Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

October 5, 2023

7:00@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Road Commissioner Bim McNeil, residents David Theriault, Kathleen Theriault, Ken Violette, and Jeff Beaulieu.

Absent: Selectmen Susan Goulet.

Present via Zoom: Elizabeth Garcia Harvey, Arthur Harvey, and Lennie Eichman.

I Lee called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

II Lee motioned to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

III. Lee motioned to approve Warrant 7 & Payroll Warrants of September 27, 2023 and October 4, 2023. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: None.

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

The Road Commissioner stated that storm damage is being repaired and we are working with FEMA to be reimbursed for the costs. We are also planning to apply for mitigation in some areas to prevent further damage.

a. Darrington Road complaint: It has been requested that gravel be placed on the northern end of Darrington Road and to crown the road to prevent damage from rain. The Road Commissioner suggested that the complainant work with us at budget time to plan for the purchase of gravel in the next fiscal year. $20,000.00 was recently spent on the road.

3. Constable Report: None.

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

5. ACO Report: None.

6. Planning Board Report: The Board reviewed the approved minutes from the September meeting. The Road Commissioner received a letter from the Planning Board asking him to submit a letter before October 18, 2023 with any concerns related to the approval of the Rocky Mountain Way subdivision on Bear Pond Road in Hartford. The Town Clerk was present for the October 2, 2023 Planning Board meeting and shared that the Planning Board discussed approving the subdivision at the next meeting without a public hearing, legal advice, or engineers, if the Road Commissioner and Fire Warden have no objections. It was clarified that the subdivision road, which the Board of Selectmen voted to name Rocky Mountain Way, was determined by Mainland Consultants not include the private way to the right at the bottom of the hill and will not be a continuous road as stated by Mr. Goodwin. The private drive to the right which includes two lots will have to be named separately. The Town Clerk asked Mainland to submit a map showing E911 measurements as required by the subdivision ordinance and a report of the road testing completed by Mainland to be shared with the Road Commissioner.

Issues of concern discussed by the Board of Selectmen and Road Commissioner include the lack of a road association and cul de sac, cost and details of trash disposal, paving details, and lack of an impact study. The next Planning Board meeting will be held November 6, 2023 7pm at the town hall.

7. Ordinance Committee: None. Lee motioned to remand the current subdivision ordinance to the ordinance committee to amend to include requirement for a road association for private roads with more than two residences. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report: The Board reviewed the expense report and the bank reconciliations for September. The Treasurer reported that she continues to negotiate interest rates for maturing CD’s.

10. Cemetery Committee Report: A committee member shared that he walked to Soule Cemetery to measure for a replacement fence, cleaned the cemetery area, and spoke with Mr. Kraske concerning using the entrance from Green Acres road to access the cemetery but was told that the Darrington Road entrance would be more efficient. It was reported that a plot at the Sparrow Cemetery has been purchased and there was a discrepancy between the old cemetery maps and the data base created by the Adams’ concerning rows and plot descriptions. It was determined that we use the old maps to describe the location of the plots. The cemetery member measured the plots and determined that the size is 8.5 by 3 at Sparrow which means they ok to be sold for cremations or we should space them out when selling if vaults are to be placed since there would not be enough room. A teen has placed the flowers at each grave at Fuller Cemetery and he will be asked to attend the next workshop due to his interest in the cemetery. Next meeting will be held on November 11, 2023 8am at the town hall. The Board agreed to allow Chris Bragg and Ken Violette to probe the plot to be sold at Sparrow Cemetery since records may not be 100 percent accurate. Chris Bragg, Sexton, will be asked if he is interested in joining the Hartford Cemetery Committee.

11. Solid Waste Committee Report: A committee member stated that a meeting was held on September 27, 2023 and those present discussed a recycling center. The next meeting will be held October 25, 2023.

V Calendar Reminders

 1. Town Office closed Monday, October 9, 2023 Holiday

 2. Career Center Job Assistance October 16, 2023 10:30-12:00 Town Hall

 3. Ordinance Committee Meeting October 18, 2023 7pm

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Hartford News deadline October 1, 2023: Lee motioned to approve the amended Selectmen’s report for the Hartford Newsletter. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

2. CEBE Grant update: The Town has been offered a grant for $50,000.00 to fund solar panels to be placed on the town hall roof, heat pumps for the town hall, and a heat pump for the town office. Projects may begin after October 26, 2023, quarterly reports are required, and any unused funds must be returned.

Lee motioned to accept the grant from the Community Resilience Program in the amount of $50,000.00. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

Lee motioned to accept the Eco Heat Maine proposal for the purchase and installation of heat pumps and solar panels. Cathy second. All in favor=2.

3. LD2003 Grant update: The Town Clerk composed and sent a letter with all ordinances related to building to the State in order to qualify for a one-time $5,000.00 disbursement to use for legal and other services related to updating building related ordinances so they will coincide with the new housing laws enacted and we will be notified in a few months of any progress on the grant.

VII Open Session:

1. The Assessors agents will be at the town hall on Tuesday to work on the tax commitment process. Tax bills should be mailed within a couple of weeks.

2. It was asked whether or not the Hartford News could use the hall on October 19th to collate the newsletter since it is currently be used to house the town office. The answer was yes. It was unknown whether or not the town office maintenance would be completed or not. Lee stated that she assumes the work will be completed.

VIII New Business:

1. Land purchase offer/Map R7 Lot 56: It was asked of the Board how much they would consider paying for the lot abutting the town property. The lot is directly behind the garage and is comprised of .37 acres. The deed to the lot is vague when it comes to measurements. Surveyors are quite expensive. Tabled.

IX Appointments/Resignation: None.

X Training: None.

XI Review Correspondence: Next agenda to include the County Commissioners proposal to hire a county wide Animal Control Officer.

XII Meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm.

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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

October 5, 2023

We finished up seeding and mulching Darrington and Davenport Road sections. We will be going back to fine grade before fall. Camp road will be graded also.

We have been working on Stetson Road shoulders and repairing washout areas.

We will finish work soon on Labrador Pond , Lafoy, and Moses Young Roads, including ditching, culverts replacement, grading and repairing washouts.

The crew will be moving to Pratt Hill Road next.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner