

Town of Northport

Select Board Meeting

August 10, 2026 @ 6:15 pm

Chair: Molly Schauffler

Finance Director: Vicki Eugley

Vice Chair: Jeanine Tucker

Road Commissioner: Amon Morse – excused absence

Municipal Officer: Tinsley Morrison

NVC Representative: Janae Novotny

Town Administrator: James Kossuth

Present: Molly Schauffler, Jeanine Tucker, Tinsley Morrison, James Kossuth, Vicki Eugley, Janae Novotny, Toupie Rooney, Hank Lang, Steve Kazilionis, Dan Webster, Peter Simpson, Robert Gould, Quincy Bowden, Denise Lindahl, David Lindahl, Darci Curtis, Ryan Curtis, Harry Geller, Peter Hartel.

Citizen Concerns: Steve Kazilionis presented the results of a traffic study that he had performed at the Town's request on several Town roads in the Northport Village Corporation, using Maine DOT traffic counters. The data showed traffic counts, speeds, and times of day. Kazilionis, also at the Town's request, is collecting data on Town roads elsewhere in Town, and he will share that data at a future Select Board meeting. Kazilionis asked the Board to consider adding some temporary traffic calming measures to roads in the Village as a trial. The Board thanked Kazilionis for collecting the data and his presentation. The Board will take his request under advisement, pending the results of the additional traffic data collection.

First Responders: Hank Lang, EMS chief, updated the Board on the growth of the EMS team in the past year, with four new members having joined, including a retired paramedic. Lang also presented First Responders David Lindahl and Toupie Rooney with the Phoenix Award from Maine EMS for their role in the successful resuscitation of a patient who experienced an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest that was non-traumatic in nature, and who is able to lead a neurologically intact life as a result of their efforts. Lang also answered the Board's questions about the State's new requirement that the Town adopt a resolution regarding the Town's ambulance contract with Belfast. The Board approved and signed the resolution.

Northport Village Corporation: Novotny reported that the NVC's annual report is dedicated to the Northport Volunteer Fire Department. The NVC annual meeting is on August 11. The Overseers met on August 9 and approved Dan Ford's application for access to Village property for his seawall work in Bayview Park. She reports ongoing concerns from residents about noise from construction early in the morning (before 8am). Novotny also reported that the Village was informed that its curbside trash hauler, Pinkerton & Sons, may not bring trash to the Transfer Station when the station is not staffed by a trained attendant. Kossuth had received a call from the Maine DEP after DEP had received a complaint about Pinkerton. The Village's contract with Pinkerton specifies Monday pick-up and delivery of trash to the Transfer Station, but only from May until Labor Day. The Village is working on an alternative arrangement as quickly as it can.

Road Commissioner: In Morse's absence, Kossuth reported that road sand and salt was being delivered. Novotny reported that the speed feedback sign had been repaired by a Village resident. The Board

asked Kossuth to have Morse trim or remove several trees in rights of way around Town that represent hazards.

Town Administrator: Maine DOT Route 1 Speed Study request: Kossuth presented the Board with a request from a resident that the Board ask Maine DOT to conduct a speed study on Route 1 near the Maine Alpaca Experience store (608 Atlantic Highway). The Board discussed the request and instructed Kossuth to ask the DOT to conduct a speed study the length of Route 1 (Atlantic Highway) in Northport.

Town Office / 8 Beech Hill Road update: Kossuth reported that the Town had received the results of the additional test pits for the new septic field at 8 Beech Hill Road, which were favorable for locating the septic field farther from the road and in the area next to the fire station. That means that the parking lot for the temporary town office can be larger and farther from the road. Once the site plan is finalized, the Town can submit it to the Planning Board for approval for the change of use. Kossuth hopes that it will be on the September Planning Board agenda. Kossuth also reported that Schauflier had contacted Legacy Woodlot Services about controlling the patches of knotweed, both at 8 Beech Hill and where the new Town Office will be. Schauflier would like to organize some volunteers to cut it, and Legacy Woodlot would spray it after the cutting to help keep the knotweed from returning.

Fundraising Committee / Summer event planning recap and update: Kossuth reported that lobster bake on August 2, with special guest appearances by the local humpback whale, was a success and raised close to \$7000. Kossuth also reported that the Town had received a \$175,000 cash donation, with a couple of naming opportunities, for the flex office and vault. Kossuth presented the Board with a policy from North Yarmouth that addresses naming opportunities. The Board agreed in principle to adopt a similar policy and asked Kossuth to make some edits.

Waldo County Hazard Mitigation Plan approval: Kossuth reported that the Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by Maine EMA. The Board rejoiced heartily and signed the adoption page. The Board expressed profound thanks to Waldo EMA director Dale Rowley for all his hard work on this project for the last 2.5 years.

MMA Legislative Policy Committee update: Kossuth reported that the MMA Legislative Policy Committee had its first meeting on August 5. The Committee identified several legislative priorities for the upcoming session, including increasing state funding for schools, jails, and other existing unfunded or underfunded mandates; preventing new unfunded mandates; increasing the homestead exemption amount and homestead reimbursement; fixing EMS/ambulance funding and reimbursement issues; preventing new housing and zoning laws that infringe on home rule. MMA staff will draft some legislation for discussion at the Committee's next meeting on September 10.

MMA Vice President and Executive Committee ballot: Kossuth presented the Board with the ballot and candidate statements for the MMA Executive Committee. The Board voted for the named candidates.

UMaine Project Management class: Kossuth requested permission to enroll in a two-day online project management class with UMaine. The Board approved the request.

Minutes: Kossuth presented the Board with minutes from the July 27 Select Board meeting. The Board joyfully approved the minutes.

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.

Employee Payroll Agreements: Eugley presented the Board with the last outstanding annual employee payroll agreement for FY2027. The Board approved and signed the agreement.

Waldo County Finance Advisory Committee: Eugley reported on the first meeting of the County's Finance Advisory Committee. The Committee will be meeting weekly as County budget season begins, and their work is currently focusing on reducing the number of reserve checking accounts that the County has.

Unfinished Business: None at this time.

New Business: None at this time.

Adjourn: *Schauffler moved to adjourn at 7:51pm, seconded by Morrison. Board voted 3-0, meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by,

James Kossuth, Town Administrator