



Town of Pittston  
38 Whitefield Road  
Pittston, ME 04345  
(207) 582-4438

## Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes May 11, 2022

**Board Present:** Kerri Farris, Jean Ambrose, Jane Hubert

**Staff Present:** Deb MacInnes, Sam Snow: via Zoom: Deb Barry

**Residents Present:** Wellman Cromwell, Fred Kimball

**Others Present:** Maureen Reed: Via Zoom: Jaeden Folster

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kerri Farris at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Warrants:**

Kerri Farris made a motion to approve preview warrant #19 in the amount of \$26,707.30.

Voted approved: 3-0.

Payroll was not reviewed at this time.

3. **Tax Collector/Treasure items:**

Colleen Pilsbury explained the Ratio Declaration form, provided by Ellery Bane, Assessors' Agent. This is paperwork pertaining to the homestead exemption. Pittston is at 91% which will make the homestead exemption \$22,750. After the town revaluation, the Town will be back to 100%. Jane Hubert made a motion to accept the Ratio Declaration. Voted approved: 3-0.

Colleen Pilsbury explained the need to release 2 old liens that were never discharged, one from 1997 and the other from 2004.

Kerri Farris made a motion to release two liens, one for Thomas Gould and the other for Ronald Brunelle. Voted approved: 3-0.

Donna Wenckus, tax acquired property bid awardee for the 14 Webb Road property, paid the remaining purchase price of \$11,000 on May 10, 2022.

Kerri Farris made a motion to release the liens on this property and giving a Quit Claim Deed to Donna Wenckus. Vote approved: 3-0.

4. **Maureen Reed: Johnson Hall.**

Ms. Reed came to the Select Board with a request for a donation to Johnson Hall. She explained that there will be eleven free waterfront concerts as well as other activities scheduled for Johnson Hall. Ms. Reed also stated that Johnson Hall has programs that go to the MSAD#11 schools and Johnson Hall is a great way to bring communities together. Johnson Hall is requesting an annual donation of \$5,000. Jane Hubert explained that at the Pittston annual Town Meeting, money has already been approved for other warrant articles, but could be considered at a special town meeting, if one is held. Kerri Farris stated that they would take the request into consideration.



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**5. Nehumkeag Scholarship Update:**

Jane Hubert stated that the Gardiner Area High School guidance office will need some direction in regards to the Nehumkeag Scholarship. It was suggested to tell the guidance department to find five students that loosely fit the criteria for the scholarship. Jane stated that all the signature cards have been signed.

**Action item:** Jane Hubert will check with the guidance counselor at the High School next week.

**6. Grounds Care:**

Jane Hubert stated that the brambles around the generator need to be cut back.

**Action item:** Jane Hubert will call Joshua Howe, of First Alarm LawnCare LLC.

**7. Aubuchon Update:**

An email was reviewed from Zack Brandwein, Bernstein Shur, in regards to the court date for Todd and Susan Aubuchon. Susan Aubuchon is requesting a continuance of the initial appearance date due to a family illness. The Select Board would like to keep the delay to no more than 30 days.

**8. Cyber security policy:**

Kerri Farris made a motion to accept the "Town of Pittston Systems Administration Policy". Voted approved: 3-0.

The Systems administrator will be the Tax Collector/Treasurer. The Assistant Systems Administrator is to be determined.

**Action item:** This policy will be given to all staff members to sign.

- 9. Sign School Warrant:** This item was tabled for further review. The Select Board stated they would like to attend the pre-scheduled MSAD11 meeting set for May 23 to learn more about the school budget before adding their signatures to the warrant.

**10. Overhead Door quote:**

A quote from Overhead Door was reviewed. The front door needs to be fixed. Jean Ambrose made a motion to have Overhead Door fix the front door for \$1,156. Voted approved: 3-0.

**Action item:** Deb M will contact Overhead Door.



11. The Legislative Policy Committee is looking for nominees. No Select Board members are interested.

**12. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner:**

Kerri Farris discussed with Sam that she had called him on Friday in regards to a road issue from Joe Caputo on the Jewett Road. Sam spoke with Joe and was unable to go to the Jewett Road on Friday but could go Saturday, but that did not work. Sam said that he would be out to the Jewett Road next week.

The gravel places on the Jewett Road have been hot topped. An email from Pete Coughlan, DOT was reviewed. It was stated that a resident contacted him. This email is Pete's observation and suggestions on paving. The first year that the Jewett Road was paved, there were no reported issues. In Sam Snow's opinion, the damage came when heavy trucks went across the posted 26,000-weight limit in the night at 31 degrees and 44 degrees during the day. Kerri Farris asked Sam if after looking at the email, moving forward would he do anything differently. Sam said no, because he feels he did nothing wrong. Other dirt roads in town have been paved with no issues. Kerri stated that the email was meant to be helpful and that it was good of Pete to take the time to do this.

An invoice from St. Germain was tabled until next week. St. Germain is coming to the Select Board meeting next week at 6:00 to discuss culvert work so the invoice can wait until then.

**13. Open Paving Bids: 6:19 p.m.**

Pike Industries	\$398,851
Maine-ly Paving	\$340,471
All States Construction	\$387,608.22
Littlefield Paving & Plowing, LLC	\$383,322.30
Northeast Paving	\$417,180

Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, will review the bids. The bid will be awarded next week. The Select Board asked if Sam was able to come in early next week, 5:45, due to the fact that Kerri will need to leave early. Sam said he probably could, he did not have his schedule with him.

**14. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, continued:**

The plow bid for Route 1, from Sam Snow Construction, was reviewed. There was a conversation in regards to putting Route 2 and Route 3 back out to bid. It



was explained that it would be to a disadvantage to Sam Snow Construction and would not look good for the Town's integrity if Route 1 was put out to bid again.

Jean Ambrose made a motion to accept the bid from Sam Snow Construction for Route 1. Voted approved: 3-0.

**Action item:** Deb M will prepare paperwork and put plow routes 2 and 3 back out to bid.

A certified letter came to the Select Board as a reminder of the bridge report sent to the Town in March. This is for Meadow Brook bridge on the Pinkham Road that the Town has a grant for. No immediate action is required.

**15. New/Other Items:**

Jane Hubert inquired if the Riverwalk was interested in a grant opportunity that had come up. Jean Ambrose explained that Jim Lothridge had looked into this and the grant required an engineering study that would cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000 and there was no guarantee that you would receive the grant. Therefore, this grant was not applied for.

16. There has been no word on the Colburn House grant applied for by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands.

17. Jane Hubert shared information that she read stating that broadband is a real problem in this state and that some towns are combining together to work together to expand broadband.

18. The Select Board approved an email from a resident requesting permission to use a metal detector on Town property.

**19. Approve Select Board Minutes of May 4, 2022:**

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve the minutes of May 4, 2022, with the typos corrected.

Voted approved: 2-0-1.

**20. Executive Session Personnel 1M.R.S.A.§405(6)(A)**

Jane Hubert made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:51 p.m. Voted approved: 3-0. Jane Hubert made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:37 p.m. Voted approved: 3-0.

**21. Payroll Warrant:**

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve payroll warrant #1922 in the amount of \$3,459.36. Voted approved: 3-0.

Jane Hubert made a motion to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Voted approved: 3-0.



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Respectfully submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debbie MacInnes, Administrative Assistant      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kerri Farris, Selectperson

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Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson

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Jane H Hubert, Selectperson