Town of Hartford

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2020

7:00 PM

**I           Call Meeting to order 7:07 PM**

**Lee Holman, Cathy Lowe, Lori Swan of the Selectboard. Also in attendance: Richard Dyer, Leslie Boness, Tim Kirwan, Raymond Hunter and daughter Margaret, Jen Bonaventura, Chad Casey, Arthur Harvey, and Lennie Eichman**

**II         Review meeting minutes from**:

1. Selectboard Meeting on November 5, 2020 Lee moved, Cathy 2nd, approved.

2. Town Meeting Minutes: Remain on the agenda

**III        Review Warrants**:

A/P Warrant #13 Discussion of postage expense related to certified lien letters and tax bills. Payroll warrants. Lee moved, Lori 2nd, All in favor.

**IV        Reports:**

1. RSU 10 Report: No report. Not on Facebook live. Lee to ask about public access.

2. Road Report: None at present. Cathy reported that Berry Road paving was completed.

3. CEO Report: None from the CEO. Lee reported having asked for a check on the boat in the water in Bartlett Cove. Tim Kirwan stated that he thought the boat was gone. Lee also mentioned the incursion on the beach, such as keeping boats and toys there, building a bridge for ATVs and foot traffic, and building fires. All of it needs to be gone before snowfall. No bridge may be built over a stream without , at minimum, appearing before the Planning Board.

4. ACO Report: None at present.

5. Planning Board Report: None at present. Seeking 2 members for the Planning Board.

though the Selectboard needs a resignation letter from one member.

6. Ordinance Committee Report: Lennie reported meeting with Richard Dyer. Discussed updating the binders and worked on the blanket committee statement. No others present.

7. Fire Warden Report: None at present.

8. Treasurer Report: None at present.

**V         Calendar Reminders:**

1. 1st half of taxes are due December 1, 2020.

**VI        Unfinished Business:**

1. Paul Bernier letter: Cathy provided templates and Lee suggested that Hartford adapt the model bus turn-around letter from the town of Orrington.

2. Resident request for use of town hall: Lee read an email from the Maine Municipal Association legal team which suggested that during the time of COVID, one approach could be for the town to suspend renting out the hall as state regulations would need to be followed. Also suggested a written policy for use of the space. Insurance and liability waivers were also discussed in the email. Need to consider enforcement of guidelines. (Will be available in written form). While the town is supportive of home school groups, COVID advice from MMA gives much to unpack. Discussion ensued of both safety and potential discrimination issues. A policy needs to be developed and it was suggested that it include the statement as subject to review.

3. Returned check policy MMA – Lori No contact with the interim town clerk. Lori offered to contact the MMA lawyer again and ask her to follow through with the clerk.

4. Broadband Coalition-Speed test: Need more people in the coalition who are interested in getting broadband to Hartford. Speed Test is available. The suggestion was made to send information out via email. Discussion of First Light already installing broadband in various spots around the town ensued. The suggestion was made to advertise on community pages.

5. Set new town office committee meeting date: Currently there are only 2 members and the Selectboard. Seeking members will be posted on the Hartford Facebook page.

**VII      Open Session:**

1. Richard Dyer reported that comments on the school board ZOOM meeting were negative regarding the requirement to wear masks at schools.
2. Arthur Harvey showed a check for $4,000 made out to the Hartford Recreation Committee for recreational trail improvements. He asked whether the check could be turned over to the committee’s account. Lee mentioned that the check was to be matched through a grant from the state and the deadline might have passed. Lennie informed the deadline had been 9/25/20 for the current round. Arthur asked that a warrant for town meeting be added to match the check.

**VIII     New Business:**

1. Thompson Brook Culvert grant:  Jeff Stern put work into a grant and had hoped that the town would match it, but despite the state having declared that the culvert was deteriorating, there was opposition and it has been dropped. Tim Kirwan offered that the lake association board had met and supported helping with the effort. Chad Casey mentioned that the ponds bring in tax revenue and the erosion issues need to be resolved as the ponds were filling.
2. Leslie Boness asked about the contract for the Pratt Hill Culvert grant and whether it had been signed. Discussion ensued. Lee pointed out that the Selectboard had agreed to the grant and it would be signed. On further questioning, Cathy assured that the contract would be signed.

**IX        Appointments/Resignations:**

**X         Training:**

**XI        Review Correspondence:**

**XII      Adjourn: Lee called the meeting to adjourn at 8:41 PM**

Minutes approved by:

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Lee Holman Date

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lori Swan Date