

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

September 12, 2022 @ 6:02 pm

Chair: Shelly Patten

Vice Chair: Jeanine Tucker

Municipal Officer: Breanna Pinkham Bebb

Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley – Approved Absence

Town Clerk: Amy Eldridge

Road Commissioner: Amon Morse

NVC Representative: Jeffrey Wilt- Absent

**Present:** Shelly Patten, Jeanine Tucker, Breanna Pinkham Bebb, James Kossuth, Amy Eldridge, Amon Morse, Ann Frenning Kossuth, Bart Calder, Ovid Santoro, Ina Hollins, Janae Novotny, Ed Cotter.

**Citizen Concerns:** Ina Hollins asked for an update on fiber optic internet. Kossuth reported that he heard from Great Works Internet (GWI) a few weeks ago, and they hope to be installing the fiber in conduit on Beech Hill Road soon. GWI has continued to give a late fall timeframe for the completion of phase one of the project.

**Waldo County Woodshed:** Kossuth provided the Board with the Annual Transfer Station License renewal with the Waldo County Woodshed. Ina Hollins provided an update on the woodshed. The Board agreed to renew the license with the Waldo County Woodshed.

**Investment Committee:** Kossuth introduced potential Investment Committee members of Bart Calder, Ovid Santoro, and Ann Frenning Kossuth. They all provided some background on themselves and what they bring to the Committee. Pinkham Bebb stated she would be willing to be a liaison for the committee, and Santoro suggested having a meeting to layout the plan for the committee.

***Pinkham Bebb motioned to approve the Investment Committee members of Ann Frenning Kossuth, Ovid Santoro and Bart Calder, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

**Northport Village Corporation (NVC):** Novotny stated the last big activity in the Village was the Around Islesboro (AIR) Sail Boat Race on September 10. Novotny offered some dates to do the infrastructure walk in the Village. Novotny recapped the September 11 Overseers meeting, and stated that NVC is looking to hold an Overseers Orientation.

**Road Commissioner:** Morse reported the paving cost on Saturday Cove Road was over the contract price by \$5,000.00 because the contractor put more tonnage on the road than what was originally quoted, and ditching also cost more. He also stated that there are three trees in the Village that need to come down (the willow tree by the library, one on George Street, and one on the corner of Broadway and Clinton).

**Sand Delivery:** Morse reported that 48 yards were delivered by Brad Aitken at the salt/sand shed on Beech Hill Road.

**Town Administrator:**

**Drinkwater School Crosswalk:** Kossuth reported there was a crosswalk that was painted near the Drinkwater School without the permission from the Town and against Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations, which require a sidewalk to go with a crosswalk. Kossuth reported the DOT had suggested ideas like putting thin flexible cones in the middle of the road or paint "School Ahead" on the road. Pinkham Bebb also suggested moving the 35 miles per hours sign further down the road, possibly past the school.

The Board agreed to paint "School Ahead" on the road and remove the 35 miles per hour speed limit sign from the area. The crosswalk by Drinkwater School will be covered over with black paint so pedestrians will not get a false sense of security using the crosswalk.

FEMA updates: Kossuth reported he has spoken to FEMA about the request the Town of Northport submitted for the Halloween 2021 Storm. Kossuth provided the Board with an update on what is happening and he will continue moving forward with any additional requests needed from FEMA.

Town Office/Fire Station Project: The Town did not get the Congressional Directed Spending Grant for a new Town Office/Fire Station. Kossuth has spoken to Senator King's office about what other options are available for the Town. Kossuth suggested the Town continue with options on funding for a Community Center/ Town Office/Fire Station. The Board asked Kossuth to reach out to 2A Architects to revisit the ideas for the Town.

Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Annual Convention: Kossuth reported that the MMA Annual Convention is October 5-6, and a lot of interesting topics will be talked about. The Board agreed that Kossuth should go to the Convention on behalf of the Town.

**Town Clerk:** Eldridge provided the Board with 4 Abatements for Map R08 Lot 37, Map R01 Lot 55-1, Map R07 Lot 49-ON-2 and Map U05 Lot 160-A, and 2 Supplements for Map R01 Lot 55 and Map R07 Lot 49, that needed to be reviewed and signed. Upon review and discussion, the Board approved and signed all Abatements and Supplements. Eldridge then provided the Board with minutes for June 13, 2022, June 27, 2022 and August 18, 2022 to review. The Board approved all the minutes with corrections.

**Finance Director:** On behalf of Eugley, Kossuth provided the Board with the Payroll & Accounts Payable Warrants for review and signature. The Board approved the Payroll & Accounts Payable Warrants.

**Old Business:** None at this time.

**New Business:**

Reschedule October 10 meeting (Indigenous Peoples Day): The Board agreed to reschedule the meeting for October, 11 2022 or another day during that week depending on availability of all.

Charitable Contributions: The Board reviewed all of the requests for Social Service Donations and determined the breakdown of Town funds to each group.

***Pinkham Bebb motioned to authorize the following payments: Waldo County Action Partners (WCAP) \$3,500.00, Northport Food Pantry \$2,500.00, Waldo County Woodshed \$500.00, Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County \$500.00, and Spectrum Generations \$500.00.***

Round-Up for a Good Cause: Kossuth described a possible round-up option available for residents. The Town could have the ability to apply funds to a cause if the resident wanted to round up their transaction to a whole dollar amount (example \$20.78 round up to \$21.00, 22 cents would go to the cause). The Board would like feedback from the Town Finance Director before authorizing a round up option. Kossuth will follow up with Town Finance Director.

**Adjourn: Pinkham Bebb motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 pm, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy Eldridge