

Appleton Select Board

Minutes

June 27, 2023

DATE: June 27, 2023

LOCATION: Appleton Town Office

TIME: 6:30 PM

1. **Convene:** Select Board -- Costigan, Esancy, Garrigan, Blakely. Road Commissioner. Sewall Engineering Representative, Lynn Frazier.
2. **Edits to Agenda:** None.
3. **Esancy:** Motion to Approve Minutes of June 20, 2023. Garrigan: Second. 3-0-1/Blakely, absence.
4. **Costigan:** Motion to Approve Warrants. Blakely: Second. #81, Town Payroll, \$8,589.49; #82, Staff 401k Match, \$1,186.62; #83, Town Accounts Payable, \$208,807.42; #26, School Payroll, \$88,020.33. Unanimous.
5. **Public Comment:** None.
6. **Road Commissioner:** Boyington no activity to report. Boyington said Harriet Brook Culvert becoming a problem. Costigan asked if jersey barriers would assist on sides with signage for single lane. Boyington to call DEP to verify culvert size for Harriet. Boyington indicated DOT 23-24 rates will add to road maintenance costs. Esancy inquired how hours are billed. Boyington explained he chooses the middle state pay rate. Esancy asked if the employed workers have the corresponding DOT operational certificates. Costigan and Esancy discuss FEMA funds received to date and the federal requirement for work to be completed by a specific date or funds returned. Boyington questioned why funds don't immediately become part of the road budget. Costigan explained unbudgeted funds/grants are special revenue and come with specific criteria. The approximate \$11,000 for reimbursement could go to undesignated, as preferred by the auditor, but the board decided to give that sum to the current road budget to assist with current repairs. Approximately \$38,000 must go to designated roads and be completed on time following a bid process.
7. **Select Board**
 - a. **Sewall Engineering Report.** Sewall representative discussed thorough report of gravel roads indicating 6 roads would require at least \$1.5 million to bring all roads to standard and to a state where they would not continue to require aggressive annual work. Guinea Ridge and Collinstown are in the greatest need. Immediate improvements could ensure sinking culverts two feet below grade. Over time the upkeep of gravel roads could be reduced if roadbeds

were improved greatly with gravel, making the upkeep on par with the average 7-year cost of upkeep of paved roads.

- b. Costigan: Each member should set goals for things they'd like to achieve in FY24 specific to policies and initiatives funded to be discussed at an upcoming meeting.
- c. Garrigan: Motion to set July 5 as a Special Town Meeting to fund roads maintenance and Sanitation for FY23. Esancy: Second. Unanimous.
- d. Garrigan: Motion to Adjourn. Esancy: Second. Unanimous.