

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

November 12, 2024 @ 6:15 pm

Chair: Jeanine Tucker

Vice Chair: Breanna Pinkham Bebb

Municipal Officer: Molly Schaufler

Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley

Road Commissioner: Amon Morse

NVC Representative: Janae Novotny

Present: Jeanine Tucker, Molly Schaufler, Breanna Pinkham Bebb, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Amon Morse, Tim Patten, Kim Ervin Tucker.

Citizen Concerns: None at this time.

Transfer Station: Tim Patten, Transfer Station supervisor, updated the Board on Transfer Station operations. Patten reported that Richie Taylor, the transfer station assistant, is planning to take the winter off, starting January 1. Tucker asked Patten if he would rather reduced winter hours, as in the past two years, or keeping a three-day schedule. Patten reported no preference. Tucker asked whether Patten knew anyone who could work temporarily in Taylor's absence. Patten reported that he has a person in mind, and he will ask him to apply if he is interested. The Board thanked Patten for his work in keeping the Transfer Station clean and well-run.

Northport Village Corporation: No report.

Road Commissioner: Morse reported that he had no recent updates.

Kossuth reported that he had received the results of the Maine DOT's speed study of Bluff Road, Upper Bluff Road, George Street, and Shore Road. The DOT had set the speed limit for the length of each of those roads at 25mph. Tucker asked Kossuth to post that information on the website and Facebook, and to send out a special newsletter update with the information.

Town Administrator:

Belfast – Northport Boundary Survey update: Kossuth provided the Board with a draft resolution regarding the survey and report by Robert Yarumian, PLS, and a draft memorandum of understanding between Northport and Belfast for the Board to review. The Board discussed the resolution and memorandum of understanding and made some edits to the resolution.

Pinkham Bebb motioned to adopt the resolution as amended, and to authorize Kossuth to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the City of Belfast substantially similar to the draft presented, seconded by Schaufler. Board voted 3-0, motion passed.

New Town Office / Community Center update: Kossuth reported that he met last week with Amanda Austin, Will Bennett, and Jesse Remillard (of Efficiency Maine) to talk about energy efficiency options and potential rebates for the Town Office. Kossuth reported that Austin had had a question about whether the vault needed to be four-hour or six-hour rated for fire resistance, and Kossuth had learned from the Maine State Archivist that four hours is sufficient.

Block Brothers Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) update: Kossuth reported that Block Brothers will have a public hearing on December 9 as part of its Phase II requirements, and the Town can resubmit much of the paperwork that the Town had submitted for The Scone Goddess grant.

Waldo County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) update: Kossuth reported that the next Waldo HMP meeting is next Wednesday, and Northport is current on its paperwork for the plan.

Minutes: Kossuth provided minutes from the meeting of October 28 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 and signed the Payroll & Accounts Payable warrants.

Eugley reported that another of the Town's investments is maturing soon. The Board authorized her to reinvest at the highest rate available for a short-term instrument when it does mature.

Eugley also presented the Board with the Town's total return on investment since the Town opened the Fidelity account in May 2023.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: Community Action Grant (CAG) application and funding: Schauffler asked where the required matching funds for the Town's CAG shoreline stabilization project in Bayview Park might come from. Kossuth reported that the grant winners would be announced in March 2025, and then the winners would have two years to complete the project, so any matching funds could be appropriated at the annual town meeting in 2025 and/or at the Village Corporation's annual meeting.

Waldo County Budget meeting: Schauffler attended the Waldo County Commissioners' budget meeting and reported that all items had been approved with little or no discussion.

Northport Notecards: Schauffler reported on a plan to develop notecards with photos of scenes from Northport on them, which could be used to thank donors and volunteers. She presented a slate of 12 photos and asked the Board to pick their four favorites. Schauffler offered to donate a set of the cards to the Town.

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

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator