

Selectmen's Meeting

September 30th, 2024

Attendees: Selectmen Redman

Selectmen Staples

Administrative Assistant: Gail Gary-Cox

Interim Town Clerk: Kathy Hoey

Other Attendees: Mickey Sirota

1. Called to Order 4:37pm

Public Hearing: Regarding Adopting Updated 2024 General Assistance Ordinance as Recommended by State of Maine & 2024-2025 Waldo County Maximums

All information will be available to the public upon request

2. Public Comments

- a. Mike Mills-inquiring about the plans for repairing Muzzy/Ripley Bridge. Selectmen Redman is waiting for Maine DOT, to respond to his email explaining the estimate that the town received for \$4.6 Million. Maine DOT had closed the bridge. The town is still looking at and discussing possible solutions for bridge repair. Mike Mills is going to inquire with his neighbors on what they would like to do about gating the bridge for public excess.
- b. Pete Milinazzo gave an update on the progression of the broadband. Poles have continued to get marked out. 200 poles to go. Permits are in place for Woodmans Mill Rd and New England Rd. 19 poles to go still on Muzzy Ridge Rd. Crews are working on a gas line on Pond Rd North. Design will be completed for review by mid-October 2024. Pole status is at 81% with 5,830 poles either being installed or permitted. Construction to begin 1st quarter of 2025. On Schedule and the date of October 15th, 2025 has to be met.
- c. Mickey Sirota informed the town that the celebration of life for Basil Pearse went very well. Over 200 people attended and about a dozen firetrucks attended the procession.

3. Selectmen's Comments

- a. Selectmen Staples brought up that Allie Davis's driveway still needs a culvert. Pete Milinazzo volunteered to remind Allie that that needs to be completed, hopefully before grading in that area.

- b. Selectman Staples informed the town of trees being cut on the Pond Rd and was inquiring on who that was, due to the brush and debris being left behind. The assumption is that it was CMP. Gail Gary-Cox is going to inquire with CMP to confirm that they performed to cutting and a schedule for clean up.
 - c. Lucas Construction has started work on a construction site on the Walker Rd, therefore Donald Fuller has put his work on hold. Selectman Staples is going to inquire about the possibility of working Saturday.
4. Modification to the Agenda-none
5. Approval of the minutes for September 9th and September 23rd.
- a. Selectmen Redman made a motion to approve the minutes as written for September 9th and September 23rd. Selectman Staples seconded the motion. Approved.
6. Road Report
- a. Selectmen discussed roads needing grading. Pond Rd South needs grading and brush cutting. Morrill Hill Rd, needs brush cutting. Fowles Rd, may need some grading and needs brush cutting. Witcher Rd needs a little gravel, and the Donald Fuller can yolk rake. Pond Rd North needs a couple of loads of gravel between the road and the bridge and then yolk rake. Crie Rd needs a small amount of gravel and yolk rake. French Rd South needs gravel and brush cutting/mulching. Magog Rd needs grading.
 - b. F.C.Work has completed the paving. The total cost came in at \$70,437.
 - c. There are some spots on Moody Mtn Rd. where the tar drops off approximately 4” to the shoulder. Suggestion was made to inquire about painting a white line down both sides of the road where the new pavement is. Gail Gary-Cox is going to call Adolphson’s and inquire about an estimate.
7. New Business
- a. Discuss and act on regarding tax assessor agent recommendation of property tax abatement to accounts RE: 672, 240, 271, 452, 311, 312, and 189 in the amount of \$2119.39. Selectman Redman made a motion to approve the abatements as recommended. Selectman Staples seconded the motion. Passed Unanimous.
 - b. Discuss and act on regarding committing a supplemental property tax assessment on account number 452 in the amount of \$381.99. Selectman Redman made a motion to commit. Selectman Staples seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.
 - c. Discuss and act on real estate tax account RE 637 withdrawn from tree growth classification resulting in a supplemental assessment of \$57,241.20.

Selectman Redman made a motion to approve the supplemental assessment. Selectman Staples seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.

- d. Request by Sweetser for abatement of property tax on account RE 854 Map 005 Lot 077. Request came in past the deadline, and there was correspondence well before due date by assessor agent to property owner. Selectman Redman made a motion to deny the request for abatement. Selectman Staples seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.
- e. Discuss and act regarding adopting updated 2024 general assistance ordinance requirements recommended by the state of Maine 2024-2025 Waldo County Maximums. Selectman Redman made a motion to adopt the general assistance ordinance requirements, for 2024-2025 Waldo County Maximums as presented by the State of Maine. Selectman Staples seconded the motion. Motion was unanimous.
8. Selectman Redman made a motion to enter Executive Session regarding Personnel (job applications for town clerk) 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6A). Seconded by Selectman Staples. Entered session.
9. Adjourned at 7:15pm