste properly and he hasn’t seen any fulltime residents. Shoreland Zone Ordinance allows for people to reside in campers for no more than 120 days per year.

2. RR Bed/Beaver problem: Sue will email the residents who volunteered to help with the beaver issue.

3. Town Hall Rental Agreement Amendment: The Board discussed minor changes to the policy. Tabled.

4. Resource Trailer: The Board agreed to allow the continuance of the resource building for now. Hornets have to be removed. It was suggested that only fresh produce be placed in the building to share.

IX Appointments/Resignation: Cathy motioned to accept the resignation of Lennie Eichman from the Ordinance Committee with regrets. Sue second. All in favor=2. Opposed=1.

Cathy motioned to appoint Alan Bim McNeil to the Ordinance Committee with a term to expire in June of 2027. Sue second. All in favor=2. Opposed=1.

Lee motioned to appoint Loando Brann to the Ordinance Committee with a term to expire in June of 2023. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

X Training: Lee motioned to approve the funds for two Planning Board members to attend Planning Day on August 25, 2022 in South Portland. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed the correspondence.

XII Cathy adjourned the meeting at 10:10pm.

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

August 4, 2022

The prep work on Perry Road has been completed and is ready to be paved. The crew added 1300 yards of gravel to the entire section and will add calcium to cut down on dust. Paving is planned for the end of August.

Equipment has been moved to the RR Bed and work will begin Friday or Monday. We will add material and grade the bed.

Once the RR Bed work is completed, probably the middle of next week, we will move equipment to the Darrington Road/Goding Road project site.

Once the Darrington Road/Goding Road project is complete we will begin the Pratt Hill Road project.

We are also working on a list of signs to order and will be doing a little maintenance on the dirt section of Darrington Road.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

Report from the Code Enforcement Officer

Date: July 31th, 2022

Year to Date Report:

Year to Date Building Permits Issued: 18 - last yr. 26

Year to Date Plumbing Permits Issued: 15 - last yr. 23

Complaints:

1) Labrador Rd - Received a call from a gentleman who owned a camp and became aware of his son’s girlfriend and child living there and would like them removed. He said he had called the Sherriff’s office and they told him since there was history between his son and this girl, it would be a civil matter and he would have to go through the courts to have her evicted. He was wondering if there were any code violations, I could use to have her removed. I advised him the Sherriff was correct, he would have to go through the court.

Inspections:

Rt 219, Goodwin Driveway – July 12th I inspected Ira Goodwin’s driveway to his new project on Little Bear Pond. I noticed a location where the apron was improperly sloped to the unscarified, undisturbed forest floor. I advised Mr. Goodwin and he stated that Main Land was there the day before and also advised him of the same issue and that he is having the contractor address it. I also reminded Mr. Goodwin of the need to place a berm of erosion control mulch between the site of the new building and the pond before excavation on the foundation. He stated he would.

I also inspected Mr. Goodwin’s tree removal plan. He had plotted several 25 sq ft areas with flags, inventoried and scored each tree in each area to determine if he could cull any of the weaker failing growth. I corrected his calculations on how to score trees greater than 12 inches. He was going to go through his log and recalculate his scoring to ensure he remained within his allowance.

West Cove Dr, Cooper tree removal project – July 12th I inspected Mr. Cooper’s tree removal project to ensure he was taken proper erosion control measures. He was, and I saw no potential erosion issues.

Other:

None

Respectfully Submitted

G. Scott Mills

CEO/LPI Hartford, Me