

Town of Northport
Select Board Meeting
May 27, 2025 @ 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 – excused absence
NVC Representative: Janae Novotny – not present

Present: Jeanine Tucker, Breanna Pinkham Bebb, Molly Schauffler, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Celine Bewsher, Chris Maseychik.

Citizen Concerns: Bewsher spoke to the Board about her candidacy for School Board, her reasons for running, and what she hopes to accomplish if elected. The Board thanked her for running and for her service to the Town.

Northport Village Corporation: In Janae Novotny’s absence, Bewsher, an NVC Overseer, had nothing new to report for the Village. Kossuth asked about GWI using Community Hall for an event this summer. Bewsher would pass the information along to the Village Office.

Road Commissioner: Kossuth reported on behalf of Morse that Morse was unable to attend the meeting because he was sweeping the roads. Tucker asked about the stop sign and street sign for Priest Road, and about a culvert on Upper Bluff Road. Kossuth will pass those concerns on to Morse. Kossuth also reported that the Maine DOT will be paving the portion of Route 1 by Point Lookout this year in response to concerns raised by residents.

Town Administrator: Roadside clean-up recap: Kossuth reported that more than 40 people participated in the clean-up on May 17, despite the rain. The Climate Resilience Committee did an excellent job organizing. Schauffler suggested holding the clean-up on the first Saturday in May next year, before the grass gets too long.

Town Office Fundraising Committee update: Kossuth reported that the committee met on May 21 and has been continuing to identify prospective donors and work on outreach. Kossuth reported that he and Schauffler had drafted a letter to the Leshner Foundation to inquire about grant opportunities.

Don Ramsey judgment debt update: Kossuth reported that Ramsey had paid \$3000.00 towards his \$15,100.00 judgment debt. The Board expressed appreciation for his first step in trying to satisfy the judgment, but acknowledged that he still had a long way to go. The Board agreed that it would be productive to invite Ramsey to a future Board meeting to discuss a payment plan.

Kelly Cove stabilization update: Kossuth provided the Board with the plans for the stabilization at Kelly Cove, part of which would be entirely out of the Town’s right of way on Shore Road, and which the Town is legally prohibited from paying for. Kossuth reported that he had contacted the landowner to ask if they would be willing to pay for that portion of the wall, but he has not heard back yet. If the abutting landowner does not wish to pay, the Town will have to proceed with only the portions of the project within the Town’s right of way.

New web host: Kossuth reported that he has contacted two companies about transitioning the Town’s web site hosting to them. He has one quote for services and is talking with another company on May 28.

Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) update: Kossuth reported that the LPC had been meeting weekly to address all the relevant bills that were being introduced, and he shared the results of the most recent meeting. Pinkham Bebb reported that she had spoken with Sen. Chip Curry about LD1829, a new housing bill, and that bill was being amended to address some of its shortcomings.

Spirit of America honoree resolution: Kossuth presented the Board with a draft resolution honoring the Spirit of America honoree. The Board had some comments and suggestions.

Midcoast Thriving Communities Program (TCP) transportation planning workplan update: Kossuth reported that the Midcoast Council of Governments TCP workplan had been approved by the US Department of Transportation, and that MCOG would soon be soliciting volunteers to participate. Kossuth reported that he had some residents in mind who might be interested in participating.

Minutes: Kossuth presented the Board with minutes for the meetings of May 12. The Board approved the minutes with edits.

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.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: Candidate statements: Kossuth reported that he had been approached by one of the candidates for School Board about posting a candidate statement on the Town's website. Kossuth consulted the legal department at Maine Municipal Association, who recommended against posting any candidate statements. The Board agreed that the Town should not post candidate statements.

Adjourn: *Tucker moved to adjourn at 7:26pm, seconded by Pinkham Bebb. Board voted 3-0, meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator