

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**January 7, 2010**

**PRESENT:** Paul Rooney, Chairman; Denise Lindahl; Drexell White; Jack Driscoll, Town Administrator; Amon Morse, Road Commissioner; Maureen Stalla, NVC Representative; Barbara O'Leary, Town Clerk

**NVC:**

Maureen Stalla stated the notice of the Town parking ban on Bluff Road near the Golf Course was sent out by Dan Webster. Jack Driscoll noted people are still parking on both sides of the road when they park to go sledding at the Golf Course even though there are signs prohibiting parking on one side. The Superintendent of Schools has given permission for sledders to park at the Drinkwater School and walk up. If this continues to occur, notices will be placed on the vehicles windshields stating the vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.

Also noted, the repair work on the causeway and dock in the Village will be done in the spring.

**Animal Control:**

ACO, Jerry Tucker was present to discuss 3 dangerous dogs that were picked up after killing 3 llamas. No one has called looking for the dogs or reporting their dogs missing. The dogs have been taken to the Knox County Humane Society. These were 2 males and one female, who had a litter of pups recently. One was a pit bull, black and white and the other 2 were mutts. Besides killing the 3 llamas, others were bitten and chewed. Jerry Tucker also reported they were very aggressive towards the people who came across them in the barn, who needed to protect themselves with shovels. He estimated the dogs are 30-40lbs each.

Paul Rooney asked if the ACO felt these were dangerous dogs. Jerry Tucker stated even though they got in his truck when he arrived to get them, he felt they were dangerous dogs. He pointed out the Human Society is a no kill shelter and they would try to adopt the dogs out. Discussion followed on the responsibility of the Board in regards to letting these dogs be adopted with such a violent history. Paul Rooney stated if the Board feels these are dangerous dogs the Town may need to go to court in order to have them put down. Discussion followed. The Board agreed these dogs should not be adopted out and recommended asking the Humane Society if they would put the dogs down as dangerous dogs. Denise Lindahl stated she would not be comfortable if the shelter adopted these dogs out after attacking both animals and people. She believes these are dangerous dogs and should be treated as such. The Board agreed. The Administrator was instructed to contact the Humane Society and ask if they would put the dogs down.

**Under motion** of Paul Rooney, second by Denise Lindahl, the Board voted 3-0 to have Town Administrator Jack Driscoll, contact the Knox County Humane Society to see if they are willing to declare these three dogs dangerous and be put down at the Town's

expense and if not to contact a veterinarian who would declare the dogs dangerous, unable to be adopted, and be put down.

The Animal Control Officer also responded to a report of horses left for a few days in a field without shelter. The caller had stated they had been there a few days in the cold with no shelter. When the ACO arrived the horses were gone. He determined the owner had left them there, had been bringing them food, but they did not have shelter.

The Board thanked Jerry Tucker for his work

**Administrator's Report:**

1. Eco-Maine: Alison McCready will stop by the Transfer Station on January 21<sup>st</sup> between 11 and noon to help with estimating the volume of trash and is what is recycled in order to conduct the cost benefit analysis.
2. Salt/Sand Garage: S.W. Cole submitted a proposal for soil excavation and analysis for the new garage. The fee is based on the Town doing the backhoe work. The test holes need a bigger piece of equipment to do the work and the Board would like to use a local contractor. Jack Driscoll will contact contractors in Northport, Lincolnville and Belfast.
3. Rocky Road: Kevin Hanscom of S.W. Cole looked at the spot on Rocky Road where water seeps up, but due to recent snow and the cold, there was no water coming through. Mr. Hanscom said when this happens again to call him and he will come take a look.
4. General Assistance: one applicant was approved for rent assistance.
5. High Speed Internet: The pre-application for the ConnectME grant should be submitted next week when the new round of grants begins. RoJean Tulk of Fairpoint is working on what it will take to bring high speed Internet to Northport. Phil Lindley of ConnectME stated Northport would need to work closely with Fairpoint to complete the application. Denise Lindahl asked if the Three Ring Binder project would have any effect on this project. Jack Driscoll stated the provider would need to connect into that system. He and RoJean Tulk will need to get together and work on the application.
6. Town Hall: The U.S. Census Bureau conducted census taker test at the Town Hall on December 29, 2009. Anyone still wishing to take the test can contact the U.S. Census Bureau of other testing locations.
7. Bluff Road Plowing: The plowing contractor had problems with snow removal on Bluff Road near the Golf Course, due to cars parked on both sides of the road to go sledding. The Road Commissioner will place a notice on the windshield of anyone one parking on the wrong side of the street, that violators will be towed at the owner's expense. The Administrator had Dan Webster send out an email notice regarding this issue and a notice will be placed on the Town's website also.
8. Swans Island Blankets: The Administrator met with Bill Laurita of Swans Island and Bill Osborne DECD to review the application process for a CDBG grant. The Town would be the applicant and handle the money. Swans Island will apply for

- \$30,000 through the Pine Tree program and they hope to hire seven employees. They will apply for \$180,000 through the CDBG. Within two years of signing the grant papers, Swans Island must hire the employees. If Swans Island does not hire the required number of employees, the Town would be responsible to repay the grant. Discussion followed on whether this would be run the same as when the Town handled the CDBG funds for the Village. The Clerk asked if there is an Administrative Fee allowed for the Town since there was when they handled the Village grant. The Administrator was not sure, but would find out. The Letter of Intent is due by 2-12-2010. The Board instructed the Administrator to run this by Bill Kelly to get his opinion on the Town handling these funds and the issue of repayment. The Administrator will also have ready the draft Letter of Intent for the next meeting. Paul Rooney asked if public hearings would be necessary in order to get resident input. He stated hearings were required for the Village grant. Denise Lindahl asked if the yearly warrant article regarding grants would cover having a hearing. The Clerk did not think it would cover this particular grant. The Board instructed the Administrator to ask Bill Kelly this question also.
9. Dun & Bradstreet: The Administrator has applied for a Dun & Bradstreet number. FEMA requires towns to have this number if they receive funds.
  10. Vicious Dogs: already addressed

The Administrator presented a letter from Ashley Landry clarifying his terminology of “trench” in regards to a horizontal bore hold. Drexell White recommended there be limits on the diameter of the hole. Bill Kelly is writing the easement and the Administrator will mention this to him.

A septic violation in Temple Heights has been given a postponement for completion due to the weather. The Code Officer has allowed an extension to complete the work until the spring.

Denise Lindahl asked if the Town’s School Board Directors had been contacted to attend this meeting. The Administrator had forgot and will ask them to attend the next meeting. Paul Rooney noted there is a School Board meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> he will attend. One of the topics is the recent decision of the Board not to renew the Superintendents contract. The public will be allowed to make comments. Paul Rooney would like to express his support of Bruce Mailloux and the credibility he has given the Board over the past few years. The Board agreed and Paul Rooney will speak on behalf of the Board. Jack Driscoll will attend as well.

### **Roads & Bridges:**

Road Commissioner Amon Morse has had several calls from Fairpoint and Robert Keller on Overlook Drive regarding the condition of the road. The Kellers are having problems with their phone, but Fairpoint cannot get to them. Mr. Keller wanted the Road Commissioner to sand his road, but Amon Morse pointed out it is a private road and the Town does not maintain private roads. The Road Commissioner did give Mr. Keller the names of some people to call regarding sanding.

The Road Commissioner thought the plow contractor did a good job during the last storm. He received a few phone calls about the plowing and the Clerk reported there were no calls that came into the office. Amon did receive a complaint from Toni Metcalf stating Knights Pond Road was not plowed very well.

Plowing contractor Bobby Patterson has asked for a key to the dump so he can turn around. The plowing contractor for the Transfer Station, Scott Pelletier, plows up past the cemetery where Bobby Patterson then tries to turn around. He may be up there before the transfer station is opened and plowed and it has become a problem. The Board agreed he could have a key.

Peter Green will be cutting some tree limbs in town; the largest is overhanging Beech Hill Road.

**Clerk's Report:**

Peter Dalton of the Democratic Party as asked if the Democrats could hold their caucus at the Town Office on Sunday, January 31, 2010 at 2:00pm. The Board agreed.

The Assessor's have completed a one-quarter view of properties in Town. The net gain in valuation is \$211,700.

Foreclosure: The Clerk presented an updated report on tax collection. Many of the residents in jeopardy of losing their homes due to the automatic foreclosure of the 2006 and 2007 liens on their properties have paid. There are still residents in jeopardy of losing their homes if the taxes are not paid in full when the Town goes forwarding with taking the homes. The Board expressed their appreciation for the hard and difficult work in collecting these taxes. They stated these unpaid back taxes had been allowed to sit for too long and residents need to know they must be paid.

The Code Officers issued two building permits during December.

The Clerk presented the financial report for December prepared by Town Bookkeeper Vicki Eugley. Drexell White asked when budget meetings should begin. It was agreed workshops should begin in late February. Paul Rooney reminded the Board the Town meeting will be held the first Monday in June this year.

**New Business:**

Paul Rooney mentioned the Code Officer is drafting a Wind Turbine ordinance, which is based on the State model, but geared for Northport.

S.W. Cole proposal. The Board reviewed the proposal from S.W. Cole. Denise Lindahl asked if we could use the backhoe the DOT has right across the street to dig the test hole. Jack Driscoll will ask the DOT and if not will call other contractors. He noted the CEO is not sure this is seasonal run-off and it could be a stream. If a stream the 75' set back would need to be followed.

**Old Business:**

Denise Lindahl is revising the Transfer Station Manual per the DEP requirements. This is a big project that will take some time, but will be completed by the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Paul Rooney noted he has a new position at work and will have Sunday, Monday and Tuesdays off. When his schedule is set, the Select Board meeting date will change to Mondays.

Under motion of Paul Rooney, second by Drexell White, with no further business, the Board voted 3-0 to ADJOURN at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara O'Leary  
Town Clerk