



Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 2023

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

Staff Present: Deb MacInnes, Sam Snow,

Residents Present: Jim Lothridge, Wellman Cromwell, Joe Eastman, Kim Eastman, Amy Cooper, Jason Corliss, Sarah Hubert, Joe Caputo, Linda Caputo, Tony Garvan, Mike MacInnes, Maryanne Samuels, Sue Baker, Greg Baker, Steve Costello, Cheryl Peaslee, Susan Tobey, Paul Tobey, Alicia Collins, Sue Tardiff, Sharon Gleason, Jaimy Snow, Dave Symes, Kim Alley - Pelletier, Norman Pelletier, Greg Lumbert, Jason Farris, Todd Lindstrom, Mike Salonen, Autumn DeVries, Pete Kelley, Cody Kelley, Adam Winchenbach.

Via Zoom: Joyce McCaslin and others that are unknown.

1. **Call to Order:** Chair, Kerri Malinowski Farris called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Review Agenda:** There were no additions.
4. **Municipal Election:** The Town Clerk was unable to attend this meeting. Two members of the Select Board and a candidate on the ballot felt that two people who were scheduled to work the March 20, 2023 election were biased and felt that it was in the best interest of the town that they be removed due to their involvement in a campaign. Kerri Malinowski Farris made a motion to remove Cheryl Peaslee and Vicki Kelley from working the election on March 20, 2023, and to be replaced. Jane Hubert 2nd. It was a 2-1 vote. The Board had concerns that at least one individual, on the ballot clerk's list, was managing a candidate's campaign, so the motion was made to protect the election process and avoid any suspicion of impropriety.

Jean Ambrose stated this was an inappropriate conversation for a Select Board meeting due to personnel issues. Other items discussed and opinions stated were: this item was addressed in the morning before this meeting, this has never happened before, where the Select Board overrides the Town Clerk, the Town Clerk used bad judgment, people in town lie, questioning residents' integrity, freedom of access requests and election/ballot clerk appointments.

5. **Current Roadwork:** The current roadwork is plowing snow.

Kerri Malinowski Farris made a motion for the town not to pay Dan Colby for the Palmer Road document. Jane Hubert 2nd. It was a 2-1 vote.



Stickers for the posted roads sign were made, but not put on the signs due to them not being laminated and a snowstorm.

Road reviews: Palmer, Parker, and Jewett:

Jane Hubert feels that Palmer Road was stable when she drove on it but is concerned about the pond and has called DEP. DEP will be at the pond site on March 22, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. to look at the road area near the pond. Jane wants the Road Commissioner to provide details of the work performed to prepare the road for paving.

Kerri stated that she believed the Select Board would share responsibility for liability if Palmer Road is paved without receiving requested documentation of the preparatory work from the Road Commissioner.

Jane Hubert will contact the small claims court to obtain information, for the Road Commissioner, on how to proceed with a small claims suit regarding Parker Road.

There was a conversation regarding Jewett Road. The Select Board and Road Commissioner do not agree on what has transpired up to this point. Tonight, the Road Commissioner had no plan for Jewett Road.

Engineers that were contacted regarding Jewett Road have not responded. An RFP was discussed and legal remedy may be pursued. The cost of the work on Jewett Road was discussed.

Letter to contractor regarding fence: A letter to the contractor, who plows the municipal parking areas, stating that the fence at the recycling area needs to be repaired due to damage caused by the plow by May 31, 2023, was signed.

Riverwalk Committee update: Jane Hubert attended the last meeting, reported that environmental testing should be done, and called DEP. Kerri Malinowski Farris motioned not to expend any more money until an environmental assessment is done. There was no second. Other items discussed on this topic were the forester will stand down for now, there are tires in the pond, there is big equipment in the old gravel pit, the potential of liability, and post some areas. Also, the Select Board has oversight on invoices.

It was stated there are three steps to the Riverwalk project. Environmental testing, cleaning up the metal and the logger to clear paths.



Ground at recycling center: Jane Hubert reported that the end of the bins is muddy and wet. Sam Snow agreed to have gravel brought in next week for a temporary fix.

Request from ACO: Jane Hubert made a motion to approve a vest for the Animal Control Officer that will say "Pittston Animal Control Officer" on it. The cost is \$30. Motion approved: 3-0. A photo ID will be prepared, at no cost, from MEMA.

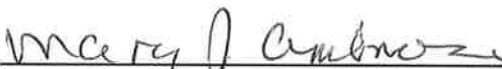

Approve and sign accounts payable/payroll warrants: Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve preview warrant #11 in the amount of \$2,645.50. Motion approved: 3-0.

Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve payroll warrant #1123 in the amount of \$2,456.23. Motion approved: 3-0.

Approve Select Board minutes: February 22, 2023, were tabled.
Jane Hubert made a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2023. Motion approved: 3-0.
Jane Hubert made a motion to accept March 8, 2023, as corrected. Motion approved: 3-0.

Jane Hubert thanked Kerri Malinowski Farris for her time on the Select Board and her major changes and appreciates her knowledge. Others also thanked Kerri.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:04 p.m. Motion approved: 3-0.

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Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson	
	03/22/23
Jane H Hubert, Selectperson	

