

Town of Northport

Public Hearing and Select Board Meeting

September 26, 2022 @ 6:06 pm

Chair: Shelly Patten

Vice Chair: Jeanine Tucker

Municipal Officer: Breanna Pinkham Bebb

Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley

Town Clerk: Amy Eldridge – Approved Absence

Road Commissioner: Amon Morse

NVC Representative: Jeffrey Wilt

**Present:** Shelly Patten, Jeanine Tucker, Breanna Pinkham Bebb, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Amon Morse, Anne Perry, Mark Lynch, and Jeffrey Wilt.

**Citizen Concerns:** Perry asked for an update on GWI's progress. Kossuth reported that he heard from them 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.

**Public Hearing:**

***Patten moved to open the public hearing at 6:10, Pinkham Bebb seconded. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

Kossuth explained that under Title 23, Section 2953 of the Maine Revised Statutes, the Board must hold a public hearing to determine whether to close any roads for winter maintenance. Patten asked for public comment on the proposed closure of a portion of Bluff Road for the winter. Lynch spoke in favor of the closure.

***Tucker moved to close a portion of Bluff Road and Upper Bluff Road, between 260 Bluff Road and 250 Upper Bluff Road, effective November 1, 2022, until April 15, 2023. Seconded by Pinkham Bebb. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

**Northport Village Corporation (NVC):** Wilt reported that the wind storm over the weekend had caused some damage to the swim float, but they will not know the full extent of the damage until the float comes out next month. Celine Bewsher is organizing a Halloween trick-or-treat in the Village. The Overseers have posted ads for the office manager job in the *Republican Journal* and on LinkedIn. Wilt and the Board tentatively agreed to hold an NVC infrastructure tour on Sunday, October 9.

**Road Commissioner:** Morse reported that he had received a quote for the school zone painting, and the Board agreed that he should get that work done. He reported that there had not been any major damage from the windstorm over the weekend. He reported that he and Kossuth had meet with Jonathan Bancroft on Crest Street to talk about Bancroft's continued concerns about drainage across his property from Town culverts. Morse also reported that a resident on Summit Ave had recently rocked in the ditch without Town permission, and Morse would like to have that contractor come to a Board meeting. Rocky Road and Prescott Hill Road paving will be done soon. Morse reported that he has placed all the new "school zone" signs. Pinkham Bebb asked him to move the "35 MPH Speed Limit" sign between one of the school zone signs and the school itself, because it is confusing to drivers.

**Town Administrator:**

**Town Office/Fire Station Project:** Kossuth spoke with Amanda Austin at 2A Architects about restarting the Town Office/Fire Station project. Kossuth will solicit input from Town Office staff and the Select Board on the most recent

design in the coming weeks and then meet with Austin about next steps. Tucker asked if there were limits to the amount of bond indebtedness that the Town could have, and Eugley will look into it.

Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Legislative Policy Committee (LPC): Kossuth attended the first meeting of the LPC and reported that the LPC had identified several areas for advocacy with the legislature in the upcoming session, including amendments to the housing law, LD2003, the tax stabilization law, LD290, and cannabis sales tax revenue sharing with the towns. The LPC will meet again in November.

**Finance Director:** Eugley provided the Board with the Payroll & Accounts Payable Warrants for review and signature. The Board approved the Payroll & Accounts Payable Warrants. Eugley asked the Board to authorize the transfer of \$1865.00 from the Digital Mapping Special Reserve to the General Fund to pay a digital mapping invoice from Global Information Systems. ***Pinkham Bebb so moved, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

**Town Clerk:** On behalf of Eldridge, Kossuth provided the Board with minutes for July 25 and August 8, 2022 to review. The Board approved the minutes with corrections.

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

**New Business:** Pinkham Bebb asked if there was any information about the new construction on Glenwood Lane. Kossuth will check with Code Enforcement to see what building permits have been issued.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, October 11, at 6:00 pm, because of the Monday holiday.

**Adjourn:** ***Pinkham Bebb motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.***

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth