

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

November 14, 2022 @ 6:06 pm

Chair: Shelly Patten
absence

Vice Chair: Jeanine Tucker

Municipal Officer: Breanna Pinkham Bebb – Approved absence

Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley- Approved

Town Clerk: Amy Eldridge

Road Commissioner: Amon Morse

NVC Representative: Janae Novotny

Present: Shelly Patten, Jeanine Tucker, James Kossuth, Amy Eldridge, Amon Morse, Mark Lynch, and Janae Novotny.

Citizen Concerns: March Lynch said everything at the school is going well and there are no concerns at this time.

Northport Village Corporation (NVC): Novotny reported about 60 kids attended the Bayside Halloween Trick or Treat. The majority came from Northport, and people are already excited and planning for next year. She also reported the NVC is continuing to search for an Office Manager and working on its 2020 audit.

Novotny reported the Village owns land that connects Bluff Road and Shore Road, just south of Kelly Cove. The plan is to make a walking path on the land and Paul Overgaag has volunteered to cut the path. NVC is starting to determine the details on the walking path.

She asked whether there is any written agreement between the Village and the Town for the NVC property where the fire station sits, as it's on NVC property. She also had questions about the payment of utilities for the fire station and Village hydrants. Kossuth reported that the Sea Street hydrant water comes from the pond and the other hydrants in the Village are fed from the water lines, and the fire department uses only the Sea Street hydrants, except in emergencies. The Board suggested the Northport Village Corporation Charter should answer those questions.

Road Commissioner: Morse reported brush cutting is all done. Morse provided the Board with feedback he received on the Shore Road brush cutting and Patten provided feedback to Morse of the Priest Road brush cutting. Morse reported that the brush cutting machine that was used does a choppy job, and it will look better in the spring. Overall the contractor was really good to work with and went above and beyond on what was required of them.

Morse reported Basil Littlefield did the leaf clean up in the Village and Ford Enterprises replaced a driveway culvert on Garden Way.

Mark Lynch reported Bluff Road is looking reasonable. Lynch suggested that the Town may want to cut back the trees to expose more of Bluff Road for the sun to dry it out in the winter. The Board and Morse thanked Lynch for his update and suggestion.

Morse reported that the Town received another 48 cubic yards of sand from Brad Aitkens.

Town Administrator:

Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) update: Kossuth reported that the LPC is narrowing down what legislative proposals the LPC will advance in the upcoming legislative session. The LPC will finalize its legislative agenda at its next meeting on December 1, 2022. Kossuth explained some of the ideas that the LPC is considering, including amendments to the tax stabilization law (LD 290) and the housing law (LD 2003), and 12% revenue sharing from the state from the excise taxes generated from adult-use cannabis sales.

Waldo County Conservation Initiative update: Kossuth reported that he attended the Coastal Mountain Land Trust's Waldo County Conservation Initiative kick-off on November 2, and they are fundraising for some specific land conservation efforts in Waldo County, but none in Northport at this time.

Town Office/Fire Station project: Kossuth reported that Amanda Austin from 2A architects will come to a Board meeting on January 23, 2023. She is very busy at this time but would be able to dedicate time for the Town around June of 2023.

Town Clerk: Eldridge provided the October 11, 2022 minutes to the Board to review. The Board provided feedback and approved the minutes with corrections.

Finance Director: Kossuth provided on behalf of Eugley the Payroll and Accounts Payable warrants to the Board for review and signature. The Board approved the Payroll and Accounts Payable warrants.

Kossuth reported Eugley will need to move \$750,000.00 from The First to the Camden National operating account to pay the Waldo County taxes and asked for a motion to authorize that transfer.

Patten moved to authorize \$750,000.00 be moved from The First to Camden National Bank operating account, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 2-0, motion passed.

Kossuth also reported on payroll dates for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Board would like to check with Eugley about paying everyone on Wednesday. Kossuth will check with Eugley on options for Wednesday payroll so that direct deposit and paper checks go out at the same time.

Old Business: None at this time

New Business:

Town Office hours: Kossuth reported that he will close the Town Office at noon on Wednesday, November 23, 2022, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Office will be closed on Friday, November 25, 2022, but will reopen on Saturday for normal business hours.

Initial discussion re formal abandonment of portions of certain roads: Tucker requested to table until all Select Board are available.

Adjourn: Tucker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 pm, seconded by Patten. Board voted 2-0, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy Eldridge