

Arrowsic Select Board Minutes

January 8, 2024

As Approved on January 22, 2024

Present: Walter Briggs, DeeDee Jorgensen, Jennifer Geiger, Steve Bonine, Eileen Bonine, Josephine Ewing, Don Hudson, Vince Capone

Attended via Zoom: Don Kornrumpf, Vicky Stoneman, Nick Stoneman, Jon Biehler, Michael Kreindler, Denise Parker

Call to Order: 6:08pm by Walter

Agenda: Reviewed & approved

Items for approval:

- Minutes of Select Board Meeting on December 26, 2023, approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Jennifer.
- Treasurer's Warrant #13 for \$80,818.84 approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Jennifer.
- ABA Warrant #7 for \$37,886.45 approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Jennifer.

Arrowsic Broadband Authority (ABA) update – Don Kornrumpf & Don Hudson:

- Approximately 85% of the total 16 miles of fiber is done. Approximately 70% of connections have been completed, and around 60 % of gray boxes on houses have been installed.
- Hawkeye plans to finish installations by the end of this week. Once finished, the fiber from the pole to the house must be tested, as well as the Little Barn equipment.
- Axiom requires 6-8 weeks to go live with the connections.
- More underground conduits are required than were expected.
- There have been 205 households sign up for broadband.
- The ABA is receiving weekly detailed reports from Hawkeye.
- The heat pump for the Little Barn is to arrive by the end of January. The new door is arriving tomorrow.
- Notice was given to Axiom that the "substantial completion" date has not been met and we are now in the penalty phase.
- Maine Connectivity Authority (MCA) funding has been delayed. Don K and Don H are regularly following up with MCA on this.
- There currently is no insurance coverage for ABA external lines and fixtures outside of the Little Barn. Working with FA Peabody on a coverage policy, with the impact of increased deductible levels on premiums. Other options are being considered, including asking Axiom to pick up a share of the risk, as Axiom's service area is geographically dispersed in Maine.
- ABA assumes selective Central Office (Little Barn) equipment replacement will be needed in five to nine years, at costs of approximately \$100,000 - \$200,000. ABA has asked consulting

engineers, Mission Broadband, for their view on timing and amounts for replacement equipment.

Town staff & volunteers:

- Animal Control Officer – no candidate
- Properties Committee Chair – no candidate
- Zoning Board of Appeals – 1 member & 2 alternates needed – no candidates

Other business:

- Arrowsic Conservation Commission (ACC)/Water Access Committee regarding the purchase of the Packard property:
 - A decision is needed regarding how to pay costs at the closing. Options include taking all of the money from the loan and covering the remainder with Water Access Funds—or using the Water Access Funds and covering the remainder with money from the loan.
 - Need to learn the process of getting money from the loan.
 - Need to get an estimate of the costs for the survey, appraisal, and house removal.
 - At the January 22, 2024, Select Board meeting the needed money and where it will come from will be approved.
- Legal documents related to the purchase of the Packard property were signed by the Select Board.
- The minutes from the Special Town Meeting on November 20, 2023, were signed by the Select Board.
- Allocation of ARPA funds—discussion ensued regarding the best use of the funds. Jennifer will compose an email to be sent to committee chairs to solicit recommendations.

Mail:

- A thank you note was received from Karen McLean with the Friends of Doubling Point Light.

Adjournment: 7:14pm on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Jennifer

Next meeting: Monday, January 22, 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Parker
Town Administrator