

Board of Selectmen & Assessors Meeting- Minutes

August 9, 2021 @ 7:00p.m.

Fire Station Community Room, 86 River Rd.

Present: Board Members; Joel Lind, Rob Nelson, David Levesque, and Karen Paz. Tor Glendinning was absent. Staff; Sarah Macy-Town Manager and Michelle Cameron-Town Clerk. Minutes transcribed by Michelle Cameron.

1. Call to Order: Lind called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Amendments to the Agenda (Pending Approval)

- 3.1. Lind moved agenda item 7.1 to 3.1. Swearing in of New Town Manager: Cameron sworn in Sarah Macy as the new Town Manager.

4. Minutes

- 4.1 7/26/21 Executive Session Minutes: **On motion Levesque/Paz moved to approve the 7/26/2021 executive session minutes. Vote 4-0**
- 4.2 7/26/21 Minutes- Tabled until next BOS meeting

5. Public Comments On Items Not On The Agenda: The Board requests that public comments are limited to five (5) minutes per subject.

Resident Linda Mercer asked why it is taking so long to pave West Old County Road. She expressed concern about prospect of widening the road.

Resident Lynn Norris stated that her driveway needs to be fixed.

Resident Sandy Paulsen expressed concern about erosion on West Old County Road and the light from the streetlights in Sheepscot Village effecting her neighbor and the quality of life on her property. She stated that she would like four of the streetlights shut off permanently.

6. Selectmen Future Agenda Items: Lind read aloud the three agenda items to be added. See agenda items 7.3, 7.4, 7.5.

7. New Business

- 7.1 Contract and swearing in of New Town Manager: See agenda item 3.1
- 7.2 Public Works Carry Forward: Seth Hagar asks that the Board carry forward the remaining balance for the Public Works department (107) to this fiscal year. He said it would be used for Happy Valley Road, tree clearing on Timber lane Pleasant Street, and Hillcrest Road. The amount to carry forward is \$62, 243.90. **On motion Nelson/Paz moved to approve the carry forward amount of \$62,243.90. Vote 4-0**
- 7.3 Ben Frey-Planning Board Chair-Shoreland Zoning Ordinance: Frey stated that the town had received a letter from the State regarding timber harvesting provision in the town's shoreland zoning ordinance. The town's ordinance needs to be amended. The Planning Board is ready to create a draft ordinance and submit it to the Board to be considered for a special town meeting. Frey mentioned that the shoreland zoning maps need to be updated.
- 7.4 Karen Paz-Cyanobacteria in Damariscotta Lake: Paz said there is cyanobacteria in the lake. It would be a good idea to have a sign for dog owners and swimmers. Patricia from Midcoast Conservancy is asking to work with the town on the language for the signage. Paz offered to follow up with Midcoast Conservancy about language for the sign.

- 7.5 Karen Paz-Mask Requirements: Paz said, Lincoln County is in the “substantial” level on the CDC map for Covid-19 cases. The CDC is recommending that people wear masks in all indoor public meetings . The consensus of the Board is that if Lincoln County is still in the “substantial” category or higher, people will need to wear masks at the next board meeting.
- 7.6 David Levesque-Broadband Committee Update: Levesque updated BOS about committee progress and what steps need to take place going forward. The committee talked to both Spectrum and Tidewater Telecom about what they could do for the town in trying to achieve the vision of the committee which is affordable access to high-speed internet. Tidewater Telecom suggested that the town participate with them to obtain a study of the town that would give more precise locations of unserved residents. Tidewater also suggested that if Newcastle partnered with Damariscotta, it would move us up on the project list. The committee has submitted a grant proposal of \$4,900. It would be a commitment of both towns to get the study done. The study will move the project forward. Damariscotta has agreed to fund a \$2,000 contribution. This, with another \$2,900, would get Tidewater to have the consultant do the study. The study is approximately \$9,800, with Tidewater paying for half and the two towns paying for half. If the grant money is awarded, the town’s money would not be needed. There was discussion on why Damariscotta would pay less than Newcastle and wanting the Town Manager to approve of the study.
On motion Levesque/Paz moved to approve spending \$2,900 for study project pending review from the Town Manager. Vote 4-0

8. Board of Assessors

- 8.1 Tree Growth Classification Removal Penalty for Fox, Lynne Hunter O.; Trustee: \$2,016.60: **On motion Paz/Levesque moved to approve the Tree Growth Penalty in the amount of \$2,016.60. Vote 4-0**

9. Unfinished Business: NONE

10. Town Manager Report and Communications: NONE

11. Fiscal Warrants

- 11.1 Town Warrant-\$48,886.23: **On motion Nelson/Paz moved to approve the town warrant for \$48,886.23. Vote 4-0**

12. Executive Session(s): On motion Nelson/Levesque moved to enter executive session. Vote 4-0

- 12.1 Personnel

13. Adjournment: On motion Nelson/Levesque moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Vote 4-0

Upcoming Events

Board of Selectmen – Regular Meeting- August 23, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.-Fire Station Community Room-86 River Road