

Town of Hartford
Special Town Meeting
September 20, 2007
Minutes

Meeting was held at the Hartford Town Hall at 7:00pm.
Approximately 45 residents attended the meeting.

Lianne Bedard began the meeting by reading the Greetings of the warrant.

Article 1. David nominated Jerry Marstaller as moderator. Betty Plumley second.
No other nominations were made.

Vote by written ballot: 3 for Jerry Marstaller

Article 2: Gary Pottle motioned to see if the Town will vote to take the following actions:

(a) to authorize the purchase in fee simple from Courtney Jeanne Marriott of a 39 acre parcel of land, shown on Hartford Tax Maps as Map R11 Lot 30 and described in a deed from Lloyd Poland to Courtney Jeanne Marriott, recorded in Book 4011 Page 3, dated September 15, 2006, for a sum not to exceed \$30,000.00.;

(b) to appropriate from Fund Balance the sum of up to \$30,000.00 for purchase of the land and related costs;

(c) to authorize the municipal officers to take all actions, including a procuring legal advice and a title search, and to execute documents necessary to accomplish said sale;

(d) to retain said property for the purpose of recreational, environmental access and parking.

Arthur Harvey second.

Discussion: Elizabeth Gravalos stated that many people use the land for recreation. Jack Plumley said that there are many pros concerning the purchase. Historical and recreational reasons, landowner access to their land, fishing, hunting. The only con is paying for the land. MMA was contacted and there is no liability issues since the lot will be used as recreational land. Jack added that the man who was interested in purchasing the land was planning to gate it off. Sharon McCarron stated that people have used the RR bed since she was a child and she wants to make sure that it is available for her kids to use. Lee stated that the beginning of the lot near Main Street could be used for parking during town events and Hartford Heritage Society events. Lee explained that under the Maine Tort Act the town is not liable for any damage, injury etc. on land used for recreation. If someone is injured in a parking lot, sidewalk, curb etc. the town is liable. Morrill Nason asked the amount of yearly tax on the property. Hope McCabe answered \$169.74. Jerry Marstaller asked about bridge maintenance. Sharon McCarron stated that the bridge was replaced recently and should be good for 25 years.

Morrill Nason stated that ditching needs to be done. Sharon answered that this is not a public maintained road. Sharon also stated that she had to get written permission from the owner of the RR Bed to haul wood out from her lot. David Bowen stated that this will be required if the town owns the property. Beulah Brown shared that the RR came to town in 1867. It was called the try weekly to Canton. Many improvements have been made to

RR Bed

the bed over the years. Leslie Boness stated that the article is worded incorrectly. Section C should read purchase not sale. David Bowen stated that the article was written by MMA staff.

John Convey motioned to call to question. Betty Plumley second.

Vote by show of hands to call to question: yes.

Vote by show of hands on Article 2: Yes.

The following article contains the exact wording of the petition circulated by Jack Plumley:

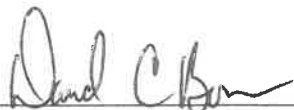


Article 3: Sharon McCarron motioned to see if the voters of the Town of Hartford will vote to purchase the property located on Hartford tax map R11 Lot 30 for a sum not to exceed \$30,000.00. The property will be retained for historic reasons, environmental usage and parking area for town events. Conrad Ray second.

Lee explained that the reason this article was included on the warrant was due to the petition turned in to the Board of Selectmen. The original article must be included on the warrant.

Vote by show of hands: Yes.

Jerry Marstaller adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

Minutes approved by:

 _____	<u>10-4-07</u>
David Bowen	Date
 _____	<u>10-4-07</u>
Hope McCabe	Date
 _____	<u>10-4-07</u>
Lee Holman	Date