

Arrowsic Select Board

Minutes of May 10, 2022

(As remembered July 6, 2022)

Present: Walter Briggs, Will Neilson, DeeDee Jorgensen, Joe Bonnet (in person at Town Hall); Brett Jensen, Steve Bonine, Phine Ewing, Don Kornrumpf, Michael Kreindler, Michele Gaillard, Paul & Marnie Kalstein, Paul Schlein, Jack Carr (via Zoom)

Walter called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Items for Approval:

The draft agenda was reviewed and approved.

The minutes of the Select Board meeting of April 26, 2022 were approved.

Treasurer's Warrant #21 for \$49,927.47 and ABA Treasurer's Warrant #4 for \$627.55 were approved.

Town Meeting Preparation: Most reports in. Pushing to get draft to Bath Printing

Town Staff and Volunteers:

- Administrator Update: Sheila and Vicki are working together. Vicki is comfortable with continuing to work informally, at least for the present, while seeing how things develop for Sheila.
- Tax Collector Update: Training continues for Rachel in Bath and state training will begin before long.
- Walter has gotten a Zoom license for the AWRSC.
- Town Attorney Kristin Collins indicated that committee members could not be paid by the Town without the Town paying social charges and withholding for taxes (and therefore also without putting them through the payroll service), but Committee chairs who wish to share their stipend can do so as a gift without tax consequences for the committee volunteers .

ARPA Funding

- Brett got signed up as Administrator for the Town's account with the US Treasury Dept. and has filed the required report indicating \$0 of the funding has been spent.

Regional Climate Resilience Partnership – Phine Ewing

- The Climate Resilience Partnership wants certain resolutions passed at the Town Meetings of participating Towns, but the proposed drafts don't really line up satisfactorily with our timing or format. Phine will talk with them.

Range Lights property update

- A number of residents from the Doubling Point and Whitmore's Landing Subdivisions voiced concerns about the possibility of the Town acquiring the Range Lights property to use as public water access. In addition to the concerns mentioned at the meeting of April 26*, several attendees spoke to the facts that:
 - The roads over which the public has to travel to reach the site (Whitmore's Landing Rd and Doubling Point Rd) are privately maintained by the associations, and the addition of another place for the public to visit besides the light house will appreciably increase the wear and tear on the road and thus the expense to the residents, which the speakers opposed;
 - That several times each mud-season tourists had to be helped out of the mud on their way to visit the light house;
 - And that the shorefront was perhaps not suitable for launching kayaks and canoes, and the currents into which they would be launched were potentially dangerous.
- A site walk had not been possible to arrange since the April 26 meeting, and considerable discussion was devoted to the question of whether a site walk was necessary before requesting federal government forbear posting the property for auction so the Town could more fully consider its suitability for public water access. A final decision was not made.

ABA Update

- Don reported that the ABA continues to struggle with getting responses from Consolidated Communications in the Make-Ready process, but is making slow progress.

Other Business

- None was considered.

The meeting adjourned at [7:40] PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Neilson

On the Radar: Approval of the Sagadahoc County Hazard Mitigation Plan by May 30.

* Concerns noted at the April 26 Select Board meeting:

- Concerns were raised about:
 - The degree to which public water access was a current priority for the Town's inhabitants in 2022, as opposed to being more of a historical artifact of the Town's 1989 Comprehensive Plan.
 - The advisability of the Town creating another public recreational area, given the difficulties of managing the Town's Conservation Area at Sewall Pond;

- The potential for increased liability for such an area;
- The practical difficulties of the site, such as limited space for parking and turning around, purported access problems on the water side at various tides, the burdens of maintaining a historic structure to mandated historic preservation standards, the status of the septic system, traffic in the neighborhood, etc.:
- The absence of a plan for how the property would be used, and
- The apparent opposition of property owners in the neighborhood.