Town of Hartford

Selectboard Meeting

Approved Minutes

August 19, 2021

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall

Present: Selectmen Lee Holman, Cathy Lowe, (Lori Swan was excused due to illness), Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, residents Richard Dyer, Lennie Eichman, Christine Mumau, Mark Mumau, Greg Desjardins, Jason Olsen, and Dan Brissette.

I Lee called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

II A majority of the board members who were present at the August 5, 2021 board meeting were not present at this meeting in order to approve the meeting minutes. Tabled.

III Lee motioned to approve A/P Warrant 4 and Payroll Warrants dated August 11, 2021 & August 18, 2021. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

IV Reports:

1. RSU 10 Report: A resident viewed the School Board meeting of August 9, 2021 and reported that all students will be attending school in person this year. 17 students will be learning remotely although the remote learning will not be provided by the school. The next meeting to be held on August 23, 2021 will address mask requirements and vaccinations for staff and students.

2. Road Report: The report (attached) submitted by the Road Commissioner was read aloud.

c. Road Complaints/Tucker Road Speed: The board reviewed 2 complaints of two fawns being hit by vehicles on Tucker Road. It was shared that the town cannot just put up speed limit signs. There is a process which involves a traffic safety study, as well as approval from the MDOT, the Chief of State Police, and the Commissioner of Transportation, as well as public hearings. There are currently no speed limit signs on town roads in Hartford. A board member shared that the speed limit is 45 on paved roads and 25 on gravel roads.

Cathy motioned to purchase two deer crossing signs. Lee second. All in favor=2.

3. CEO Report: none.

4. ACO Report: none.

5. Planning Board Report: none.

6. Ordinance Committee: A member of the committee shared that the first meeting of this fiscal year was held on August 17, 2021 and officers were elected. The Constable was invited to attend that meeting to discuss conditions and incidents at the Town beach and he was present.

7. Fire Warden Report: none.

8. Treasurer Report: The treasurer’s report (attached) was read aloud.

V Calendar Reminders:

The board shared the following: Ordinance committee meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month and a broadband meeting will be held on August 24, 2021 6pm @ the Sumner Town Office. All are welcome to attend. The board requested that the broadband meeting date be emailed to the Hartford email list serve group.

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Beach Citations/warnings: Lee motioned to authorize the Constable to issue citations for violations of the beach ordinance. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

2. Personnel Policy amendments/retirement: a resident completed the application for the board to sign but the town received an email about a $1,000.00 annual fee.

Tabled due to a misunderstanding by the Mission Square Retirement.

VII Open Session:

1. Lee shared that she has been elected to the Oxford County Budget Committee.

2. A resident replied to the comments made about the dim lighting in the town hall. He stated that he and a resident installed bulbs that will last a very long time but are dimmer than normal. The bulbs were used since it is quite a job to change them. He suggested installing 5 or 6 more lights in the town hall. Cathy will talk with the electrician Greg Young about the bulbs.

3. Lee shared that a lot of bulky waste was accumulating at the site of the Labrador Pond Road dumpster and suggested that the solid waste committee be called in to meet.

Lee also stated that she contacted Archie’s Inc. concerning the bulking waste left on Pratt Hill Road and was told that they would take a look.

VIII New Business:

1. Recreation Committee/RR Bed Gate, Name: It was shared that the RR Bed needs a name to qualify for recreational trail grants. The name suggested by the Recreation Committee is Irish Bog Trail.

Discussion included: How much grant money are we applying for? Purpose of grant is to fix up trail. What is the definition of a trail? Would a trail allow vehicles, locked gate at the bridge with keys for landowners and a space for ATVs to pass, Canton trail gate consists of two posts. Log trucks have used RR bed for logging, with permission, but placed an access bridge over the existing bridge. Previous repairs on RR bed have been done by Road Commissioner with support from the snowmobile club. Clarify role of the recreation committee in the beach ordinance. We don’t want to land lock landowners, Rocks prevent good walking, bike riding and horse riding. Can culvert still be installed? The State has given the Road Commissioner the old bridge from a replacement job which could be used on the RR bed. A resident has offered material to repair RR bed. with the naming of the RR Bed. We would like to have residents input in naming the RR Bed trail. Tabled.

2. Audit 2019-2020: the board received copies of the audit.

3. CMP Pole Permit/intersection of Darrington & Davenport: Lee motioned to approve CMP pole permit on Davenport road. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

4. MMA Ed MacDonald Safety Grant: Tabled.

5. MMA Risk Reduction Grant Program: Tabled.

6. Town Office/Paint Exterior: Cathy motioned to purchase paint for the outside of the town office. Lee second. All in favor=2.

7. Zoom Meeting Policy: Tabled.

8. G/A office hours: no action taken.

IX Appointments/Resignation: none.

X Training: none.

XI The board reviewed correspondence.

XII Lee motioned to adjourn at 9:10pm. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

Minutes approved by:

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Lee Holman Date

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lori Swan Date

Town of Hartford

Road Report

August 19, 2021

The road crew has finished shoulder work and seeding on Mahoney Road.

Church Street has had shoulder work completed on the new sections.

On Cary Hill Road the crew has box cut out two bad sections in the hill on the upper end and gravel has been spread. Cary Hill and Old Route 140 are ready for overlay.

Labrador Pond Road has had a few large rocks removed.

We began work on Gurney Hill Road including replacing two large culverts and minor repairs.

Shoulder work and fixing driveway entrances has begun on Stetson Road and Darrington Road.

We will be meeting with Jeff Stern on Friday concerning the Darrington Road culvert and will also discuss the Pratt Hill Road culvert. Depending on the weather, work should begin soon on the Darrington Road culvert.

Grading will resume as soon as we have time.

Submitted by:

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

Town of Hartford

Treasurer’s Report

August 19, 2021

To the Board of Selectmen:

The 2019-2020 Financial Audit has been finalized and the final copy is in your packet.

I have submitted electronic copies of all requested material to the Auditor for the 2020-2021 Audit. The auditor will be at the town office on September 9th and 10th.

All research has been completed including mortgage holder and deed changes for the 30 day notices on the taxes committed on November 10, 2021. I plan to send the notices out in early September. There are currently 72 accounts with balances due for current year taxes.

The assessors visited the town office on August 12th to retrieve building permits, deeds, applications for exemptions etc. for the upcoming tax commitment. They will begin field work on Monday, August 16th.

I have revisited the project of reconciling the state General Ledger accounts which have been out of balance since June of 2016. This issue was included in the report of the Auditor. The process requires researching transactions for each day beginning July 2016 to present for each of the following accounts: Motor Vehicle, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Animal Control, and Vital Statistics.

All research has been completed except Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. I am currently up to May of 2017. The research is very time consuming due to the number of errors.

Submitted by,

Lianne Bedard

Treasurer