

Appleton Select Board

Minutes

September 19, 2023

1. Convene, 6:30 PM. Board" Marriner, Costigan, Garrigan, Esancy, Blakely. Road Commissioner: absent. Public: Chris Bisonnette. Fire Department: Swayer King and Chris Gamage.
2. Edits to Agenda: Add appointments of Gamage and King as Lieutenants.
3. Garrigan: Motion to approve Minutes of September 12, 2023. Blakely: Second. 4-0-1/Marriner (absence)
4. Costigan: Motion to approve warrants totaling \$291,300.44. Esancy: Second. Unanimous.
5. Public Comment: Chris Bisonnette, Town Hill Road, discussed repeated flooding and uneven pavement a concern for those entering his home and posing a safety hazard. Indicated extensive flooding of his basement from roadway water failing to enter a damaged and hidden culvert. Basement totals had been 3.5 feet and 2.5 feet of water during separate heavy rain events. Indicated discussions with Road Commissioner began in May 2023 and again in August after no action. Unable to get vehicles in the garage and Garrigan noted purchase order approved more than a month ago for the repair. Costigan and Esancy to followup with Road Commissioner.
6. Select Board
 - a. Fire Department Appointments: Marriner explained the fire department was able to promote two members due to the amount of training and time giving the department three officers. Marriner: Motion to appoint Sawyer and Gamage of Appleton as AVFD Lieutenants for one year. Blakely: Second. Unanimous.
 - b. Maine Connectivity/Axiom Update: Esancy discussed the MCA application of Axiom seeking to provide high speed internet to areas of Burketville currently underserved. The application has been filed and Costigan wrote the memo of understanding. If the application fails to gain funding in November the ARPA committed funds are no longer dedicated.
 - c. FEMA update: Esancy reported progress on May 1 FEMA application and work with FEMA rep William Doyle. Some damaged areas along Peasetown will be divided into individual incidents, enabling the work to fall under the threshold for bidding.
 - d. Sewall update: Costigan reported Sewall had been contacted with all roads deemed worthy of a paving study for a long-term paving maintenance plan, as also discussed with the road commissioner, and an estimate would be forthcoming.
 - e. Proposed Cemetery Policy Discussion: Tabled pending info from MMA regarding use of bylaws vs. procedures and the ability for a committee to accept funds instead of the board.
 - f. Board of Appeals: Costigan asked members to reach out to potential Board of Appeals members and to bring a list of likely members to an upcoming meeting.
 - g. 2024 Tax Rate. Garrigan: Motion to set the tax rate at \$21.50, flat to last year. Blakely: Second. Unanimous

- h. Dry Hydrants: Esancy: motion to approve \$19,500 estimate for engineer reports for dry hydrants and boat launch at Shermans Mill Pond to be funded by ARPA funds. Garrigan: Second. Unanimous.**
- i. Marriner: Motion to adjourn. Esancy: Second. Unanimous.**