



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

Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes May 18, 2022

Board Present: Kerri Farris, Jean Ambrose, Jane Hubert

Staff Present: Deb MacInnes, Sam Snow, Colleen Pilsbury, via zoom: Deb Barry

Residents Present: Wellman Cromwell, Jim Lothridge, Cheryl Peaslee, Marlene Colvin. Via Zoom: Mary Lawrence.

Others Present: via Zoom: Jamie Ward (Maine-ly Paving), Patrick Gere (St. Germain Engineering)

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

2. **Warrants:**

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve preview warrant #20 in the amount of \$6,66.62. Voted approved: 3-0.

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve payroll warrant #2022 in the amount of \$3,446.45.

The checkbook balance is \$1,075,674.40.

A Journal Entry was signed.

The 2021 audit starts on May 25, 2022.

The Select Board approved May 19, 2022 as a day off for Tax Collector/Treasure, Colleen Pilsbury.

3. At this time, Kerri Farris asked Jean Ambrose which email address she was using. Jean has not set the new email address up and stated that she will continue to use her personal gmail email address.

4. **Harbor Master:**

The office received one letter of interest in being Pittston's Harbor Master. You do not need to have a boat to be the Harbor Master.

Action Item: Deb M will contact the interested person to schedule a time for an interview.

5. **School Board:**

Jim Lothridge told the Select Board that it is the MSAD#11 budget season and there is a presentation for municipal officers on Monday, May 23, 2022. The Select Board told Jim that they all were planning on attending. Jim said there will be time to ask questions. Jim hopes that lots of people attend this meeting.



6. New/Other Business:

Cheryl Peaslee, Chair of the Personnel Board, asked if the Select Board had reviewed the last draft of the Planning Board Secretary job description. Kerri Farris replied that it had not. Kerri stated that it would be reviewed when they had time. Cheryl hopes it is done soon.

7. Award Paving Bid:

Maine-ly Paving was the low bid at \$340,471. Jamie Ward had emailed the office his equipment list, insurance and references. Jamie stated that he has been in the business since 1988 and his foreman has a 20-year background. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner's advice is to award Maine-ly Paving the contract, they were the low bid. The Nash Road will not be done this year due to the cost. The bid sheet states that we have the right to add or delete. Jane Hubert made a motion to award the paving bid to Maine-ly Paving for the 2022 paving. Sam told Jaime that he would be ready to start paving by the end of July or beginning of August. Jamie stated that works for him.

8. St. Germain Engineering:

Patrick Gere emailed a timeline to the office for the Blodgett Road. A conversation was held in regards to the size of the culvert and the material of the culvert. One of the changes was when DOT reviewed the application, they did not like the aluminum culvert with footers due to the presence of clay which would make the structure sink over time. Another reason for the change in design included the Road Commissioner's request to lengthen the structure due to the town's intention to widen the road at that location. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, stated that the Town cannot afford the concrete box imbedded 2 feet into the ground. The concrete culvert design was \$140,000 and it would cost another \$200,000 to install. The grant that Pittston received is for \$125,000. Patrick Gere told everyone that he knew of another possible grant opportunity from the US Fish and Wildlife for \$70,000. He would need a reasonable biologist to partner with. Sam stated that the only way to move forward with the Blodgett Road is for the Town to receive another grant. Sam also stated that the Pinkham Road culvert replacement is critical. Patrick stated that the grant application from the Fish and Wildlife would be looked at in October of 2022. Patrick does not know the cost of applying for the Fish and Wildlife grant. Patrick stated that he would revise the agreement between the Town and St. Germain, to include the cost of applying for the new grant. The Blodgett Road grant may be extended for 1 year.

Kerri Farris made a motion to pursue additional grant money through Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and pursue the concrete box design provided by St. Germain at a cost of \$135,000 to be installed on a condition that the DEP grant



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of \$125,000 remains and we have been awarded a grant of \$70,000 from Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Voted approved: 3-0.

9. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner:

Sam Snow asked the Select Board about who contacted Pete Coughlan, DOT about the Jewett Road. Kerri Farris stated she believes Joe Caputo may have called Pete and then Pete called her. Sam Snow stated that he believes that a Select Board member called Ernie Martin Jr. and then Pete Coughlan. Ernie Martin Jr. has nothing to do with local roads. Sam Snow wants to know why this was not talked about in a Select Board meeting to contact DOT about the Jewett Road, Sam stated that he believes one person on the board took it upon themselves to involve others in this issue and in doing so avoided open discussion among the board. Sam feels that the email provided by Pete Coughlan is misleading and inaccurate. Sam said that he doesn't like getting stabbed in the back. Sam stated that the "whole story" about why the Jewett Road is in that condition was not provided. Kerri Farris agreed that this should have been discussed at a Select Board meeting. Kerri stated that Pete's email is not meant to be a complete summary of what happened to the Jewett Road, it is a list of observations. Kerri also stated that the Jewett Road is a hot button issue and Pete's observation is something to take seriously and needs to be looked at and reviewed.

10. New/Other Business:

Jean Ambrose asked why she did not know about a work session that was held last Thursday. Kerri Farris stated that it was on the calendar and Jane stated that she had attempted to contact Jean several times. Jean was told that work done during the work session included Kerri working with ADT and Jane cleaning the back room. Kerri stated that it was pretty general. A conversation was held in regards to miscommunication. Kerri Farris stated that it is a standing meeting and it is listed on the calendar. Jean Ambrose stated that is supposed to be "as needed". Deb M stated that the email that she received from Kerri stated to put the works session on for the next 4 weeks at 11:00 am and would be discussed on Wednesday if they are needed or not. Both Jean and Kerri stated that they all need to work as a team.

Sam Snow had another question for the Board and for Jim Lothridge. Sam asked if any of the COVID money was going to be used to help pay for putting the road in for the Riverwalk. Sam is in the process of processing gravel. Sam is trying to make some kind of plan. Jean Ambrose stated that there is still \$1,500 available to use on the Riverwalk that was already Town approved. Sam stated



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that it will cost more than that to put the road in. Kerri Farris stated that no decision had been made on that and there would be a need for further discussion at a later date.

At this time Kerri Farris had to leave. (6:45 p.m.)

Jane Hubert tabled the next agenda item, Broadband.

11. Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes:

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve the Select Board meeting minutes of May 11, 2022. Voted approved: 2-0

Jane Hubert made a motion to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Voted approved: 2-0

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Debbie MacInnes, Administrative Assistant Date

Kerri Farris, Selectperson

Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson

Jane H Hubert, Selectperson