

Unapproved Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
Tuesday June 7, 2022

Attending for the board; Carl Demrow and Nick Kramer. Anne Rosten selectboard clerk. Lee Porter, Road Commissioner; Joe Blodgett, Road foreman; Linda Buermeyer for the Journal Opinion; Norman Patenaude representing Pike Industries; Ed Pospisil, fire chief; and Brad Wheeler, Health officer; Others attending: Mike Wolff, Jeremy Goodrich, Kelly Ann Donahue, Anne McKinsey, Bob Fortunati, and Jeff and Sandy Spiegel. Attending via Zoom: Norm Collette, town hall maintenance and member of the cemetery commission; and Gary Apfel, town moderator

Board member Carl Demrow called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting of May 3, 2022, and financial meeting of May 9, 2022

No discussion or changes. Nick Kramer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 3, 2022 and the financial meeting of May 9, 2022. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously..

Public concerns. grievance procedure

Jeremy Goodrich of 137 Turkey Hill Rd. presented complaints against the town road crew regarding snow plowing, grading, and chloride application by his residence and provided photographs of his driveway and the surrounding area showing changes done by the town equipment. He shared that he felt the town had been unresponsive to his complaints and also stated that he observed town workers using the town garage and town tools for personal vehicles. Blodgett and Porter were given the opportunity to respond, claiming that over the years they have tried to accommodate Goodrich's requests, and that it is a difficult section of road to maintain. The board thanked Mr. Goodrich for presenting his case and will revisit the issue at a future meeting with all board members present.

Other concerns; Bob Fortunati presented a proposal for the use of the ARPA funds and provided a printed handout. He proposed using the funds to upgrade class 4 roads whose only access out in emergencies is a one lane bridge over the Waits River to Rt 25. There are 41 families affected by the limited access and Fortunati felt that upgrading the class 4 sections of Claflin Rd, and Richardson Rd would improve the situation.. Fire Chief Pospisil mentioned that without significant tree cutting as part of the road improvements, his equipment could not access those road sections. Blodgett stated that even though the town right of way is 49.5 feet, trees in the right of way can not be cut without the landowner's permission. He said that residents have been angry over past tree cuttings along road right of ways and can now bring a lawsuit against the town.

Anne Rosten asked if a swingset, slide, sandbox, a picnic table or two, and a few benches might be a good addition to the town orchard behind the town hall, and perhaps an eligible use of ARPA funds.

The board informed the assembled residents that the ARPA committee has considered many proposals and has narrowed down the list. New proposals will also be considered.

Road Commissioner's report/Hwy. Concerns

- a. Foreman Blodgett brought up the upcoming East Corinth Village paving project. He stated that letters have been sent out to landowners whose property abuts the project. He has answered questions from concerned residents and the crew is ready to go. Blodgett requested for the board to approve contracting with Pike Industries over Blacktop for the job. Demrow deferred to have board chair Cawley sign the contract with Pike. Cawley was not able to attend this meeting. Blodgett also asked to have the board sign the letter of intent for the pilot grant 2023 which can be applied for at the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Porter stated that the vehicles in the right of way on Chelsea Rd. up by Corinth Corners are gone. He received calls over Memorial Day weekend about ATVs on Maplewood Rd. Fire Chief Pospisil explained that calls made directly to Constable Chris Diaz instead of to the sheriff would be more timely. The constable's number is listed on the town website. He also asserted that emergency calls made to 439-5155 would be more direct than dialing 911. Porter recommended putting a sign up at the entrance to the town forest prohibiting ATVs. He also reported that the culvert and new parking lot look great at the town forest.

. Next was the issue of an old town trailer that Norm Collette made a bid for in the amount of \$1200 for use hauling his tractor for cemetery work and town hall mowing. Kramer made a motion to approve selling the town trailer to Norm Collette for \$1200 to use for town jobs. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Health Officer report/concern

Health officer Brad Wheeler reported on a septage problem emanating from the beginning of Short St, in the East Corinth village. It is seeping down into the ditch and on into the Tabor Branch. Wheeler said it appears to be coming from an old discontinued septic tank on 1 Short St. He's not sure it is disconnected. Norm Collette informed him that there is also a dry well there. The property was sold 3 years ago with the stipulation that the old tank be removed. The board asked that Wheeler contact Regional engineer Carl Fuller from the state regarding his visit to the site, which was supposed to happen earlier in the day, and keep them informed of the results of that contact.

Town hall maintenance/projects/renovations

Demrow asked Collette what was on the docket for June. Collette reported that he has purchased LED lights to replace the brighter existing lights by the town hall porch, replaced and retagged the numerous keys, and bought a new flag for the flagpole. He is planning to mow the town orchard, cut trees leaning towards the Cookeville Fire Station and waxing floors.

He also brought up the issue of long-term energy upgrades to the town hall, which the board indicated they would be discussing at a later date when all board members were present.

Appointments

Kelly Ann Donahue volunteered to fill the vacant Lister position. Kramer made a motion to appoint Kelly Ann Donahue as Lister. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Kramer made a motion to appoint Mike Wolff Forest Fire Warden for 5 years. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Kramer then made a motion to approve this slate of appointments: Budget committee for 1 year; Amy Peberday, Ray Moulton, Irene Mann, Mike Pittman, and Lee Porter; reappoint Linda Tobin to the Conservation Commission for 4 years; Tim O'Dell for Emergency Coordinator for 1 year; Catherine Tudish, Gary Bicknell, and Bob Fortunati as Fence Viewers for 1 year; Brad Wheeler as Health Officer for 3 years, Russ Pazdro to the Planning Commission for 3 years and also to Zoning Board of Adjustment for 1 year; Linda Wiess to the Revolving Loan Committee for 3 years; Virginia Barlow as Surveyor of Wood and Timber and also as Tree Warden; Tim O'Dell as TRORC Commissioner; Bob Sandberg to the NEKWMD board of supervisors and Marian Cawley as Alternate. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Later to be appointed: E911 Coordinator, Emergency Management Committee, and Upper Valley Ambulance rep. Kramer then made a motion to appoint Christianne Carroll as the Town Clerk. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ARPA proposals

Fire Chief Pospisil has requested that the board authorize \$36,000 for the purchase of a new Jaws of Life tool for automobile extraction, and additional rescue equipment for the town's UTV for ferrying out injured persons from remote locations. These items were previously proposed as part of the ARPA committee process and include a \$12,000 time sensitive discount. Kramer made a motion to authorize \$36,000 from the ARPA funds awarded to the town fire department for the purchase of the Hurst tool and insert for the Mule. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jeff Spiegel asked if a more detailed breakdown of ARPA proposal considerations would be included in future agendas.. The board affirmed that more discussion would be included and that they have 2 years to allocate the funds.

Revisions to dumping ordinance

The board decided to postpone official action on this item until all board members are present. They hope to officially adopt the revised ordinance at the next selectboard meeting. Gary Apfel offered to post the new ordinance on the LRN.

Correspondence

None

Other business that comes before the board

None

Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Demrow seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

