

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 15, 2023**  
**6:30PM**

- 1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Kurt Youland and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Present: Steve Maheu, Kevin Nichols, Kurt Youland, Warren Hood, Angelo Terreri, Kurt Schaub and Lisa Bennett. Guest: All & Tammy Fereshetian, David Varney, Jeff Gondeck, Patricia Varney, Kate Guignard, Paul & Doug Pelletier, Michael Theberge, Theresa Sumunski, Jim & Jennifer Talbot, Pam & Ron Bosse.
- 2. Adjustments to the Agenda:** Move 3-2 Transfer Station to 5-5, add Natural History Building Improvements as 5-6, Highway Excavator as 5-7 and Electronic Sign as 5-8.
- 3. Old Business:** **3-1: Century Boxes/Historical Society:** Nothing new to discuss about Century Boxes. **3-2: Transfer Station Improvement:** Moved to 5-5. **3-3: Farmer's Market Agreement:** Jim Talbot has reviewed the agreement is okay with the way it is written. The draft assumes that the town will deal only with the market operators and not each individual vendor. First Farmer's Market will be June 6<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm-6:30pm. **3-4: Richardson Agreement:** Motion and second to approve the consent agreement with Cody Douglass and George Richardson to conduct certain activities involving used cars that have salvage titles at the Richardson Enterprises garage, unanimous vote.
- 4. New Business:** **4-1: FEMA Storm Damage:** As requested by Androscoggin Emergency Management, Kurt Schaub compiled the estimate of damages from the May 1<sup>st</sup> storm. Turner had damages at 19 different locations. Most damage was relatively minor, Orchard Way took some time to make passable. All told, our estimate came to about \$57,000. **4-2: Road Construction:** Fiscal year 2023 paving is now complete. Final layers were put down on Bradford Road, Abenaki Way, Kennebec Trail and General Turner Hill. Once the bill is paid, there will be about \$20,000 remaining in the Paving and Construction account. **4-3: Solar Moratorium Extension:** Though it was voted on at Town Meeting, the effective date of the Solar Moratorium is December 22, 2022. This means it will expire on or about June 22, 2023. The general rule concerning any moratorium is as follows: the statute limits the duration of development moratoria to a definite term of not more than 180 days. A moratorium may be extended for an additional 180 day prior, though, if the municipality finds that the problem necessitating the moratorium still exists, and reasonable progress is being made to alleviate the problem. 30-A MRSA 4345 provides the Moratorium may be extended following notice and public hearing, the Public Hearing will be on June 5, 2023.
- 5. Regular Reports:** **5-1: Highway Manager** – Board reviewed monthly report, all looked good. Some discussion was to see if it would be feasible to hire flaggers so that it would free up some of the highway staff to do other duties, Kurt Schaub is to look into this. **5-2: Code Enforcement Officer:** Board reviewed monthly report, all looked good.

**5-3: Fire/Rescue Reports:** Total calls for month of April were 134 bringing total calls for the year to 481 for rescue. Training for May is Trauma Management, have added some new staff. May 21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> is EMS week, will be having a BBQ on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the station. Fire calls for April were 33 calls bringing the total calls for the year to 143. Crew has transitioned E-93 over to a brush truck for the season. Tank-94 is currently in Monmouth hopefully have it back by the end of next week. **5-4: Town Manager: (a) Website Update:** Have three vendors regarding redesign/simplification of the town's website. Expenet, GovOffice and TownWeb. Motion and second to accept bid from Expenet which was the lowest bidder, unanimous vote. **(b) Property Tax Foreclosure:** Due to the Bankruptcy Court ruling and challenge to our recent property tax foreclosure, the winning bidder is now contemplating whether or not to complete the sale. Kurt Schaub las spoke with the buyer on Wednesday and hope to have a final answer Monday morning. This has been a particularly frustrating matter as the town followed the letter of the law in reaching point of foreclosure, only to have it challenged on the basis of a court ruling and not by the laws that have dictated the process and consequences for many, many years. **(c) General News: (1) Correspondence** received from MSAD52 Superintendent Cari Medd in response to questions asked during the Tri-Town Selectmen meeting. Current District Indebtedness for FY 23-24, presently have a total amount owed of \$7,065,611, which includes \$856,558 in interest. Interest rates range from .62% to 4.677%. Discussion were had as to why the school is in so much debt, the board works very hard to keep the town debt free and feel the school should try to do the same. **(2)** The Comprehensive Planning Committee held a public informational session and will be meeting again on May 24<sup>th</sup>, presumably to finalize content prior to sending it to Augusta for review. **(3)** The Beach at Bear Pond will open for the season on May 26<sup>th</sup>. **(4)** Have one application so far for the vacancy on the Planning Board with June 5<sup>th</sup> as the deadline. **(5)** Have been asked to consider a Spirit of America award nomination. **5-5: Transfer Station Improvements:** Mike Gotto has volunteered his time to come up with a design. After review of the design and discussion there was a motion and second to delegate the Highway Manager, Kent Harrington to head up the improvements and allow him to hire contractors as needed, and for the Town Manager, Kurt Schaub to keep a close eye on the budget as the project progresses, unanimous vote. Board asked that this be kept on the agenda so that they can keep track of the progress and expenses. **5-6: Natural History Club Building Improvements:** There is currently \$30,000 in the obsolete building fund to use on this project. Building needs foundation work, power back on, cut down some of the trees and shrubs. Al Fereshetian walked around the trails behind the building and is willing to volunteer his time clean up the trails. Board asked that this stays as an item on the agenda so that the board can keep track of the progress and expenses. **5-7: Highway Excavator:** Board asked Kurt Schaub to put out a bid for an Excavator for the Highway Department. **5-8: Electronic Sign:** Received a few bids Northern Sign for \$13,500 and

Spugnardi Signs for \$12,893. Motion and second to award bid to Spugnardi Signs with a deadline of July 1<sup>st</sup>, unanimous vote.

**6. Consent Agenda:** Motion and second to accept consent agenda, unanimous vote.

**7. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca M. Allaire, CCM