

Town of Hartford
Selectmen's Meeting
April 19, 2007
Minutes

Present: Selectmen David Bowen and Lee Holman, CEO Jack Plumley, ACO Rick Houghton, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, Plow Contractor Willie Bragg, residents Grace Goudreau, Peg Poskus, Arthur Harvey, Beverly Murphy, David Kraske, Jeremy Johnson and Julia Samson. Absent: Selectman Hope McCabe.

- I. David called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
- II. Open Session: Arthur submitted a letter as Planning Board Chairman to the selectmen asking that the vacant planning board position be remedied. Elizabeth Gravalos sent a letter to selectmen complimenting the condition of winter roads.
David Bowen reported on the April 18th school budget committee meeting. The committee voted to recommend \$6,909,400.00 for the 2007/08 budget. Hartford's share would be \$902,234.75. Hartford was assessed the amount of \$857113.30 last year. The new amount results in an increase of \$43,121.45 for Hartford. State funding may alter the amounts. Buckfield and Sumner's share of the budget decreased from last year. Each town's share is based on their state valuation.
- III. Reports
 1. Road Report: David Bowen spoke with Cathy Lowe, Road Commissioner, and she stated that ruts had been filled on Pratt Hill Rd, Camp Road, and Town Farm Road. Darrington Road, Goding Rd, Green Acres, and Davenport Rd. have been temporarily repaired. The crew is now working on Church St. washouts.
Jack stated that the previous work completed on Southpaw Lane, concerning drainage problems, was successful. David answered questions of whether the snow was winged back properly to allow drainage. He stated that the only way the snow could have been pushed back any more, would be to use the grader. David shared that Pratt Hill looked good except one corner where the tar broke away. Lee mentioned that there was significant erosion caused by Pinewood Drive. She stated that the situation had to be fixed but she does not like to see taxpayers have to pay for private roads repair. Jack shared photos of Canton Lake erosion. Lee suggested that all new roads, drives have high standards for approval. Jack stated that we need an ordinance in place to protect the town. Jack also stated that DEP has allowed the town to rectify the erosion problem caused from

Pinewoods Drive. He stated that permission has been granted from DEP to remove the material from the lake. The town will have to cover the cost until FEMA Funds arrive or landowners reimburse the town. Mike Mickeriz has given permission to allow equipment onto his property to correct the situation. Jack stated that rocks from the old boat landing might have to be removed due to lack of space for equipment. Jack believes that it would cost \$50,000.00 to correctly repair Pinewood Drive. He believes the road should be paved and the impact of the environment is priceless. The landowners who are responsible for Pinewood Drive are in Virginia at this time and Jack will attempt to contact them.

David asked Jack to contact Oxford Soil and Water to access the damage and help with the plans to correct the situation. The cost will be \$95.00/hr. Jack requested that a planning board member and a selectmen meet with Oxford Soil & Water when they arrive.

Lee shared information concerning Oxford Network fiber optic cables were uncovered by the washouts on Church Street. Dig safe has been contacted. Work should resume tomorrow.

- a. Request for crushed rock/Pottle: complaint will be given to the Road Commissioner.
 - b. Ricker Road Complaint/Julia Samson: Contractors performed drainage work on Sam Annis Rd. last fall that caused an increased amount of runoff to end up on Julia's lot. She is concerned about her septic and garage pad that is beginning to crack from frost heaves. Julia stated that someone redirected the flow to her property marker. She believes that a culvert placed at the end of the driveway across from her property on Sam Annis Rd. would correct the problem. David spoke with Cathy earlier and discovered that a man was present at the time of the ditching and he instructed the contractors to change the direction of the runoff onto Julia's property. David will contact Cathy to set up a meeting with Julia to decide how to correct the situation.
2. CEO Report: Jack shared two building permits. Lianne was asked to check into a tree growth penalty amount for one of them located on Mountain View Drive.
 3. ACO Report: Rick has had four calls concerning animals and took one dog to the shelter.

IV. New Business

1. Winter Roads: David stated that there have multiple issues and complaints concerning winter roads. There was a compliment received tonight concerning the condition of the roads. David told Willie that no decisions could be made tonight since one selectman is absent and Lee has agreed to abstain from discussing or voting on Winter Road issues. At the last Selectmen's meeting there was a complaint concerning

Camp Road. David drove down the road after the meeting at 9:30pm and the road was impassable without a four-wheel drive vehicle. David had called Willie and asked him to take care of the road before 6:00am the next day so that residents could travel the road to get to work. Grace Goudreau stated that the road was cleared at 10:00am. Willie disagreed with the time. Willie asked whether or not it was rectified within the 48hour time limit? David answered yes. Grace argued that the plow had not been down the Camp Road at all while main roads were clear. Willie asked whether or not there were any breaches in the contract? David answered that the residents are telling us that they are not satisfied with the condition of the roads. David stated that initially he thought that there was a group of residents complaining who just did not want you to have the contract but in the last two months there have been many various complaints. Willie stated that he has had a couple of breakdowns and he has been plowing with his pickup truck as a courtesy since the contract requires only two trucks on the road equipped with wings. Willie stated that it is not my job to come here and listen to complaints. David stated that we couldn't legally meet with you outside of a meeting or hold executive session concerning this subject. David stated that this issue will be on the agenda of the May 3rd meeting and it will be determined whether or not Willie will be required to attend.

2. Resignation: David motioned to accept the resignation of Dan Maddox as member of the Planning Board and Comprehensive Planning Committee. Lee second with regret. All in favor=2. David will contact alternate planning board members Morrill Nason and Terry Smith to see if either are interested in becoming fulltime board members.
3. Abatements: David motioned to deny abatement for Ron Garry Map U03 Lot 12. Lee second. All in favor=2.
David motioned to deny abatement for Irene Garry map U13 Lot 13. Lee second. All in favor=2.
4. Training/Road Workshop May 3: It was suggested to allow Jeremy Johnson to attend the road workshop required to be eligible for the sign grant instead of Willie Bragg since Willie will be out of the area on May 3rd. Jeremy stated that he has taken the workshop in the past. Lianne will call to see if that is sufficient. If not Jeremy is willing to attend.
Lee motioned to allow Lianne to attend the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors & Treasurers Assoc. Annual Conference to be held on May 10th. David second. All in favor=2.
5. Risk Management/Building replacement value changes: The insurance company has increased the coverage of the town hall, town office and town garage. Lianne will contact them to find out how much the premiums will increase.
6. Concealed weapon permit: Selectmen filled out form.
7. SAD 39 Budget Meeting Report: discussed above in open session.

8. AVCOG/Regional Capital Plan: Selectmen fill out form concerning capitol projects.
9. Hartford Hunters/ May 3, 2007: Lianne informed the Selectmen about the upcoming May 3rd visit from the Hartford Hunters. They will be arriving at the Hartford Town Office on May 3rd at 10:00am. They are traveling from Hertford (previously Hartford) England and are visiting every city named Hartford. They will be writing a book on their visits in the future. Lianne will plan a welcome for them. They would like to have a selectmen meet with them. Lianne arranged for the museum to be open for them.
10. Vietnam Memorial Request: A request was received asking for contributions for the new Vietnam plaque and celebration to be held on May 19 in Rumford. Lianne will write to the committee stating that an article could be placed on the town meeting warrant asking for funds but we cannot donate unapproved funds to them.
11. Moderator/Hearing on town meeting warrant: Lianne asked whether Terry Hayes was needed for the Town Meeting Hearing. Selectmen would appreciate her attending if she were able.
12. Town Report Dedication/Selectmen's letter: Selectmen discussed the issues.

V. Old Business

1. Fire/Rescue coverage: Selectmen reviewed the E911 maps from Maria Jacques. Lianne will contact Hope to see if she can get the budget figures for the next budget meeting.
2. Comprehensive Plan Hearing: The next Comprehensive Plan Hearing is to be held on April 28th at 9:00am at the Hartford Town Hall. Housing and regional planning will be the topics.
3. Oxford Cty. Tax/Assessors Return: Selectmen signed the return. Hartford' share of the county tax is \$62,303.00.
4. Review of Checking Account Reconciliation: Selectmen reviewed.
5. Quarterly Financial Reports: Selectmen received reports.
6. Animal Control Ordinance: Selectmen would like to eventually work on an ordinance to allow the recovery of cost of animal control from pet owners. Lee stated that the Ordinance committee has a lot of work to do already and we may want to hold off on new ordinances until they have more time.
7. Shelter cost/Cats: Lianne called the Humane society to see if they charge an annual fee for cats but has not received a call back yet.
8. Town Hall access ramp: It has been decided by the selectmen to rebuild the ramp on the side of the building instead of the front of the building due to setback restrictions. David will draw up plans.
9. Personnel Policy: tabled.

VI. David motioned to approve April 5, 2007 Selectmen minutes. Lee second. All in favor=2.

- VII. David motioned to approve Warrants 70, 71, 72, 73, & 74. Lee second. All in favor=2.
- VIII. David motioned to adjourn at 9:50pm. Lee second. All in favor=2.

Minutes approved by:

David Bowen

Date

Lee Holman

Date