

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

October 27, 2025 @ 6:15 pm

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

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley
Road Commissioner: Amon Morse - excused absence
NVC Representative: Janae Novotny - excused absence

Present: Breanna Pinkham Bebb, Jeanine Tucker, Molly Schauffler, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Doug Andersen, Debora Riley, Mark Lynch

Spirit of America Award: The Board presented the Spirit of America Award to Debora Riley in appreciation and thanksgiving for her 26 years of service on the School Board.

Citizen Concerns: Kossuth reported that Frank Alley withdrew his request to trap furbearers on Town property.

Northport Village Corporation: No report.

Road Commissioner: The Board asked Kossuth to check with Morse about the cross-culvert on Upper Bluff Road that is causing a bump in the road.

Town Administrator: Web host update: Kossuth reported that the Town had been unable to complete its web hosting transition to Zambit from Sephone after Sephone closed, because Zambit had become unresponsive. Kossuth reported that he is working with SJ Rollins, who had also bid on the Town's hosting services in the spring, to fix the problem. He hopes that it will be resolved soon.

Fundraising Committee update: Template letter for congressional outreach: Kossuth shared with the Board a draft of talking points for residents to use to reach out to Sen. Collins and Sen. King to encourage the senators to support the Town's federal funding request in the final federal budget. The Board agreed with the talking points and asked Kossuth to post them on the website and link to them in an upcoming newsletter.

Fundraising Committee update: Website donation button: Kossuth reported that the Fundraising Committee would like to use a donation button on the Town's website to allow donors to donate online with a credit card. Little Green Light, the Town's donor tracking platform, and Stripe, a credit card payment processor, would handle online donations, and the Town would need to set up a separate bank account to receive those funds.

Tucker moved to create a new bank account to receive online donations, and to transfer \$25.00 from the Camden National Bank operating account to that account to establish a beginning balance, seconded by Schauffler. Board voted 3-0, motion carried.

Bayview Park and Kelly Cove shoreline stabilization updates: Kossuth reported that he had posted the RFP for Kelly Cove on the website and in the newspaper, and he had also sent it out to several contractors. Bids are due November 21. Kossuth reported that the Bayview Park project has construction drawings and permits in place. Once the Town has the Kelly Cove bids, it will have a better sense of how much Bayview Park might cost, and whether the Town and Village will have to set aside more money to pay for it.

Pedestrian and Traffic Safety committee update: Kossuth reported that he has had only one person respond to the call for volunteers so far. He will put another call in the next newsletter. Kossuth shared with the Board

research that Steve Kazilionis had done about other towns' approach to traffic calming. Other nearby towns are also struggling with speeding and pedestrian safety concerns. The Board appreciates his efforts so far.

UMaine Capstone Project update: Kossuth reported that he had met with the UMaine students and walked through Temple Heights with them. The students will be looking at shoreline stabilization, stormwater flow, and traffic calming in the area. They will produce a report and recommendations next spring.

Spectrum Generations thank-you note: Kossuth shared with the Board the thank-you note that the Town had received from Spectrum Generations for the Town's donation.

Town Fund to support property tax relief: Kossuth reported that a resident had asked if the Town had any mechanism to help residents with their property taxes if they cannot afford them. Kossuth explained the poverty abatement program to the resident. Kossuth asked the Board whether it might like to set up a fund for property tax relief similar to the Warm Neighbors heating fuel fund. The Board discussed the pros and cons of such a fund, and other existing options for property tax relief, and decided to take no action at this time.

Unsolicited application for Code Enforcement and Plumbing Inspector: Kossuth presented the Board with an unsolicited application that he had received for a Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) and Local Plumbing Inspector. The Board asked Kossuth to talk to ask Toupie Rooney, CEO, about him, given that the Town is looking for a back-up Local Plumbing Inspector and Rooney worked at the same time with him in Stockton Springs.

Possible Interruption in SNAP Benefits: Kossuth reported that SNAP benefits are not scheduled to be paid for November because of the federal government shutdown. The Board discussed ways that the Town can help residents who may rely on the SNAP benefits.

Minutes: Kossuth presented the Board with minutes for the Select Board meeting of October 15. The Board approved the minutes with edits.

Tax Collector: Supplemental Property Tax: Kossuth presented the Board with a supplemental property tax form for Boggy Duck Road (Map R02-21B-1). The house had been built two years ago, but the Town neglected to add the property to the assessment, and it had been assessed as unimproved property. The Board approved the supplemental bill for tax years 2024 and 2025.

Finance Director: Warrants: 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: Property Revaluation informational memo: Kossuth presented to the Board the latest draft of the informational memo about the property revaluation. The Board asked Kossuth to post the memo on the Town's website and create a page about the revaluation. Kossuth reported that Rob Duplisea from RJD Appraisals is able to attend the November 10 Select Board meeting to talk about the process. Kossuth also offered to contact Maine Revenue Service to ask if they could provide additional information.

Waldo County Budget Committee update: Pinkham Bebb provided an update on the status of the 2026 Waldo County budget process.

Maine Power Options update: Schaffler reported that she has been monitoring the electricity prices for next year to see whether the Town could lock in a more competitive rate.

Executive Session under 1 MRSA § 405(6)(C) to discuss or consider the use of real property or interests therein.

Pinkham Bebb opened the Executive Session at 7:33pm.

Pinkham Bebb closed the Executive Session at 7:40pm.

No action taken.

Adjourn: *Pinkham Bebb moved to adjourn at 7:41pm, seconded by Schauffler. Board voted 3-0, meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator