

## Selectmen's Meeting September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 MINUTES

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd, Paul Yates. Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Brian Luce (N.F. Luce, Inc.); Marshall Cole and Eric Calderwood (Calderwood Engineering); Vaughan Stevens and Seth Hagar (Hagar Enterprises, Inc.).

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Chad Hanna, at 7.01 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to accept the Minutes of the Selectmen's meeting of September  $5^{th}$ . Motion passed 3-0.

In a matter arising from the minutes, Selectmen signed a letter authorizing RCM, Inc., to apply for new digital frequencies for the Town's radio users.

## **Public Hearing:**

Chair Hanna invited comments from the public upon proposed amendments to the Town's General Assistance ordinance, in compliance with Title 22, MRSA §4305 (4), the State's annual update of the permitted maximum rates of reimbursement.

There being no comments, the Public Hearing closed at 7.05 pm and Selectmen signed an order adopting new Appendices a through D to the General Assistance Ordinance.

#### **Old Business:**

<u>Bridges:</u> Selectmen welcomed representatives of Calderwood Engineering, Hagar Enterprises and N.F. Luce, Inc., to discuss the pending bridge work.

Brian Luce explained that due to illness of key people in his family business, he regrets that he is unable to complete the Varney Bridge contract. He wishes to terminate the contract while handing over the work to the second-lowest bidder for the work, Hagar Enterprises. Selectmen sympathized with his dilemma and did not intend to call in the bond posted for the work, assuming that equitable financial compensation is worked out.

After extended discussion, it was agreed that the Town would end its contract with N.F. Luce by mutual agreement, and conclude a new contract with Hagar Enterprises. N.F. Luce will deliver completed items (the cast bridge deck beams and guard rails) to Hagar, and refund to the Town the balance of \$12,870.77 paid by the Town to date. Hagar will draw up a new contract for the Town based on their original bid of \$168,000 but deducting the cost of work completed by Luce (including the beams, guardrail and approximately 40% of the required shotcrete removal).

Calderwood Engineering will attempt to secure an extension of the permit for in-stream work through the end of November, recognizing that Hagar will not be able to assign crews to the job until November. Failing this, the work will be scheduled for July 2019 when the in-stream window opens again. If necessary, the Town will plan to use the bridge above the dam for work access to the fish ladder in 2019 and Hall will seek the permission of the Gages for the use of that part of the bridge approach that is not Town property.

With regard to the Upper Round Pond Road bridge, Calderwood had estimated the costs for a steel arch design at approximately \$390,000, and for a concrete arch at \$480,000, both estimates incorporating an allowance for masonry facing. Eric Calderwood recommended the steel arch, but warned that this require a longer road closure as the supporting concrete work would be cast in place. This will be considered for inclusion in the 2019 highway budget.

Cole reported on his discussions with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission about the Benner Road Stone Arch bridge. The Corps of Engineers had confirmed that no permit would be needed from them for the deck work. However a D.E.P. permit may be needed if there is in-stream work needed to replace any stonework, and in this case MHPC could refuse approval of a permit. MHPC appears to take the view that any new work must be designed so as *not* to blend into the old, but to show a stark contrast – regardless of aesthetics. Cole had prepared a concept drawing of how a new deck would appear built over the stone arch, complying with MHPC's requirement of clear visual contrast with the historic stonework. There is time for further discussion in future after Calderwood refine the design, as this project is unlikely to be budgeted before 2021 at the earliest.

<u>Solar array:</u> Hall reported that on Monday Sept. 17 CMP had installed the required utility pole; that Sundog Solar expect to have an electrician work on making the final connections on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>; and that they are now just

awaiting CMP's approvals of the nine accounts to receive the solar electricity before the system can be activated, most likely by mid-October.

School parking lot: A final Site Observation Report had been received from Atlantic Resource Consultants, the engineers for the school parking lot reconstruction. It is generally complimentary on the work performed. From the floor, Seth Hagar noted that the light poles have now been delivered and will shortly be installed, and that his crew will at the same time complete minor gravel and re-seeding work flagged in the report.

Munro Bridge dry hydrant: Hall reported that the Army Corps of Engineers permit had been received but the Town is still awaiting the DEP permit.

Hall also noted that the pine mast for the Liberty Pole is to be transported to the Boothbay Harbor Shipyard the following day.

<u>DoT notice of paving</u>: the work of the three towns, coordinated through the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission, has resulted in notification by DoT that they will request bids for repaving 8.5 miles of Route 130 in 2019, from Hanley's market (junction with Route 129) to the Harbor Room restaurant (junction of Huddle Road).

Reappointment of Auditor: Bill Brewer had submitted his annual letter of reauthorization to conduct the 2018 Audit in January 2019. Hall asked the Selectmen to confirm that they wished to continue to award the work annually to William H. Brewer, CPA, without bid. Bill Brewer has undertaken the work for the Town since 1974. After discussion it was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to retain William H. Brewer to audit the 2018 fiscal year. Motion passed 3-0.

# **Regular Business:**

Selectmen reviewed and approved Building Permit applications for work on the following parcels: Map 004, lot 138; Map 007, lot 060; Map 009, lot 013-G; Map 010, lot 41-A; Map 010, lot 045-A; Map 11-C, lot 001-E; Map 027, lot 048. Lowd noted he was abstaining on Map 027, lot 048, due to his family relationship with the applicant.

Selectmen reviewed one Abatement and one Denial of Abatement Warrant. It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to approve Abatement Warrant Number 2018-010. Motion carried, 3-0. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Lowd, to approve Denial of Abatement Warrant number 2018-0001. Motion passed, 3-0.

Prior to review of the expenditure warrants, Hall drew attention to a write off of \$771.20, representing a missing cash deposit bag which in August had disappeared between the Town Office and the bank. Hall did not feel this is

a probable criminal case, but wished to be sure the Selectmen agreed with treating it as an accident. He has asked the Auditor, Bill Brewer, to review cash handling procedures, and has not reported it as a possible theft. A write-off has been processed for the amount.

[UPDATE, September 20: the bank called to report that the missing envelope, with cash intact, was found to have slipped underneath the sliding tray at the drive-up teller window. The write-off has been reversed.]

Selectmen then reviewed and signed the warrants for payroll and accounts payable for the Town, Parks, School and Transfer Station.

Tax acquired property: It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Yates, to issue a Release Deed for the tax-acquired property at 1555 Bristol Road, where the occupant had completed the terms of a payment agreement to settle outstanding taxes. The motion passed, 3-0, and Selectmen signed the Deed.

## Under correspondence received:

- FEMA have added \$\$446.85 for the Town's administrative overhead to the amount of the disaster reimbursement for the storm of 10/31/2017. The total payment is now expected to be \$9,383.84.
- An applicant for a mooring in New Harbor asked that he be given a copy of the waiting list for moorings. He has not received a response from the harbormaster. Selectmen agreed that the waiting lists for moorings are public documents, and asked that updated lists be kept by the Town Clerk. Copies should be brought to the next Harbor Committee meeting.

There were no public comments.

Chair Hanna gave notice of forthcoming meetings as follows:

- Harbor Committee, Thursday, Sept. 27th, 6 pm at the Town Office
- Shellfish Committee, Monday, October 1st, 7 pm at the Bristol Town Office
- Parks Commission: Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6 pm at Ellingwood Info. Center
- School Board: Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5.30 pm at the School Library
- Selectmen: Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7 pm at the Bristol Town Office
- Planning Board: Thursday, October 6th, 7 pm at the Bristol Town Office

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 9.01 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Hall Town Administrator