

ORIGINAL

**Town of Pittston
Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2024**



Board Members Present: Jane Hubert (chair), Jean Ambrose, Joe Caputo
Other Town Officials Present: Christian Jensen (Treasurer, Tax Collector, Clerk)
Recorder: Christian Jensen

1. **Call to Order** 6 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited
3. **Approval of Old Minutes** Dec 27 minutes were signed (approved 3-0 on Jan 3), Jan 3 minutes were approved 3-0 (pending correction)
4. **Accounts payable & payroll warrants**
PAYROLL WARRANT: #2402 \$3,901.40 & #2403 \$177.62 approved 3-0
AP WARRANT PREVIEW: #2 \$24,578.71 approved 3-0
5. **Open Public Speaker(s)**
 - a. **Pete Kelley** spoke against the current recall effort and in support of the Select Board's discretion to lead and manage Town business
6. **Recall Petition** Jane's appointment to meet with the Town's attorney was postponed from Wednesday to Friday—an update will be given after that meeting
7. **Road Business (OLD)** Road Commissioner was not present due to recent storm work
 - a. **Major Road Projects** no update
 - i. **Blodgett & Pinkham culverts (2024)**
 - b. **Medium Road Repair (>\$5,000)** no update
 - i. **Old County Rd (2024)**
 - ii. **Old Cedar Grove Rd (stream crossing grant application)**
 - c. **Small Road Repair (<\$5,000)** no update
 - i. **Crocker Rd ditching (Spring 2024)**
 - d. **Town Gravel Supply & Crushing RFP** no update
 - e. **Sand Supply Status** no update
 - f. **Jewett Road Engineering Analysis RFP** interviews with the two engineering firms that submitted proposals were completed; this will be

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discussed at the work session on 1/22 and a vote is expected at the SB meeting on 1/24

- g. FEMA Application (2023)** no update
- h. Chelsea-Randolph-Pittston Regional Public Works Coordination first meeting** expected soon
- i. Road Signs** no update

8. Road Business (NEW)

- a. Lancaster Rd blocked culvert** there was a call that was forwarded to the Road Commissioner reporting a blocked culver on Lancaster Rd

9. General Town Business (OLD)

- a. Eligible Contractor List / No-bid Limit**
- b. Riverwalk Ownership/Deed** Jean expects the letter back from the lawyer this week; Jason Corliss asked about getting a title search and Jean said she would look into that after the Town gets the process with DEP completed; Joe addressed Jean about an incident where a resident called both Joe and Jane, with the resident having been told they were the ones "keeping [the resident] from using the Riverwalk." Joe also noted that Jean met the same resident at the Riverwalk and unilaterally opened the gate for the resident and allowed him to take his fishing gear to the river on his snowmobile. Jane also echoed the disapproval of Jean's decision, especially in light of the recent decision on Dec 27 to keep the prohibition of motorized vehicles on the road. Several residents echoed sentiments that they do not desire motorized use of the Riverwalk trail, and that each individual board member is obligated to uphold all board decisions
- c. Woodlot Harvesting Contract** was signed by all board members
- d. Building Maintenance & Cleaning Personnel** cleaning person is now a part-time employee; building maintenance person is pending Town Meeting funding
- e. Speed Radar Trailer Disposition** no update
- f. Engine 23 Disposition (2024)** no update
- g. Spirit of America Nominations** no update
- h. Document Shredding** Jane will be scheduling this for the Town Office

10. General Town Business (NEW)

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- a. **Motorized Vehicle Use at the Riverwalk** discussion continued about this topic; previous decision to prohibit use beyond the gate stands; Jason Corliss echoed the sentiment that preserving use for non-motorized use is the best and safest policy going forward; board members and residents mentioned that the resident in question did come to a Riverwalk meeting but has not come to discuss the matter at the SB meeting; the Riverwalk Committee is working on a policy recommendation for the board; Jean stated it was not her long-term intent to prevent motorized use, but only a temporary restriction due to the DEP work
- b. **Municipal Plowing** Joe reiterated that the municipal plow requirements are enforced by Town officials/employees (Fire Chief, Town Office Supervisor, and Select Board), not individual residents; if a resident has a comment or complaint about the municipal plowing, they should contact those officials by calling the Town Office; residents should not contact the contractors directly

11. Town Announcements & Information

- a. **Next SB Meeting(s): Jan 24, 31 (6 pm)**
- b. **Next SB Work Session(s): Jan 22, 29 (2 pm)**
- c. **Budget Committee: Jan 18 (6 pm)**
- d. **Riverwalk Committee: Feb 5 (6 pm)**
- e. **Pittston Historical Society: April**
- f. **Nomination Papers Due: Jan 18**
- g. **Spirit of America Nominations Due: Feb 1**

12. Meeting Adjournment 6:47 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Christian Jensen, Treasurer 1/24/24 Date

Jane H Hubert 01/24/24 Date
Jane H Hubert, Selectperson Chair

Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson Date

Joseph Caputo 1/24/2024 Date
Joseph Caputo, Selectperson