

Town of Northport
Select Board Meeting
June 24, 2024 @ 6:15 pm

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

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley
Road Commissioner: Amon Morse
NVC Representative: Jeffrey Wilt – not present

Present: Jeanine Tucker, Breanna Pinkham Bebb, Molly Schauffler, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Amon Morse, John Clifford, Ben Block.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2024-2025: *Pinkham nominated Tucker as Chair for 2024-2025, seconded by Schauffler. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.*

Tucker nominated Pinkham Bebb as Vice Chair for 2024-2025, seconded by Schauffler. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.

Citizen Concerns: None at this time.

Community Development Block Grant: Ben Block of Block Bros. Custom Cabinets asked for the Town's support for his application for a Community Development Block Grant. The tenants in his warehouse will be moving out, and he intends to build out that space as a machine room. He would use the CDBG funds to purchase machinery and equipment for the room as part of his expansion plans. He currently has approximately 15 employees and hopes to hire 3-5 more after the expansion. He has recently started shipping cabinets out of state and intends to establish an apprenticeship program. He would like to submit the letter of intent before July 1. The Board agreed to support the application.

Northport Village Corporation: No report.

Road Commissioner: Morse presented the Board with specifications for paving, ditching, tree removal, brush cutting, and adding sidewalks to the Schoolhouse Brook bridge near the Drinkwater School. The Board discussed the details of the specifications with Morse. The Board asked Kossuth to publish requests for proposals with a due date of Friday, July 19, to be opened on Monday, July 22, with all the work to be complete by October 11.

Morse also reported that Dana Kennedy will begin roadside mowing on Tuesday, June 25.

Town Administrator:

2024-2025 Road Salt Bid: Kossuth presented a bid from New England Salt for \$68.00 a ton for road salt. Morton Salt had bid \$68.48 a ton. The Board agreed to accept New England Salt's bid for \$68.00 a ton.

Waldo County Budget Committee ballot: Kossuth presented the Board with the ballot for the Waldo County Budget Committee. The Board voted for Robyn Tarantino from Lincolnville.

MMA Legislative Policy Committee ballot: Kossuth presented the Board with the ballot for the 2024-2026 Legislative Policy Committee. The Board voted for Kossuth.

Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund grant: Kossuth reported that he and Celine Bewsher have been working on three separate applications under this grant program, all due July 1, for the three separate shoreline stabilization projects: Kelly Cove, Auditorium Park, and Bayview Park. The application requires a 5% local match, and Kossuth asked the Board to approve 5% of the projected cost at Kelly Cove, which is likely to be similar to the cost of the earlier Shore Road project, which was \$140,000.

Tucker motioned to earmark \$7,000 (5% of \$140,000) from the Roads & Bridges account for the local match portion of the Kelly Cove project, seconded by Schauffler. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.

Butters cottage update: Kossuth reported that Sandra Butters had paid half of the outstanding demand on June 13, but that the other half has not been paid. The next step for the Town, per state law, is to add the outstanding demand amount to the property taxes to be committed on August 1 and collect it the same way as any other property tax.

Correspondence: Scholarship Thank You note: Kossuth read to the Board a thank-you note that the Town had received from Aidan Davison for his college scholarship from the Town.

Minutes: Kossuth provided minutes from the meeting of June 10 for the Board to review. The Board approved the minutes with corrections.

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

Eugley reported that the Town had approximately \$1700 left in the Contingency account for FY2024, and all other accounts appear to be within budget as the fiscal year closes on June 30.

Eugley asked the Board on behalf of Code Enforcement Officer Toupie Rooney to approve the purchase of a subscription to the National Fire Protection Association's codes and standards, for \$12 per month, so that she can stay up to date with the latest version of the code. The Board approved the purchase.

Old Business: Annual Town Meeting recap: The Board discussed the results of the Annual Town Meeting, including residents' reactions to the vote not to accept the donation of Saturday Cove Church and the vote to approve funding for construction drawings and permitting for the new Town Office / Community Center project.

New Business: Priorities for 2024-2025: The Board discussed priorities for the next year, including fundraising for the new Town Office / Community Center; ensuring that the plans for the new facility are as energy efficient as possible; continuing to work on protecting the shoreline; and retaining the Town Office's talented and dedicated staff.

Adjourn: *Schauffler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:34pm, seconded by Pinkham Bebb. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator