

Appleton Select Board
MINUTES
August 9, 2016

1. Convene 7:02 p.m., Approve minutes of 8/2/16. Motion, Costigan; Second, Wiley. Unanimous.
2. A reminder from the chair: Meetings are recorded.
3. Second reading of proposed town office schedule. Costigan reiterated goal of decreasing 12-hour day on Tuesdays, improving consistency for staff, increasing open time for townspeople. Second read included proposed revisions for deputy clerk; clerk on vacation.
4. Town office renovations sound barrier wall discussions continue. Shopping for panels 12 feet long – 8 feet high \$600. Beckett to review surplus store. Wiley will review online panels. Beckett and Costigan questioned the efficacy of sound barriers, citing office cubicle walls as an example. Wiley offered Peter Conant could frame wall from ceiling to the 8-foot height of panels. Wiley and Beckett to coordinate.
5. Pine Grove Cemetery needs bushhogging and fix drainage at fire station. Fenner recommended bushhogging with Dana Kennedy, coordinated with Wiley and Costigan. Kennedy is insured and the work is well below bid level.
6. Personnel Policy continued discussion. Begin with Article VI, E at the urging of Fire Chief Stone and a number of volunteer firemen. Concerned with the clause pertaining to personal use of town equipment and facilities being prohibited unless approved by Select Board: “You can remove it and let us go as we are or you’re going to have a problem,” Stone said. “You ain’t going to approve the policy in my fire station. I will ignore that policy. So you have two options. You can put it back or you can fire me right now. I’ve had plenty of bullshit from you selectmen.” Stone said three new selectmen were making problems and the policy came from NY. Costigan indicated the new policy had been in the works since 2015 and was started by the then three-member board and worked on throughout the year. Beckett and Fenner indicated the policy was a compilation of policies of the surrounding towns of Searsmont and Washington. Fenner and Costigan reminded Stone he had agreed to write a policy for use during the August 2 meeting of the board. The issue concluded with Chief Stone indicating he would write a policy for use of the building. Beckett will follow up with MMA regarding building use policies in general. All personnel policy articles resolved, except retirement.
7. Paying town officials: Fenner looked to streamline the payment of town officials, which has been sporadic. Fire department is paid monthly. Road commissioner usually makes the request after 6 months of the new fiscal year or by April. Selectmen have been by request, historically. Beckett indicated officials shouldn’t draw ahead of earning it. Fenner recommends quarterly payment, but will seek more info and carry forward to next week.

8. Road Commissioner: A request for calcium on Appleton Ridge due to an upcoming wedding and concerns for dust. No complaints on dust. Need flaggers for E. Sennebec ditching. Wiley and Fenner brought up patching current roads. Mary Starrett will check on one-way road statutes with local road unit of DOT after discussion of the possibility of Town Hill Road becoming one-way from Chaples, East.
9. The Knox Sheriff Office is now handling Animal Control calls. Costigan will ask Union Town Manager Feyler about ACO payments to Union to date and discuss pro-rated payment to Knox
10. Letter from assessor to correct 2006 assessment hike of land and properties along the Medomak River: Motion to approve Curt Lebel letter, Beckett; Second, Costigan. Unanimous.
11. Animal Control Officer: Costigan reminded the ACO duty now handled by Knox, with complaint calls to non-emergency numbers.
12. 8:23 p.m. Motion to adjourn, Beckett; Second, Wiley. Unanimous.