



Town of Pittston Select Board Meeting Minutes February 1, 2023

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

Staff Present: Deb MacInnes, Sam Snow,

Residents Present: Wellman Cromwell, Todd Lindstrom, Mike Salonen, Joe Caputo, Linda Caputo, Tony Garvan, Susan Tardiff, Sharon Gleason, Greg Lumbert, Cheryl Peaslee, Jason Farris and Amy Cooper.

Via Zoom: Deb Barry, June Salonen, Michael McCaslin, Harris Plaisted, Ray Snider, Larry Ireland, Doreen Plaisted, Laura Moody and Sarah Perkins.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair, Kerri Malinowski Farris at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Review Agenda:** The Kelley letter was moved down the agenda for a better flow of the agenda.

At this time, Kerri Malinowski Farris made a statement regarding campaigning material being properly marked including who has funded the material and where it came from. Kerri directed this directly to Cheryl Peaslee in case Cheryl was not present at a previous Select Board meeting when this item was discussed.

Kerri Malinowski Farris also thanked Sam Snow for the detail that was added to an invoice.

4. **Current Road Work:** Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, told the Select Board that he has received a complaint regarding a resident's driveway. Sam stated that the resident has caused ruts in their driveway that have nothing to do with the road. Sam stated that the town maintains culverts, not driveways. The driveway is in the town right-of-way, as are all driveways. Jane Hubert stated that is private property and Kerri Malinowski Farris stated that without seeing the driveway she would be unable to comment on this.

Sam Snow reported that after this cold snap, he would like to post some of the roads due to the freezing and thawing. Sam stated that he is trying to save the roads. Sam already has the signs. Jean Ambrose stated that Sam has been posting roads for a long time and has a good idea of when that should be done.

Kerri Malinowski Farris started a discussion regarding the icy conditions of Route 194 on Friday, 1/27/2023. Kerri stated that dispatch called Sam that morning. Sam stated they did not call.



It was reported that there were 2 or 3 cars off the road that morning. That conversation went back and forth. Kerri also stated that she text Sam who did not respond. Sam said he did. Kerri requested a screenshot of that is sent to her. Kerri will also call dispatch to see if they have the correct contact information and will set up a test call.

There was also a frozen culvert causing icy conditions at a different location on Route 194 that DOT was called to go take care of.

The road complaint book was discussed. A call by Melissa Vallieries was not seen by Jane Hubert in the complaint book. Jane Hubert report that there was nothing logged for 2021-2022.

Kerri Malinowski Farris reviewed an invoice that the Town received for the document that Daniel Colby did on Palmer Road, at the request of Sam Snow, Road Commissioner. The Select Board asked Sam to provide a scope of work, describing the work on Palmer Road. The document written by Daniel Colby is titled "Palmer Road Pittston, Test Boring, and Layout Analysis". Dated 12/5/22. Daniel Colby is a Professional Land Surveyor and Licensed Site Evaluator. Kerri stated that she is not interested in paying this invoice. In Kerri's opinion, this document is not adequate, and it is an opinion from someone who designs septic systems. Kerri stated the report lacks scientific detail, is out of his scope, and is not objective. Sam Snow knows Daniel Colby and are business associates. Kerri stated that Mr. Colby is not a licensed engineer. Kerri stated it is a simple request for Sam to write down what he did to the road. Jane Hubert stated that Sam could just write down what Sam did, and he is responsible. Jean Ambrose read the summary from the report and disagrees with the other two Board members. This conversation went back and forth. The Board asked Sam to supply a scope of work and Sam's reply was that he did, referencing the Colby Document. The Board and Sam Snow, Road Commissioner, remain at a standstill. A suggestion was made to wait to see what the road looks like in the spring. (Note: money not spent on not paving the Palmer Road went to excise tax reserve).

Two other items discussed were when work is being done on a road, the residents on that road would like to be notified. In the future, contracts should contain more detail, as advised by the town attorney.

- 5. Discussion for spring plan for Jewett Road:** A conversation was held regarding the next steps for the Jewett Road. Each member of the Select Board



will contact engineering firms to receive opinions on what the next steps should be and an estimate of the time required.

6. **Social media policy:** Kerri Malinowski Farris reviewed other towns' social media policies to create a policy for Pittston. This draft was shared with the other two Select Board members. The policy will be prepared for signing next week.
7. **Town Report Book:** The Town Report Book was discussed. Kerri Malinowski Farris does not like the cover, she wants the Town seal, that was used last year. Jean Ambrose had to take the cover photo out of the contest to explain that it is Bodge Island and that it is significant to the Town. Land was donated to the Town. Other edits were discussed.
8. **Big Green Box:** The town recycles batteries and using a company called Big Green Box. The order for the boxes needs to be pre-paid and the town does not have a credit card. Five boxes should last for the full year. Jean Ambrose made a motion to reimburse \$290 to Sarah Hubert for the purchase on her credit card, for five Big Green Boxes. Motion approved: 3-0.
9. **Main Street Fuel update:** The service call that was scheduled for Feb. 1st was canceled. The new date is Feb. 9th, to put a thermostat in the lobby.
10. **Quick follow-ups:** Jane Hubert reported that Ellery Bain and his boss, Rob Dupilisea, will be doing roadside reviews to double-check the revaluation work.

The snack drive proposed for the Pittston Randolph School did not move forward. The principal of the school did not call back.

Jane Hubert is working with Spectrum regarding the franchise agreement, as the fire station is not supposed to be paying for cable.

Jane Hubert received information from Efficiency Maine regarding heating systems and items that may be of interest to Chief Johnson, and other municipal affiliations. Jane will follow up with this.

More work will be done on deleting scanned documents.

11. **Sign warrant for Town Meeting:** The Select Board signed the warrant.



12. **Letter from the Kelleys:** Jane Hubert read a letter from Guy Kelley, Vicki Kelley, and Nathan Hahn, thanking Deb Barry and Deb MacInnes for their hard work and dedication to the Town.

13. **Approve and sign accounts payable/payroll warrants:** Jane Hubert made a motion to approve amended preview warrant #4 in the amount of \$10,761.88. Motion approved: 3-0.

Jean Ambrose made a motion to approve payroll warrant #523 in the amount of \$2,460.97. Motion approved: 3-0.

14. **Approve Select Board minutes of January 11, 2023:** Kerri Malinowski Farris wants to add a lot of information to the minutes. Deb M asked her to send her the additions.

15. **Work Session on February 2, 2023:** There will be no work session.

Kerri Malinowski Farris made a motion to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Motion approved 3-0.

Kerri Malinowski Farris 2-22-23
Kerri Malinowski Farris, Selectperson Date

Mary Jean Ambrose 2-22-23
Mary Jean Ambrose, Selectperson Date

Jane H Hubert 02/22/23
Jane H Hubert, Selectperson Date