Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

December 21, 2023

7:00@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Susan Goulet, Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Constable Steven Elsman, Cemetery Committee member Ken Violette, and resident David Legloahec.

Present via Zoom: Residents Raymond, Nanci Weed, Lennie Eichman, and Jaylene Gonyea.

I Susan called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

II Cathy motioned to approve minutes from the December 7, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting. Susan second. All in favor=3.

III. Cathy motioned to approve Warrant 12 & Payroll Warrants December 13, 2023 and December 20, 2023. Susan second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: It was reported that the Hartford/Sumner Elementary School donated food to the town to hand out during the power outage since the school did not have a generator.

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

a. Road Complaint/Gammon: Mr. Gammon submitted a complaint stating that the Gurney Hill Road be plowed each time 6” of snow accumulates and at end of snow storms. Mr. Gammon was previously told that the plow policy outlines requirements for State roads, secondary roads, and roads with very few residents and that gravel roads are difficult to plow when they are not frozen. The Board agreed to take no action on the complaint. Lianne will email a response to Mr. Gammon and will copy the Board in the email.

3. Constable Report: The Constable shared that it has been quiet lately.

4. CEO Report: None.

5. ACO Report: None. Susan will contact the ACO to request a monthly report and remind her to visit the town office to sign kennel licenses.

6. Planning Board Report: None.

7. Ordinance Committee: The Ordinance Committee will meet on January 3rd at 7pm.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report: The Treasurer reported that all checks have cleared from the Androscoggin Bank account and the account has been closed. The remaining balance was deposited into Northeast Bank. Northeast Bank has reversed the $10.00 returned check fee since the agreement stated that no extra fees would be charged to the Town.

 a. Bank Reconciliation November 2023: The Board reviewed the reconciliations.

10. Cemetery Committee Report: A Cemetery Committee member stated that the next meeting will be held on January 21st at 9am at the town hall.

11. Solid Waste Committee Report: The Waste Committee will meet on January 10th at 6:30pm.

V Calendar Reminders

 1. Town Office closed December 25, 2023

 2. Budget Requests Due 12/30/23

 3. Town Office Closed January 1, 2023

VI Unfinished Business:

VII Open Session:

1. A Board members shared that volunteers spent 3 days at the town hall so that residents could use the hall to warm up, eat, charge phones, etc. Food was donated by the Buckit in Buckfield, the Hartford/Sumner elementary school, and several residents. The Board signed thank you cards to be sent to the Buckit and the school and expressed their thanks to all who volunteered and donated items.

VIII New Business:

1. Security cameras & cyber security: A Board member suggested planning for cameras at the salt shed and dumpsters, and cyber security updates. The Town Clerk shared information on an IT provider who recently installed a new computer at the town office and suggested that the Board continue to work with him. Susan will contact him to discuss details.

2. Tax Abatement Map R09 Lot 16.01: Susan motioned to approve the abatement in the amount of $2,037.00 for the assessing error on property located on Map R09 Lot 16.01. Lee second. All in favor=3.

3. Tax Abatement Map U06 Lot 23-001: Susan motioned to approve the abatement in the amount of $60.14 for the tax stabilization application that was lost in the mail for property located on Map U06 Lot 23.2. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

4. Wages 23-24 amended/new position: The Board discussed the starting wage of the new additional Deputy Clerk position. The Board agreed not to change the starting wage and to increase the wage by one dollar per hour in 6 months after a performance review has been completed.

IX Appointments/Resignations: A resignation was received by a member of the Solid Waste Committee. Tabled until the committee member clarifies what is being requested.

X Training: None.

XI Review Correspondence: None.

XII Susan adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

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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

December 21, 2023

The December 18th rain storm caused four washouts. Roads affected were Goding Road, Labrador Pond Road, Davenport Road (large old culvert damage), and Swan Pond Road.

There was also a small washout on Swan Pond Road.

All damage has been repaired and we are working with Jeff Sterns to apply for a grant to help with preventative construction on Goding Road.

Photos and invoices of damage are on file for FEMA if a disaster is declared.

A complaint was received concerning the plowing of the dirt section of Gurney Hill Road. This road is not a high priority road for plowing and the order of roads being plowed will not change.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner