



TOWN OF PITTSSTON
38 Whitefield Road
Pittston, ME 04345
(207) 582-4438

Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes August 30, 2023

Board Present: Jane Hubert, Jean Ambrose, Joe Caputo

Staff Present: Sam Snow, Christian Jensen

Residents Present: Todd Lindstrom, Linda Caputo, Sharon Gleason, Jason Farris, Kerri Farris

Via Zoom: Jason Corliss, Greg, iPhone

Call to Order: Chair Jane Hubert, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Select Board minutes of August 16, 2023: Jane Hubert made a motion to hold off on the minutes. Motion approved: 3-0.

Accounts payable/payroll warrants: Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve preview warrant #36 in the amount of \$229,272.72. Motion approved: 3-0.

Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve payroll warrant #3623 in the amount of \$3,928.47.

There was a discussion regarding an invoice from Sam Snow that was over \$5,000. This was for the culvert replacement on Kelley Road that needed to be replaced before the paving was done. When asked why this invoice went over the policy limit of \$5,000, Sam replied that it took that long to do the replacement. There was more discussion regarding changing the policy of raising the limit that needs to go out to bid, to \$10,000. This topic will be discussed at a Select Board work session. Christian Jensen, treasurer, stated that setting a higher limit would need to address the what-ifs and needs to be clear and have some "teeth" to it.

Moving forward, the Select Board would like a draft of what a planned project will cost, which will include the whole job, gravel, material, and labor.

Lancaster Road was ditched on Friday in preparation for paving. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, stated that it was going to be paved, but something happened to the plant and the paving company pulled out. Joe Caputo stated that he spoke with Hunter Farwell, All State Paving representative, who stated that Sam balked at the finish coat for Palmer Road, and Lancaster Road was not prepared so they were going to leave. Sam stated that the joints have been ground on both Palmer Road and Lancaster Road.

Joe Caputo questioned Sam Snow about his cell phone number. Sam's work phone is 207-242-3838.

Jean Ambrose asked Sam Snow why All State Paving left. Sam stated that the Richmond plant is running state mix that can't be used on Pittston's roads and the Windsor plant is shut down.



Old Business:

1. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner Current Road Work: Sam Snow reported that there is a collapsed culvert on Blinn Hill Road that needs to be replaced. Joe Caputo told Sam that Vanessa Croxford has an issue with water running underneath her culvert. Sam will take a look at it.

Jane Hubert stated that if there was more ditching to be done, Ann Pistell would like some at 639 Wiscasset Road.

Whitefield has notified Pittston, that South Hunts Meadow Road will be closed for Joy's Pond culvert replacement from September 5th with the plan to reopen on October 5th. This will make more traffic on Jewett Road which is not a through road, but traffic cannot be restricted.

Central Maine Power placed 5 poles on West Old Town Farm Road, also called Pond Road, at the edge of the discontinued to maintenance town road. CMP laid out where to put the poles and then they were set. The owner of the property needed a letter from the Town giving CMP permission to put the poles there. CMP told Jane Hubert what to say and she will write the letter.

Sam Snow reported that there is a property on the corner of Kelley Road and Wiscasset Road that has a cross culvert that has been making her field a pond. Joe Caputo will take a look at it. The water is coming from the road. This has been a long-standing issue. Jane Hubert asked if this was the town's responsibility.

Sam Snow stated that the shoulders need to be put back on the newly paved roads, Nash Road, Kelley Road, and Blodgett Road. All State Paving and Willett Construction do that kind of work. Joe Caputo asked if he was using Barry, and Sam replied no. The cost would be approximately \$1,200 for 8 to 10 hours. Joe asked where the material was coming from. Sam stated it's coming from Crocker because Sam's crusher is at a different job site. Joe asked if he could get someone else to crush gravel and Sam said yes.

Sam Snow reported that there was a bad washout on Warren Road that was cleaned up but still needs to be repaired. There was no damage to the pavement. There were also washouts on Pinkham Road and Old Cedar Grove Road.

Sam Snow asked the Select Board if Kelley Road and Nash Road would be striped. The cost is .14 per foot or \$739 per mile. The Board agreed for safety to have this done. Sam will call Lucas Striping.

2. Sign pole permit: A pole permit for Palmer Road was signed.

Joe asked Sam if he delivered ditching material to the Mast Road and to whom. Sam replied yes, to Pudge Moody. Sam will have no more ditching material.

Jane Hubert had worked on an RFP for the Jewett Road for the board to look over.



New Business:

1. Personnel Committee recommendations: The Personnel Committee researched paying the employees holiday pay on Mondays now that the office is closed on Mondays. The committee stated that it does not affect the employee's pay and they recommend to no longer pay Monday holidays. Joe Caputo spoke about what is best for the town. Jean Ambrose stated it was the town's decision to close the office on Mondays and in the past there were 3 full-time employees who each had a different day off and were paid for all holidays. Jean felt this would be best discussed at a work session. Christian Jensen said this is not a new issue and Monday is a holiday. Jean Ambrose made a motion to pay the 3 employees the holidays until the end of the year. There was no second. After more discussion, Joe Caputo made a motion to not get paid holidays that you are not scheduled to work. Motion approved: 2-1. Jean Ambrose made a comment that she felt this was a slap in the face to 2 dedicated employees. Kerri Farris stated that she was inciting discontent. Jean said she is discontented.

2. Sign catering permit: A catering permit for the Beech Hill Barn was signed.

3. Discussion on posting town-owned property against hunting: Joe Caputo has been in discussion with some folks that town-owned property is not consistently posted. Joe wants the Riverwalk property and the town pit property to be posted with no hunting. Todd Lindstrom stated that the Riverwalk property is closed per DEP direction and then when that is settled, go to the Town to see what they want to do. Todd said the gravel pit is not the same. The Riverwalk should not have walkers and hunters and he could not speak for the gravel pit. Jason Farris stated duck hunting would be ok but if you were on the property from the river, you would be trespassing. Jason stated that Pittston has a long history of hunting. Duck hunting is in October. There could be a permit system. Walkers have 11 months and Sundays. Jean Ambrose stated that the town should be good neighbors. Greg from Zoom said to check with MMA. Jason Corliss from Zoom said working gravel pits should have no hunting. There was a discussion regarding the size of the pit property and where hunting would occur. Cheryl Peaslee said that the Riverwalk was waiting for guidance from the state and should table this until that guidance is received. Joe Caputo will call MMA. Hunting season is October and November.

Jane Hubert stated that she has the snow removal contract ready for review. Joe Caputo has talked with the fire department to see if they have been pleased and if they have any additions they would like to make.

Jane Hubert stated that a firefighter mentioned to her that 9-volt batteries have a potential hazard and should be in an air-tight bucket. Two buckets will be purchased.



Next Select Board meeting: Jean Ambrose stated that she would like to continue every other week's schedule and that the Board could be using work sessions better. Jean Ambrose made a motion to continue with every other week until November. The Select Board will meet on September 13th, September 27th, October 11th, and October 25th.

Jean Ambrose stated that there was an email from the forester for their review.

Joe Caputo made a motion to go into Executive Session Personnel Matters: 1M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A). Motion approved: 3-0.

There will be no more business after this session.

These minutes were written from the recorder, by Debbie MacInnes

Jane H Hubert
Jane H Hubert, Selectperson

09/13/23
Date

Mary Jean Ambrose
Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson

9-13-23
Date

Joseph Caputo
Joseph Caputo, Selectperson

9/13/2023
Date