

**Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes
October 26 2022**

Board Present: Kerri Farris, Jean Ambrose, Jane Hubert

Staff Present: Deb MacInnes, Sam Snow, Sarah Perkins

Residents Present: Sandra Tobey, Duane Tobey, Wellman Cromwell, Joe Caputo, Todd Lindstrom, Mike Salonen, Tony Garvan, Susan Tardiff, Pam Moody, Sharon Gleason, Autumn DeVries, Cheryl Peaslee, Chief Josh Johnson.

Via Zoom: Amanda Savard, Amy Cooper, Greg Lumbert, Mike McCaslin, Jaimy Snow and others.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kerri Farris at 6:34 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Review Agenda:** The policy review was taken off the agenda.
4. **Current Road Work:** Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, stated that the Warren Road shoulders have been completed.

Sam stated that there are some driveway entrances that need to be dealt with on the Kelley Road, Old Cedar Grove Road, Nelson Road and Stoney Acres.

Sam stated that there is a washout on the Crocker Road that needs to be fixed.

At this time Jane Hubert gave an update on the gallons of liquid that were left outside the gate of the sand and salt shed. Jane had called Clean Harbors and they were willing to give a quote on the cost for them to come pick up the jugs. Then DEP called Jane back and told her that they would come pick up the jugs. Jane gave the contact information to Sam for him to call them to make arrangements to come pick them up.

Kerri Farris asked Sam Snow if he had a scope of work yet for the Palmer Road. Sam replied no. Kerri replied they are still waiting for it.

Jane Hubert talked about the Hanley Road. The Hanley Road goes 212 feet into Whitefield. The Pittston plow truck turns around there. Pittston no longer plows the Whitefield part due to the big rock in the road and the poor condition of the road. Jane reported that the big rock has been removed. Jane Hubert would like to go to the Whitefield Select Board and the Whitefield Road Commissioner to see if they would put gravel in the Whitefield part of the road. Sam Snow stated that the road is a mess and too rough to plow. Sam said that Whitefield has been notified to fix that part of the road and they have no desire to do so. Jane

asked if Whitefield fixed that part of the road, would Pittston plow it again and Sam said yes.

Kerri Farris reported that Bernstein Shur, the town attorney, has been contacted about the options for the Jewett Road and they will look into it and get back to the Select Board.

5. **Contact with Whitefield:** Jane Hubert and members of the Recycling Committee will be meeting with a committee in Whitefield to discuss recycling and Hatch Hill.
6. **Duane Tobey, cemetery mowing 2023:** Duane Tobey from the Riverside Cemetery Association, came to the Select Board to tell them about the increase in the quote for mowing the Riverside cemetery and the Annex. The cost for 2023 will be \$7,750. The person that does the mowing is also the sexton, who has not had a raise in 10 years. Duane received another quote just for the mowing and that was \$8,640. Duane stated that this is a major problem. The association can't afford to pay this \$7,750 for 2023. Duane would like the Town to pay for it. If they town can't pay it, the cemetery could be turned over to the Town. The association's by-laws state the cemetery can't be sold, only turned over to the town. Duane will come to the budget committee meetings to explain this situation.

Duane Tobey also reported that during a burial, a truck got stuck and caused between \$2,500 and \$3,500 worth of damage. The Association will pay for the repair.

Duane reported that 139 names were adding to the Memorial monument. He has 25 more names to add that will cost \$6,500 and will have to wait a year.

Duane Tobey stated that all the Association bills are current.

7. **Upgrading communications systems and general update:** Chief Josh Johnson came to the Select Board with a proposal for using \$74,495 of ARPA funds to improve or replace existing communication system. Some are more than 20 years old and in need of repairs. Some you can't get parts for. The upgrade includes radio tower upgrade, apparatus radios and computer aided dispatch (CAD) upgrades. There would need to be a Special Town Meeting to release any money from ARPA.

Chief Johnson reported that he had applied for a grant for a generator for Central Station. If they do not receive the grant, he will request that be funded through ARPA money.

Chief Johnson had submitted plans previously for repairs to Central Station to be funded through ARPA money but it is a small job and can't find anyone interested to commit to a price for the job.

8. **Revising SB meeting schedule and time:** Jean Ambrose suggested that the Select Board meet every other week. On the off week, the Select Board could be working on the budget with the Treasurer and later with the Budget Committee. Kerri Farris worries about progress and did not think that the Budget Committee wanted more meetings. The Budget Committee would only meet 3 or 4 times. This schedule will not change, rather some SB meetings will focus on budget items. Jean Ambrose suggested that the start time for the Select Board meetings be put back to 6:00 p.m. Kerri Farris sees more participation from the public if the meeting is at 6:30. Jane Hubert suggested that they revisit this subject in December.
9. **Approve SB minutes October 12, 2022:** Kerri Farris wanted to add an addendum to the October 12th minutes which is an email from the Select Board asking the Road Commissioner to add the Lancaster Road back on the paving schedule. Kerri Farris read that email that was sent to Sam Snow and the other Board members asking that the Lancaster Road be added back to the paving schedule and was a unanimous decision of the Board. This included Jean's response. This will not be added to the October 12th minutes, but are referenced here. (see addendum).

Kerri Farris stated that what Sam Snow, Road Commissioner said in regards to the Lancaster Road not being put back on the schedule because Maine-ly Paving would not answer his calls, borderlines slander.

A discussion was held in regards to the statement in the minutes, "if the Palmer Road had been paved, there would have been no money left in the budget for the Lancaster Road." This is what Sam Snow, Road Commissioner said. Kerri Farris stated that rationale made no sense because there is a contract. Jean Ambrose stated that the Lancaster Road was taken off for two reasons, lack of money and the logging on that road. Kerri Farris read a section of the June 8th minutes that said the Lancaster Road may be replaced with the Nash Road, therefore making the money issue not make sense. Jean Ambrose and Kerri Farris disagreed on this issue. That sentence in the October 12th minutes will say "Sam Snow Stated...".

Maine-ly Paving has offered to pave the Lancaster Road next spring. It is unknown if Maine-ly Paving will do the paving at this year's contracted price.

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve the October 12, 2022 minutes, as clarified. Voted approved: 3-0.

10. **Work session on October 27th?**: There will be no work session.

11. **Approve & sign accounts payable/payroll warrants:** Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve preview warrant #45 in the amount of \$150,402.65. Motion approved: 3-0

Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve payroll warrant #4322 in the amount of \$3,268.62. Motion approved: 3-0.

12. **Treasurer Report:** Sarah Perkins, Treasurer/Tax Collector, reported that the work on the town reval is still being worked on.

The final draft of the 2021 audit is in the Select Board's mailboxes for their review.

Sarah shared information in regards to Randall Main working for a municipal auction company. Sarah will share this with Chief Johnson and Sam Snow. This is a good resource.

Sarah Perkins reviewed an abatement prepared by Ellery Bane. This abatement was signed.

The loader agreement for the sand/salt shed was discussed. Sam Snow has provided this service in the years past, after Beaugard Equipment stopped renting out equipment.

13. **Executive Session Personnel Matters 1M.R.S.A.§405(6)(A):** Kerri Farris made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. Motion approved 3-0.

The Select Board meeting ended after the Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Debbie MacInnes, Administrative Assistant Date

Kerri Farris, Selectperson

Jean Ambrose, Selectperson

Jane H Hubert, Selectperson

Lancaster Road - time sensitive



Kerri M Farris

To: Sam Snow

Cc: Jane Hubert; Jean Ambrose



Fri 9/30/202

 This message was sent with High importance.

Hi Sam,

Prior to the start of Mainly Paving's work on our roads you had a concern about a logging project on the Lancaster Road creating damage to the newly paved surface, which caused you to remove this road from the scope of work originally contracted for this fall.

That logging project has been completed.

Because of the elimination of the logging project as the basis for changing this project, the board has unanimously agreed to request that you reconsider following through with paving the Lancaster Road under the current contract with Mainly Paving.

Please let us know if you agree.

If yes, please reach out to Mainly Paving to schedule the Lancaster Road project as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Kerri