

ORIGINAL

**Town of Pittston
Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**



Board Members Present: Jane Hubert (Chair), Jean Ambrose, Joe Caputo

Other Town Officials Present: Sam Snow (Road Commissioner), Christian Jensen (Treasurer, Tax Collector, Office Supervisor)

Recorder: Marie-Anne Flowers

1. **Call to Order** 6 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Approval of Old Minutes** 3-0 approved and signed
4. **Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrants**
 - a. **PAYROLL WARRANT #2415 @ \$3,955.71** Approved 3-0 and signed
 - b. **AP WARRANT #2416 @ \$267,729.20** Approved 3-0 and signed
5. **Open Public Speaker(s)**
 - a. **Lindsey Sirois** spoke regarding student bathroom policy at the local middle school, noting that a School Board meeting is scheduled for Feb 28 at 5:30 pm at the central office regarding this issue.
 - b. **Sue Tardiff** spoke regarding her concerns over the recent tenor of municipal government in the Town, the recall petition of Joe Caputo, and the upcoming question to rescind the Town's Recall Ordinance
6. **Road Business (OLD)**
 - a. **Sand Supply Status** "All set"
 - b. **Troop Road Tree Branches** Sam stated the branch removal should be completed by the end of the week and that he would have a plan to do brush cutting in the Town by next week.
 - c. **Four Wheel Drive Sign** Sam stated this is ordered and awaiting delivery; Christian noted that he would bill the resident when the invoice from the vendor is received.
 - d. **Salt & Brine/Ice-Be-Gone** Sam stated this was delivered and he is awaiting the invoice.
 - e. **Morton Brook/Nehumkeag Bridge** Sam spoke to DOT and relayed that the project date is 2025 and the town will be notified when the work is scheduled, including any traffic changes/impact. Sam also said DOT stated they will probably put in a one-way lane and alternate traffic from each direction.

**Town of Pittston
Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**



7. Road Business (NEW)

- a. **Pinkham Road Bridge** Joe reported that he relayed the concerns over the bridge top to Calderwood with Sam's recommendation for asphalt to prevent a bump on the transition. Joe stated that Calderwood agreed with that assessment.
- b. **Jewett Road Potholes** Sam reported that the potholes are full of ice, so he is continuing to check them before the expected rain event on Friday.
- c. **Road Posting** Sam stated he had posted all the roads. Jane noted that it was reported to the Town that Sam had written on the signs Joe's contact information, as per statements Joe had made about being willing to field calls about posted roads. Jane reiterated the Select Board and Road Commissioner's commitment to address violations of posted roads.
- d. **Chelsea-Randolph-Pittston Public Works Meeting** to be held this Friday. Sam stated he may not be able to attend due to the weather. (Joe is still slated to attend as well.)
- e. **Jewett Road Pinetree Engineering Contract** was signed in accordance with the previous SB decision

8. General Town Business (OLD)

- a. **Recall Petition** Vote for the recall of Joe is scheduled for a Town election on March 18.
- b. **Special Town Meeting: Question to Rescind the Town's Recall Ordinance** The Special Town Meeting (hearing and vote) on this question is scheduled for Feb 22 at 6 pm at the Town Office. Due to the capacity limit at the Town Office, the Town Clerk has reserved the Pittston-Consolidated School. The meeting will begin at the Town Office where a moderator will be elected and then there will be a motion for a recess and reconvening at the school. Residents are encouraged to go directly to the school due to parking and capacity concerns. No discussion or vote on the question will be conducted at the Town Office.

Jane further explained that there was a hearing held today at the courthouse in the case of "Peaslee vs Town of Pittston," whereby resident Cheryl Peaslee is seeking an injunction to block the Town from holding the Special Town Meeting on the question of rescinding the Town's Recall Ordinance. There was no decision today, but a decision is expected at 9:30 am on Feb 22. The Town was notified last Friday evening by its attorney that an attorney for Cheryl Peaslee was attempting to serve papers related to the case to the Town. The Town's attorney received the papers and sent them to the Select Board on Monday morning.

**Town of Pittston
Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**



A resident asked for the history of the Recall Ordinance's use. Jane stated that the Town adopted the ordinance in 2005, and three recalls were simultaneously attempted on the Selectmen at that time. Of those, one was voted out before the recall was completed, another resigned, and the third was voted out in a recall vote.

9. General Town Business (NEW)

- a. **Efficiency Maine Rebate Check** A rebate check received from Efficiency Maine will be deposited to the general fund
- b. **Ordinance Review Committee** At Jane's invitation, Autumn Devries explained her idea and offered to lead a 5-member committee to review the Town's ordinances. The committee would be appointed by the SB and would be advisory only. Jane will verify the procedures for appointing a committee and this topic will be taken up in the Work Session by the Select Board.

10. Town Announcements & Information

- a. **Next SB Meeting(s)**: Feb 28, Mar 6, 13, 20, 27 (6 pm)
- b. **Next SB Work Session(s)**: Feb 26, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25 (9 am)
- c. **Special Town Meeting**: Feb 22 (6 pm)
- d. **Planning Board**:
 - i. Mar 14 (6:30 pm)
 - ii. Mar 23 (9:30 am) – Site Visits
 - iii. Apr 11 (6:30 pm) – Hearing
- e. **Riverwalk Committee**: Mar 4 (6 pm)
- f. **Pittston Historical Society**: Apr 9 (6 pm)
- g. **Appeals Board**:
- h. **Budget Committee**:

11. Meeting Adjournment 6:37 pm, approved 3-0

**Town of Pittston
Select Board Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**



Respectfully submitted by: _____
Marie-Anne Flowers Date

Jane H Hubert 02/08/24
Jane H Hubert, Selectperson Chair Date

Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson Date

Joseph Caputo 02/08/2024
Joseph Caputo, Selectperson Date