



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

Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes May 25, 2022

Board Present: Kerri Farris, Jean Ambrose, Jane Hubert

Staff Present: Deb MacInnes, Sam Snow, Colleen Pilsbury

Residents Present: Wellman Cromwell, Cheryl Peaslee, Jim Lothridge, Joe Caputo, Jay Kelley, Priscilla Kelley, Ben Kelley, Andrea Sparrow.

Via Zoom: Jason Farris, Amy Cooper, Sarah Perkins, Greg Lumbert, Harris Plaisted, Josh Johnson, Jeff Campbell.

Others Present: Pete Coughlan

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

Kerri Farris thanked everyone for coming and for attending via video conferencing.

2. **Meeting Procedure Statement from the Chair:**

Kerri Farris discussed how she is establishing a procedure to establish parameters for Select Board meetings are managed to be more productive and done in an orderly fashion. All subject matter that is to be discussed at a Select Board meeting must be on the printed agendas before the meeting to let Select Board members prepare for the topic. A brief summary about the topic would be helpful. A weekly review of action items will be established. Kerri stated that expectations are to gather facts and have meaningful discussion. To support these expectations Kerri contacted MMA for meeting structure. Kerri read what MMA told her: The public has no legal right to speak, the Board may limit comments, a person shall be recognized by the Chair and all questions will be directed to the Chair, inappropriate and offensive comments will not be allowed, the Board does not need to make any decisions at that time, but take things under advisement. Kerri also stated that these meetings are business meetings and that the Select Board is paid to do Town business. The Select Board has been running casually, but for now, the meetings will be run this way with the hope of being more productive.

3. **Warrants:**

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve preview warrant #21 in the amount of \$211,943.11. Voted approved: 3-0.

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve payroll warrant #2122 in the amount of \$3,347.63. Voted approved: 3-0.

The checkbook balance is \$891,402.66

A Quit Claim Deed was signed that had to be re-written due to the fact that the person passed away. Jane Hubert made a motion to sign this Quit Claim Deed. Voted approved: 3-0.



Kerri Farris announced that she has a planned departure and will be leaving the Select Board meeting early.

Jean Ambrose made a motion to not have a Select Board meeting next week, June 1, 2022. Voted approved: 3-0.

The Select Board approved Deb MacInnes a vacation day on June 1, 2022.

4. Accessors Office:

Kerri Farris made a motion to modify the Accessors' Agent's office and move the Tax Collector/Treasure to that office. Voted approved: 3-0.

The new desk should arrive by June 26, 2022.

5. Bernstein Shur phone call:

Kerri Farris called the Town Attorney in regards to Board procedure. Kerri asked them about legal services from Maine Municipal Association. Bernstein Shur stated that she could be confident in MMA's legal services.

6. Scholarship Update:

Kerri Farris called the guidance department at the High School. There are 25 students from Pittston in the graduating class. There are 2 students that have applied for the Nehumkeag Scholarship. Kerri stated that Pittston's 2 school board members and herself will need to get together to discuss the applications. Jim Lothridge, School Board member, stated that he will be unable to attend.

7. Discuss meeting with Budget Committee:

Kerri Farris stated that she would like to discuss the budget process earlier in the year. Jane Hubert stated updates could be given to the committee. Sarah Perkins, Budget Committee member stated that she felt that the Budget Committee could be utilized better.

8. Jewett Road follow-up:

Kerri Farris stated there needed to be follow-up on the discussion from last week about the Jewett Road. She stated that accusations were flying around so she invited Pete Coughlan to attend the meeting. Kerri Farris asked Pete if she contacted him about going out to collect data about the Jewett Road. Pete replied, "No". Jane Hubert asked if she contacted him, he replied, "No". Pete Coughlan replied that he never heard from any of them directly. Kerri Farris hopes that puts this issue to bed. Sam Snow asked Pete Coughlan about the conversation they had, Pete said that never happened. Pete Coughlan stated that Greg Lumbert asked Ernie Martin Jr who in turn asked Pete



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to go look at the Jewett Road. Pete does not know who asked Greg Lumbert to do that. Kerri stated that she appreciates Pete's expertise. Kerri stated that she did not want a prolonged discussion at this time in regards to the Jewett Road. There was a lot of discussion on what different people think is wrong with the Jewett Road and what should be done about it, including boring holes in the road to see what is under the pavement. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, stated that the first year that the Jewett Road was paved there was not a hair line crack in the road. Sam stated that he believes that 80% of the damage was caused by heavy trucks going on the road when they were not supposed to. Pete agreed that heavy trucks exacerbated the situation. Sam repeated that the trucks started the problem. Joe Caputo stated that Sam did a huge amount of prep work on the road before it was paved. Sam Snow has a road schedule for paving roads in town. His goal is to pave the school bus routes. Kerri Farris stated that the Board needs a discussion on what to do about the Jewett Road and time will be set aside to discuss this issue.

9. Sam Snow, Road Commissioner:

Sam will order some culverts for summer work.

There is a hole on Old County Road suspected to be caused by a culvert failure.

Things are quiet right now. Sam said that there will be crushing done in the pit shortly and he will meet with Jim Lothridge to see what is needed for the Riverwalk Road.

6:28 p.m. Kerri Farris thanked everyone for attending and left the meeting.

10. Broadband:

Jane Hubert reported that local Towns are getting together to talk about Broadband issues.

11. Sign MSAD#11 warrant:

Jane Hubert reported that the Select Board had attended a MSAD#11 budget meeting. Jane said that Pittston's share of the MSAD#11 budget will be an increase of 83 cents per \$1,000 of evaluation.

12. Sign appointment papers:

The Town of Pittston has a new Harbor Master. Welcome Rob Pekins! The Select Board signed his appointment papers.



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13. Safety Grant:

The Town of Pittston did not receive the safety grant for new office furniture that was applied for.

14. Recycling News:

Jane Hubert reported that there was damage done to the recycling shed. Pictures were provided.

Jane also reported that one of the bins at the Recycling Center will be removed. All #2 plastic will now go into the same bin.

Jane Hubert made a motion to adjourn at 6:37 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