

SELECTBOARD MEETING

Monday November 26, 2018 6p.m.

Present: Chairman Mark Humphreys; Vice Chair Shelly Patten; Board Member Zak Hollingshead; Town Administrator Barbara Ashe; Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker; Finance Director Vicki Eugley; Road Commissioner Amon Morse and Plowing Contractors Robert Patterson and Andy Dusoe.

Winter Roads:

In consideration of some complaints received after the first two storms of the season, and to get an idea of how plowing order is considered, the Board discussed plowing methodology with Contractor Robert Patterson and Road Commissioner Amon Morse. Morse and Patterson explained that the primary focus is to keep the main, more heavily traveled, roads clear first. The pair explained that depending on the type of storm all roads are typically plowed within an hour and a half. Patterson stated that some secondary roads are plowed every other time the trucks make a pass.

Morse told the Board that he would like to have a priority list drafted, which would list what order and how often roads are plowed/sanded. Morse stated that a lot of complaints are received because intersections have not been widened or shoulders have not been pushed back with every trip the trucks make. He said most of that is all work that can wait until the end of the storm so that the crews can focus on keeping the roads open and passable. Morse suggested creating a plan similar to what Lincolnville has. The Board directed Morse and Town Administrator Barbara Ashe to get together and draft a plan on road plowing order.

Roads & Bridges:

Lane Construction:

Morse told the Board that Lane Construction will be back to fix the utility covers in the Village this week, but will not be back to fix the other issues until next year.

Nealey Road:

Morse reported that F.C. Work was ready to pave Nealey Road, pending results from the gravel compaction test, but the cold weather set in sooner than expected. Morse stated that the gravel compaction was not at the level expected and there are concerns of how winter wear will impact it.

Ashe told Morse that F.C. Work would like to receive payment for what they have done on the road so far. Morse questioned how the project would be addressed if the compaction does not pass. Ashe noted that the contractor is responsible for meeting the requirements of the project and final payment can be held until the work is satisfactory.

Saturday Cove Access:

Morse stated that he has been keeping Saturday Cove plowed out because there is still some gear fishermen have not brought in yet. Ashe added that the floats should be coming out by the end of the week and that the parking lot will need to be cleared for them to be placed on shore. She told the Board that the gangway will be placed on the pier this year as a plan for raising it with a gallows type system has not been finalized.

Ashey also told the Board that Harbor Master Gordon Fuller will be meeting with the Harbor Committee to review the Harbor Ordinance. She said that they will look at the possibility of changing the date that floats are pulled out of the water in the ordinance.

Ashey also spoke to the Board about an offer from Monet Brazier, the Assistant Harbor Master in Stockton Springs, to volunteer to help Fuller as his Assistant. Fuller told Ashey that Brazier is a graduate of Maine Maritime Academy and is very knowledgeable. Harbor Committee Chair, Steve Fein, has worked with Brazier and recommended her as a volunteer to assist Fuller.

The Board agreed to allow Fuller to have Brazier assist him, with the understanding that it is on a volunteer basis.

Nordic Aqua Farms:

The Board discussed the confusion they have regarding what Northport residents expect of them with the consideration of the proposed Nordic Aqua Farms facility. Each member of The Board has been contacted by individuals with concerns they have regarding the proposed salmon farm, but there has been no definitive information on what they expect the Board to do. Board Member Zak Hollingshead stated that he understands where concerns are coming from, but all the information he has been provided is only conjecture. Vice Chair Shelly Patten noted that there is a history of materials from former industries in the Belfast Bay, more specifically sardine processing and poultry plants, so concerns are validated.

The Board stated that persons wishing to speak with them directly are welcome to attend a regular meeting to discuss their concerns and expectations of the Board.

Northport School:

Ashey provided the Board with an update regarding the Northport School setting up an alternative classroom at Town Hall, in the conference room, to meet specific needs for a student. She stated that this opportunity will start this week and the school is looking at other options as a more permanent alternative.

Interim Town Clerk:

Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker had drafted oaths for Town Administrator Barbra Ashey to be sworn in as Interim Town Clerk, Voter Registrar and Tax Collector. Chairman Mark Humphreys administered the oaths and swore Ashey in for those positions, effective December 1, 2018.

Hollingshead stated that his wife, Autumn Hollingshead, has volunteered her services to assist the Board in sorting through the many résumés, which is what she does for work. The Board discussed the offer and agreed to accept her assistance. The Board discussed the timeline and how best to have Autumn access the files for review.

The Board agreed to review the applications at the December 10, 2018 meeting.

Finance Director:

Finance Director Vicki Eugley provided the Board with Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants for review and signatures. The Board reviewed and signed the documents as presented.

Eugley told the Board that she had received a draft copy of the School Audit late Wednesday, which is what Purdy Powers, the Town's auditing firm, needs in order to complete the Town Audit.

Minutes:

Tucker provided the Board with draft minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting for review and approval. The Board reviewed the minutes as presented.

Under motion by Vice Chair Shelly Patten, second by Board Member Zak Hollingshead, the Board voted 3-0 to approve the November 14, 2018 minutes as corrected.

Under motion by Board Member Zak Hollingshead, second by Chairman Mark Humphreys, the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn at 7:14p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanine Tucker
Town Clerk