Town of Hartford

Selectmen’s Meeting

Approved Minutes

June 1, 2023

7PM@ Hartford Town Hall & via Zoom

Present in person: Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Constable Steven Elsman, Cemetery Committee member Ken Violette, residents Al Borzelli, Bonny Bishop, Kathleen Theriault, David Theriault, and Rebecca Elsman.

Present via Zoom: Selectman Susan Goulet, residents Tim Kirwan, Nanci Weed, Richard Dyer, Thomas Hamilton, Dan Larochelle, and Lennie Eichman.

I Cathy called the meeting to order at 7:13pm.

1. Public Meeting Participation Policy: Lee motioned to accept the public meeting participation policy. Cathy second. All in favor=3.

II Cathy motioned to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting. Susan second. All in favor=3.

III. Lee motioned to approve Warrant 23 and Payroll Warrants May 24, 2023 & May 31, 2023. Susan second. All in favor=3.

IV Reports

1. RSU 10 Report: Susan attended the budget meeting at BHS and had several of her questions answered. The meeting went well without any major issues. Lianne was present at the May 31st school budget vote at the MVHS to check in voters. No residents from Hartford attended the meeting.

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

 a. Samson Road Complaint: Tabled.

b. Salt Bids: Lee motioned to approve ordering salt through AVCOG this year as recommended by the Road Commissioner (Eastern Salt). Susan second. All in favor=3.

c. Tucker Road Culverts/Borzelli: Al stated that culverts need to be cleaned throughout the town. A culvert on Tucker Road is clogged and is causing washouts. Cathy will speak with the Road Commissioner. Susan stated that severe rain storms can bring debris along ditches and clog culverts and suggested that complaints be submitted to the town office to be recorded. Ken stated that a culvert near Maple Grove Cemetery on Church St. needs repair.

3. Constable Report: The Board reviewed the report submitted by the Constable (attached). The Constable stated that he has been monitoring the beach and there were 40 people at the beach on Saturday, most without parking passes. The buoys have been placed in the water. Warning letters are being issued to violators.

4. CEO Report: None.

5. ACO Report: None.

6. Planning Board Report: None.

7. Ordinance Committee: Bonny mentioned that she joined the committee to make a difference in town but the committee has not met since February. Lianne shared that the chairman of the committee was waiting to hear from DOT about the no spray ordinance and scheduled a meeting for July which is the first month of the new fiscal year.

8. Fire Warden Report: None.

9. Treasurer Report: The Board received the most recent expense report. Lianne is waiting for a proposal from NE Bank and if the interest rate that was offered over the phone is in the proposal, does not see any choice but to change banks unless we place money in Androscoggin Bank CD’s which would tie up the funds. The rate offered over the phone is approximately 4% higher than we currently have.

10. Cemetery Committee Report: Ken reported that gravel was brought in to correct the Maple Grove Cemetery culvert. A workshop was held recently at Hartford Center Cemetery and an owner of land that abuts the cemetery has agreed to allow the cutting of pine trees which will allow access on the road around the cemetery. Susan will prepare an agreement between the Town and the abutter. Stones were stood up and cleaned. Limbs have been cut at Thompson yard, Fuller, and others. The road into Glover Cemetery is getting rough and is a discontinued road. A slate stone at Meeting House Cemetery was stood up. Next meeting will be held on June 17th. Ken will work with Lianne concerning volunteer hours for FEMA storm damage reporting.

V Calendar Reminders

 a. Employee Evaluations Monday June 5, 2023 5:30pm

 b. Free Sale June 3, 2023

 c. Public Hearing June 8, 2023-ordinance amendments, warrant articles, ATV use on town roads.

 d. Municipal & School Election/Referendum June 13, 2023 8 to 8

 e. Bulky Waste Collection June 15, 2023

 f. Public Hearing Fee Schedule 2023-2024 June 15, 2023 6:30pm

VI Unfinished Business:

1. Cemetery Inspections: It was stated that a couple of cemeteries were not done before Memorial Day and will be inspected next week once again. The cemetery committee, Cathy, and Sue cleared branches at several cemeteries. It was stated that the mowing contract requirements should be met before payment is made.

VII Open Session:

1. Tim inquired whether or not the Lake Assoc. request for funds could be readdressed at the public hearing on June 8th. The answer was no but Lee offered to help brainstorm ways to fundraise.

VIII New Business:

1. Junkyards/Theriault-Borzelli: Discussion included: A Board member has had a junkyard license in the past and has not renewed it in 20 years along with several others, the Board member should clean her yard an set an example for the rest of the town, loss of revenue from allowing junkyards to remain unlicensed, the Board or their agent enforces the junkyard law, town junkyard ordinance was repealed in 2004, Board member stated that she is a hobbyist and that is allowed under the junkyard law, it was asked if yards full of junk can be considered hobbyists, are the two lots the Board sent letters to considered hobbyists, hazardous waste is affecting the watershed, we have to enforce rules across the board for all to be fair for everyone. Tabled.

2. Request to use Hartford Beach/Senior Class June 8, 2023: Cathy motioned to allow the senior class to use the town beach on June 8, 2023. Susan second. All in favor=3.

3. No spray ordinance/Borzelli: It was stated that spray is killing bees and putting residents out of business, bees have to be moved to another town. Seven dust kills bees, DOT already met with the ordinance committee in prior years and we would have to mow eleven miles of road if no spray was allowed. The chemicals go into ditches and streams. No action.

4. Cathy motioned to enter into Executive session pursuant to MRSA 1§ chapter 13 Section 405(6)(e) Legal advice/Tax Foreclosure at 8:45pm. Lee second. All in favor=3.

Cathy motioned to exit executive session at 9:00pm. Lee second. All in favor=3.

Lee motioned to proceed with the legal foreclosure notice for the 2019 tax lien issue. Susan second. All in favor=3.

IX Appointments/Resignation: Appointments for 2023-24 on next agenda: The Board will consider all upcoming expiring terms for officials, committee members and board members.

X Training:

1. Notary Webinar 6/28/23: Lee motioned to approve $45.00 for a Notary workshop for the Town Clerk. Susan second. All in favor=3.

XI Review Correspondence: The Board reviewed all correspondence.

XII Meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

June 1, 2023 Minutes approved by:

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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 Commissioner Report

June 1, 2023

We met with FEMA concerning the December 23, 2022 storm on Friday, May 26, 2023 and met on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 with them to discuss the May 1, 2023 storm.

We also met with Jeff Sterns to update the hazard mitigation plan to be eligible for future funding from mitigation grants.

There are plans to begin brush removal at the beach parking area within the next couple of weeks.

Two salt bids were received and I recommend choosing the AVCOG bid with Eastern Salt.

Submitted by,

Bim McNeil

Road Commissioner

Town of Hartford

Constable Report

Due to warm weather I am seeing more and more people coming to the Hartford beach. However not all of them have parking stickers. I have confronted all and asked if they had 1 and 50 percent don't or are not even from Hartford .They are told to leave and not to return till so. I have also spoken to 2 boaters who were pulled right up on the beach and a gentleman that was from Rumford resting on the beach drinking a 12 pack of beer and he was asked to leave as well. I kept a journal with all plate numbers. Can we get a porta-potty ASAP. People are asking and using the woods.

Submitted by

Steven Elsman

Constable