

## **SELECTBOARD MEETING OCTOBER 26, 2015**

**Present:** Chairman Drexell White, Vice Chair Denise Lindahl, Board Member Mark Humphreys, Town Administrator Barbara Ashey, Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker, Finance Director Vicki Eugley, Road Commissioner Amon Morse, Plowing Contractors Robert & Tyler Patterson, Northport Village Representative Paul Nyren and residents Sandra Engstrom, Michael "Scott" Bowden, Beth Whitten and Michael Connelly.

### **Citizen's Concerns:**

#### **Driveway Washout:**

Sandra Engstrom and Scott Bowden spoke to the Board about having a culvert placed at the end of their driveway on Priest Road. Bowden provided the Board with pictures of their driveway after the massive rain storm at the end of September. He stated that a culvert placed further down Priest Road added to the water flow of the stream that travels through their property. He demonstrated the location of that culvert in the pictures and explained how the additional water flow from that impacted their driveway. Engstrom stated that they had attempted to have the Town place a culvert at the entrance to their driveway in 2009, but no action was taken and they abandoned the effort.

Bowden; Engstrom; the Board and Road Commissioner Morse discussed the impact of the water flow from the stream and the culvert flow from Priest Road on their driveway and what ditching was like in the area. Typically property owners are required to place the first driveway entrance culvert and the Town maintains it after that. Bowden & Engstrom had placed three culverts in their driveway, which are set approximately 50 feet or more in from the road. The property owners stated that they have repeatedly replaced gravel at the driveway entrance as it has washed out at least five times in the past, but have not spoken to Morse about it. Morse explained that the stream is the primary source of the water flow, which is on private property. The Board decided to table any decisions until after they had an opportunity to do independent site visits to better understand the situation.

#### **Bluff Road:**

Beth Whitten came before the Board to talk about the section of Bluff Road that is closed to winter maintenance. She explained that she has a parcel for sale in that area and prospective buyers wanted to know if the Town would ever be making that a through street during the winter months. The Board told Whitten that if property were to be developed in that area the Town would have to make it accessible.

#### **Household Hazardous Waste:**

Mike Connelly spoke to the Board regarding concerns he has about the inability to dispose of certain items such as paints or yard chemicals. Lindahl stated that Clean Harbors in Lewiston will let people bring materials to them for a fee; Connelly asked the Board how many residents would make the trip to Lewiston. Resident Tyler Patterson mentioned that DM & J Waste in Winterport takes the materials as well.

Lindahl also mentioned the possibility of Northport taking part in a Household Hazardous Waste Day if another Waldo County town were to host one. She explained that Northport

residents would have to pre-register and a representative for the Town would attend to validate their resident status upon arrival. She continued by telling Connelly that hosting a collection day can be expensive for a municipality and one hasn't been done locally in a few years. The Board asked Ashley if she could find out if any towns in the area would be hosting one either through the Managers Group or through Maine Waste Management Representative Bill Butler.

**Winter Roads:**

**School Snow Removal:**

Ashey stated that she had a conversation with the school about snow removal and was asked who plows the bus turn-arounds on the various roads. Ashey stated that they are looking for someone to keep the school plowed out and thought that they were also responsible for the turn-arounds. She told them that the turn-arounds are part of the Town Winter Roads contract and not the responsibility of the school department. Ashey added that the information the school has for turn-arounds is different than what she had. She will request a list of where the buses are turning around and check on those locations with Patterson.

**Contractor:**

Patterson attended the meeting in an effort to stay connected with the Board. Lindahl asked if he is all ready for the first snowfall; Patterson replied that he will be ready. White asked Patterson if he had contacted Don LaCoste regarding the hedges damaged by last winter's snowplowing; Patterson stated that he had not, but he could go down and talk to him. White stated that he should meet with him soon as LaCoste would be leaving for the winter. Ashey reminded Patterson about not plowing snow toward the generator at the Town Hall and Fire Station and not to plow the snow against the building. Morse told Patterson and Ashey that he would be putting a snow fence up around the generator before the ground freezes. Patterson told the Board that a turn-around is needed on Upper Bluff Road. White confirmed that Patterson was aware of the changes in road plowing responsibilities in the Village and asked if he had any input; Patterson said that he is aware and had no comment or input.

**Northport Village Corporation:**

**Kelly Cove Water Main Agreement:**

Ashey had provided the Board with a copy of the proposed agreement between the Village and the Town in the event of the failure of the water main under the Kelly Cove Bridge. Ashey told the Board that Andrew Hedrich of Gartley & Dorsky had planned on talking to the Board about this; unfortunately he was not able to attend this meeting. Lindahl asked if legal representatives had reviewed the document and questioned having Bill Kelly review it for the Town. The Board determined that there is nothing pressing about the matter and opted to table the matter until Hedrich could attend.

**Manhole Billing Resolve:**

Nyren asked if a resolution had been reached with Vaughn Thibodeau and the manhole billing issue encountered during the paving and reclaiming projects in the Village. Morse told Nyren that the matter is settled. Nyren wanted to know if the company would be coming back to clean up the mounds of pavement left on the sides of the roads, Morse stated that he will be

cleaning that up. Nyren also asked about raking the shoulders, Morse replied that he had raked some back and that the rain storm had washed a few of them.

White asked what the final outcome was with Thibodeau. Ashy stated that an agreement was reached and the bill was reduced by approximately \$4,000.00 and has been paid.

Nyren and Morse discussed paving a couple of areas for run-off swales to better direct water flow. Morse told Nyren he would like to include that on a project list for next year.

#### **Roads & Bridges:**

##### **Brush Cutting & Ditching:**

Morse told the Board that Ford Enterprises is almost done with the brush cutting and ditching and that Nebraska Road will wait until it is colder in an effort to prevent damage to the new pavement. Morse stated that he has had Dan Ford go back over the brush cutting that was done with the bush hog and clear things at ground level with a chainsaw to dress things up a bit better.

White asked if all the road projects were squared away for the year; Morse stated that they are getting there. He added that he is still trying to find a contractor to clean out the catch basins. White asked Morse to start a list for next year as soon as things are complete.

##### **Trench on Shore Road:**

Ashy asked Morse if he had taken a look at the trench that was dug alongside of Shore Road. Morse told the Board that a 1 foot wide by 100 foot long trench had been dug along the side of Shore Road and that rubber had been laid down in the trench with crushed rock placed on top of it for water run-off. He informed the property owners that they cannot do work like that without contacting the Town first. Lindahl asked if they had contacted the Code Office; Morse replied that they had not. Lindahl stated that Code needs to go look at the site and see if there are any violations.

##### **Rain Storm Expenses to Date:**

Finance Director Vicki Eugley informed Morse and the Board that storm related expenses have totaled \$31,735.36 so far and that amount covers invoices from five contractors.

Ashy told the Board that there will not be any funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to aid in covering storm related damages and expenses. The reason given was that the total damage estimates did not come close to what is required by FEMA.

White told Morse about an issue of run-off affecting a basement on Broadway and that the property owner wanted to make the Town aware of the issue. Morse stated that he thinks a catch basin is needed in that area and will consider it when planning projects for next year.

#### **Town Clerk:**

##### **Municipal Valuation Return:**

Tucker presented the Board with the Municipal Valuation Report completed by Kevin McCormick, assessing agent for RJD Appraisal, which needed their signatures prior to submission. The Board reviewed and signed the form.

##### **Abatement & Supplements:**

Tucker provided the Board with one abatement and two supplemental tax bills for approval. She explained that a portion of a particular parcel was sold to an individual, but the entire

parcel was assessed to them in error creating an overassessment of taxes. She continued by informing the Board that the abatement would reverse that overassessment and the supplemental bills would assess the correct parcels to the appropriate persons. The Board reviewed and signed the abatement and supplements.

**Waldo County Sheriff:**

Ashey stated that she had received a call from the Sheriff's Department asking about the Sheriff and Chief Deputy coming to a Selectman's meeting in November. She said they would just like to do a meet & greet at the November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

**Internal Office Schedule Adjustment:**

Ashey spoke to the Board regarding an adjustment that will be made to employee arrival and departure times. She explained that staff will now be arriving 15 minutes before opening and will be leaving 15 minutes after closing so that daily reports can be run at closing and not before.

**Transfer Station:**

Ashey told the Board that Craig Marshall will be chipping the brush pile at the Transfer Station in two weeks. She stated that the last time the pile was chipped the Town was charged \$8.00/ton and there were 150 tons of wood chips hauled off.

Ashey said that she had received quotes from Farley & Sons as well as Pomeroy Logging for chipping the brush and hauling it off, which she compared to the past rate, and found both were more costly than what Marshall had charged previously. Ashey suggested that the Town needs to discuss future plans with Marshall.

Ashey added that she had contacted Mid Coast Solid Waste in Camden recommended turning the yard waste pile twice a year, which would require the Town obtaining licensing to compost. She said she had received a call from Mid Coast Economic Development and they are in the process of developing a plan for Northport. She had also learned that there is a farm in Camden looking for leaves.

The Board directed Ashey to have the pile hauled off. White questioned if this is something to present to the residents to decide whether to continue having a yard waste pile and pay to have it hauled off or not, adding that details of the cost involved would have to be gathered. Ashey had gotten a report back from Transfer Station Attendant Tim Patten that there had been no complaints from residents about the larger recycling container, but he did mention that the openings on the sides restrict how much material can be placed in the container.

**Donation of Electric Heaters:**

Ashey informed the Board about two electric heaters that were donated by a resident in Catching Cove. The donation is intended for use by residents through the Warm Neighbors program. The Board acknowledged the thoughtful and generous donation, but indicated the Town must decline the offer, citing concerns over potential liability issues, and directed the Administrator to return the heaters to the owners.

**Tech Source, LLC:**

Ashey provided the Board with the proposal from Tech Source, LLC; the subsidiary company of Belfast Computers that Ryan Vines has set up for technical support to his clients. Humphreys asked if Eugley could provide figures of what costs have been in the past; Eugley said she will and added that this proposal would cost \$5,000.00 and is something that was not budgeted. After discussion about the bid process and details of how the support could be done remotely and site visits were not included, the Board opted to table the topic until more information is available.

**Finance Director:**

**Warrants:**

Eugley provided the Board Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants for review and signatures. She noted that the TRIO bill was reduced for the two months that the budgetary part of the program could not be used.

The Board reviewed and signed the warrants as presented.

**Annual Audit:**

Eugley had distributed copies of the annual audit to the Board. White asked if there were any surprises in the audit; Eugley stated that there were none and noted that there is a reference about the school coming on as a Town entity.

White asked how things are going with the school. Eugley stated that it is taking more of her time since the Town signs the checks for their accounts payable warrants. She explained that she doesn't have to track the checks, but she does have to double check that the budget calculations the school has match what the Town has.

Humphreys asked if more work will be created for her when the construction starts on the school; Eugley replied that she doesn't think so, but she is not sure. She stated that she had already put in a lot of work getting paperwork ready for the bond anticipation loan.

**Minutes:**

Tucker provided the Board with draft minutes of the September 28, 2015 and October 5, 2015 minutes for review and approval.

**Under motion** by Humphreys; second by Lindahl; the Board voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2015 meeting as corrected.

**Under motion** by Humphreys; second by Lindahl; the board voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2015 meeting as corrected.

**Under motion** by White; second by Humphreys; the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn at 8:38p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanine Tucker  
Town Clerk