

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

August 25, 2025 @ 6:15 pm

Chair: Breanna Pinkham Bebb
Vice Chair: Jeanine Tucker
Municipal Officer: Molly Schauffler
Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley – excused absence
Road Commissioner: Amon Morse
NVC Representative: Janae Novotny

Present: Breanna Pinkham Bebb, Jeanine Tucker, Molly Schauffler, James Kossuth, Amon Morse, Maleena Morse, Janae Novotny.

Citizen Concerns: Kossuth reported that Jacquie Gage had asked Kossuth if the Board would allow her to place a porta-potty at Knights Pond next summer, entirely at her expense. The Board agreed, and asked Kossuth to work with the Town’s attorney to draft a memorandum of understanding that Gage would be solely responsible for the porta-potty.

Northport Village Corporation: Novotny reported that 104 registered voters had attended the Village’s annual meeting on August 12. Voters expressed disappointment over the lack of a police officer in the summer. The Village had a party to celebrate the annual report’s honorees. There is a water leak somewhere in the Village, and they are still trying to locate it. Novotny reported that Village residents would like to see the Town and Village take some steps to improve pedestrian safety and calm traffic in the Village. The Board agreed that there should be a committee to look at the issue throughout the Town, and asked Kossuth to coordinate the set-up of that committee.

A. Morse expressed concern about physical traffic-calming methods, such as speed bumps, because they can be costly and time- and labor-intensive to maintain. He also cautioned that crosswalks should not be used for traffic calming and that crosswalks can instill a false sense of safety in pedestrians.

Road Commissioner: A. Morse reported that a company performing tree maintenance had knocked a tree onto power lines and closed a road briefly. He plans to move the speed feedback trailer this week.

Town Administrator: Temporary Town Office Space: Kossuth reported that he had met with Choppah (Ed Heroux) about making some minor renovations to 8 Beech Hill Road in order for it to serve as temporary town office space.

Federal Funding Update: Kossuth reported that he spoke with Rep. Pingree’s office about the funding process in the House. Rep. Pingree’s office described various scenarios, and Kossuth reported that the bottom line is that there remains a great deal of uncertainty as to exactly how the process will play out in the House before the Town’s funding request makes it to the President.

Pre-mortem / Contingency Planning: Kossuth asked the Board if the Board would like to consider a contingency planning meeting, to try to identify and avoid as many negative outcomes as possible. The Board agreed that it would be useful to have that meeting, and asked Kossuth to set it up for September 22. The Board also recommended some participants.

Pole Permit Application: Kossuth presented the Board with a pole permit application from CMP for a new pole on Upper Bluff Road near the intersection with Pound Hill. The Board reviewed and approved the application.

Fundraising Committee update – fall event: Kossuth reported that the Fundraising Committee recruited about a dozen teenagers to help plan a fall community event, dubbed Northportpalooza. It will be Sunday, September 21, 2-4pm, and celebrate all things Northport and simultaneously raise awareness about the community center project. The Board discussed ideas for the event.

Community Resilience Partnership Grant update: Kossuth reported that the Town's next grant application – for a Town-wide stormwater survey and two-year pilot program for food waste at the Transfer Station – is due August 29. The application is in good shape and will hopefully make a compelling argument for funding.

Cash Management Policy: Kossuth presented the Board with the amended cash management policy, which limits payments to 25 coins of any one denomination. The Board approved and signed the revised policy.

Minutes: Kossuth presented the Board with minutes for the Select Board meeting of August 11. The Board approved the minutes with edits.

Finance Director: Warrants: Kossuth provided the Payroll & Accounts Payable warrants to the Board for review and approval. The Board approved and signed the Payroll & Accounts Payable warrants.

Computershare to Fidelity transfer: Kossuth asked the Board to approve transferring the Town's stocks from its Computershare account to its Fidelity account to consolidate the Town's accounts.

Pinkham Bebb moved to authorize the transfer of stocks from Computershare to Fidelity, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, transfer approved.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: Waldo County Budget Committee: Pinkham Bebb reported on her first meeting as a member of the Waldo County Budget Committee. The County has approved a transition from a January 1 fiscal year to a July 1 fiscal year, and it will involve a period of transition in the near future. She reported that the Committee is fully staffed and has a lot of work ahead of it.

Adjourn: Tucker moved to adjourn at 7:54pm, seconded by Pinkham Bebb. Board voted 3-0, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator