

Town of Hartford  
Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
July 2, 2020  
7:00 PM

**7:00 PM: Selectboard Meeting:**

Selectmen Present: Lee Holman, Cathy Lowe, Lori Swan

Others: Cindy McNeil, Raymond Hunter, Richard Dyer, Tim Kirwan, Lee Fernald, Bob L'Heureux, Lennie Eichman, Leslie Boness, Laurie Babineau, and Jeff Sterns

**I Call Meeting to order:** Lee called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**II Review meeting minutes from:**

1. Selectboard Meeting on June 18, 2020: Lee moved to approve minutes, Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

**III Review Warrants:**

A/P Warrants #40(1) and payroll warrants: Lee moved to approve A/P Warrant #40 and payroll warrants, Lori 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor.

**IV Reports:**

1. RSU 10 Report: Lee reviewed an email letter received from Chad Culleton regarding the school budget in response to the letter that was sent to the school budget committee. Chad explained further the proposed increase to the Town of Hartford and what that entailed.

2. Road Report: No road report. It was noted that the Town Line Rd paving was complete and that some cold patching had been done.

3. CEO Report: Alan Fernald has been hired on as the new CEO and will work with the interim Fred Collins on getting up to speed with previous permits etc.

4. ACO Report: No ACO report. It was noted that the ACO called for information earlier this week regarding a dog at a home in the town that a wellness check was being conducted at with the OCSO.

5. Planning Board Report: No report.

6. Ordinance Committee Report: No meetings scheduled at this time. The Ordinance Committee is looking at scheduling a meeting soon that may be in person with social distancing practices in place.

7. Fire Warden Report: No report.

8. Treasurer Report: The town office staff continues to work with RHR Smith on the audit and are waiting to hear back on additional items that may be needed.

**V Calendar Reminders:**

1. Daily: Check in with your neighbors, during these times phone calls may be very welcome.

2. RSU #10 School Board Meeting June 29<sup>th</sup> at MVHS Library 6:30 pm is now available as a recording.

3. Absentee ballots available, deadline to return ballots - July 14<sup>th</sup> by 8:00pm.

4. July 14<sup>th</sup> Primary and School Budget voting

**VI Unfinished Business:**

1. Pratt Hill Culvert Grant update: Cathy will contact Shelley at AVCOG for further information on the grant that will be due in September.

2. No Spray agreement/Board of Pesticide Control: Lori will contact Megan with the Board of Pesticide Control to work on getting information to word the ordinance correctly.
3. Broadband Bootcamp on Zoom for interested residents: Online bootcamp will take place July 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Applications are due by July 9<sup>th</sup>. Lee stated there are many citizens interested in this initiative.
4. Code Enforcement Officer Update: previously discussed.

## **VII Open Session:**

Jeff Sterns advised that the grant he had been working on was recently awarded for Lake Anasagunticook. This grant will help offset costs for erosion problems and free up money to be used elsewhere in the town.

Lennie Eichman spoke about the school budget and mentioned that other districts are cutting out the SRO positions.

Richard Dyer was able to attend the recent school board meeting and noted that the committee seemed concerned that the budget may not pass. He also stated that there was a push to have a significant amount of money approved for technology purposes that was tabled until after the towns vote.

Laurie Babineau mentioned that school budgets in general will be getting worse due to Covid and the need for at home learning technology.

## **VIII New Business:**

1. Budget planning discussion: The Budget Committee will be meeting in person using social distancing guidelines at 7pm on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at the town hall.
2. Beach closing update: Swim lessons to start July 6<sup>th</sup> and the beach will be closed for 3 hours each day during lessons for up to 2 weeks.
3. Hartford News - Selectboard Letter: Lee submitted the Selectboard letter for the Hartford News and all agreed to the submission of the letter.
4. MMA Workers Comp Safety Incentive Program: WCSIP form was filled out and turned in by the deadline noted. There will be another form that will be due by September 1<sup>st</sup>.
5. Solid Waste and Recycling/Bulky Waste Discussion: Lennie noted that she had called Archie's regarding what the bill might be for the latest bulky waste pickup but the information was not yet available. It was noted that Alan, Archie's owner had seen a pickup dump a whole load of trash on the side of the road. There are several townspeople interested in reforming a group which will be looked into further in the near future.
6. Cleaning position for Town Office/Town Hall: Lee noted that she had made contact with Michelle who had previously cleaned both the Town Office and Town Hall prior to Covid closure and stated she was willing to return to work. Michelle will clean the office and hall on Mondays going forward. It was also mentioned that the Town Hall is free for those wishing to use it for Funeral gatherings/services. Covid guidelines must be observed e.g. 50 people with 6' of distance.

## **IX Appointments/Resignation**

## **X Training:**

- ## **XI Review Correspondence:**
- Lori had looked into possibly getting a wedding tent for an outdoor Town Meeting. The total for the tent, delivery, set up and audio was \$1100. It was discussed that Town Meeting could take place via Zoom as Buckfield is doing or could be done in person at either the Hartford Sumner Elementary or Buckfield Junior Senior High School. Cathy will follow up to see if

there are dates available to use the schools and what cost would be associated with the school use. Lee will check with the legal services department to see if the town can require that masks be worn.

**XII Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.

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