

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

December 22, 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

NVC Representative: Janae Novotny – excused absence

Present: Beanna Pinkham Bebb, Jeanine Tucker, Molly Schauffler, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Amon Morse, Amanda Austin, Bill Frysinger

Citizen Concerns: None at this time.

Town Office Project: Amanda Austin, 2a architects, reviewed and discussed the updated December 2025 project cost estimate with the Board, as well as the next steps for the project, now that the Town has been approved for federal funding.

Northport Village Corporation: No report.

Road Commissioner: Morse reported that Ford Enterprises had received the culvert materials necessary to begin work on the Schoolhouse Brook Bridge extension, and that Ford could begin the construction soon. Morse reported that there had been several trees down in the storm on December 19 and that it had all been cleaned up. Kossuth asked on behalf of Temple Heights Spiritual Camp about directional signs for the Camp on Town roads. Morse and the Board agreed that the Town had never had a policy regarding signs on Town roads. The Board decided that it had no interest in developing a policy at this time to allow any signs on Town roads.

Town Administrator: Town Office Project update: Kossuth reported that he had heard from USDA about starting the process for having the federal grant funds released. He has contacted Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG) to ask for their assistance in administering the grant, and he has a call with MCOG scheduled for January 6. Kossuth is trying to schedule a call with USDA, MCOG, Amanda Austin, and Gartley & Dorsky for early in January.

Hazard Mitigation Plan update: Kossuth reported that he and other participating towns met on December 11 to discuss their responses to FEMA's feedback on the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is for the towns to submit additional documentation, and for Dale Rowley to talk to Maine Emergency Management for some guidance on how best to respond to some of the other issues that FEMA raised.

Maine DOT Route 1 reconstruction plans update: Kossuth reported that he and David Kinney from Lincolnville met with DOT staff on December 17 to talk about the status of DOT's plans for the reconstruction of Route 1 between Lincolnville Beach and the Blue Dolphin. There has been some turnover in DOT staff, and they have only recently finished their survey. They are currently targeting 2028 for the start of construction. Kossuth also reported that he asked DOT about the intersection of the Point Lookout warehouse driveway and Route 1, should the Town decide to relocate Town Office operations there during construction. DOT told Kossuth that they will let him know the appropriate person at DOT to talk about signage, visibility, and other issues.

Health Officer Enforcement – 543 Atlantic Highway: Kossuth reported that CEO Toupie Rooney continues to work with the owner at 543 Atlantic Hwy about the trash problem there. Rooney has spoken with the State Department of Health and Human Services, which is aware of the problem and is also trying to have the

property cleaned up. Rooney received an email from the owner that she (the owner) was planning to talk to her lawyer and serve a notice of eviction. Kossuth mailed a letter to the owner and tenant, informing them that the Town may seek legal action to clean up the property if it is not cleaned up by January 6.

Minutes: Kossuth presented the Board with minutes for the Select Board meeting of December 8. The Board approved the minutes with edits.

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.

Funds Transfers: Eugley asked the Board to authorize a transfer of \$10,863.94 from the First Responder Equipment and Operating Special Reserve to the General Fund for the repairs to the First Responder Rig by Bangor Auto and Truck Center.

Pinkham Bebb moved to authorize the transfer, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, transfer authorized.

Eugley asked the Board to authorize a transfer of \$1,988.06 from the Climate Resilience Special Reserve to the General Fund for the balance of the deposit payment to Sundog Solar LLC for the proposed solar array, representing the difference between the donations received into the Climate Resilience Special Reserve and the amount of the deposit.

Pinkham Bebb moved to authorize the transfer, seconded by Tucker. Board voted 3-0, transfer authorized.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: Waldo County Budget Committee update: The Board discussed the results from the December 12 County Budget Committee public hearing and next steps for the County budget process.

Penny Policy discussion: Because the United States is no longer minting pennies, Kossuth presented the Board with several options for handling the penny's gradual disappearance from circulation. The Board decided that there is no urgent need to adopt a policy at this time and took no action.

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 7:39pm.

Pinkham Bebb closed the Executive Session at 8:09pm.

No action taken.

Adjourn: *Pinkham Bebb moved to adjourn at 8:10pm, seconded by Schauffler. Board voted 3-0, meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator