

Arrowsic Select Board

Minutes of July 26, 2022

As approved 8/9/22

Present: DeeDee Jorgensen, Will Neilson, Steve Bonine, Joe Bonnett, Denise Parker. **Via Zoom:** Michele Gaillard, Michael Kreindler, Don Kornrumpf

DeeDee called the meeting to order at 6:14 PM following technical difficulties signing on to Walter's Zoom account.

Items for Approval:

The draft agenda was reviewed and approved with the addition of the Property Tax Stabilization Law (LD 290) under Any Other Business.

The 7/25 draft minutes of the Select Board's meeting of July 12, 2022 were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Warrant #2 for \$9,260.86 was approved. Steve was following up on two identical unidentified charges on the same day by Amazon on the Town credit card. He said he preferred to pay the bill and not incur a late charge while he researched what he believed were likely legitimate charges for office supplies. The Select Board concurred.

ABA Warrant: none was submitted, but Don noted that the final invoices for Make Ready had been received from CCI.

Town Staff and Volunteers:

- Denise Parker, recently retired from her career in hospital administration in Ohio and a summer resident of Arrowsic, has agreed to try the take over Sheila's role in conjunction with DeeDee and Vicky. She will still be based in Ohio for part of the year, but believes that between the three of them they will be able to cover both the local and the not-necessarily-local parts of the job. The Board expressed its gratitude to all three for their willingness to collaborate in the interests of the town and its inhabitants.

Waterfront Access Planning

- Michele Gaillard clarified that she had not volunteered to chair the proposed Waterfront Access Committee, merely to be on it. She noted that often committees choose their own chair, and she will help out as needed or asked. She also noted that as far as she knows, so far the only volunteers for the committee are Bob Ater and herself.
- The Board approved the draft resolution as written:

“Whereas town-approved objectives listed on pages 70, 72, and 76 in the 1989 Comprehensive Plan call for the town to “provide public access to the waterfront for scenic and recreational purposes and traditional harvesting of marine resources,” the Select Board

hereby authorizes the formation of an ad hoc committee consisting of up to five members approved by the Select Board to:

- formulate criteria for determining the suitability of potential locations for public access to the shore,
- develop a process to be used to evaluate a proposed site and approve or deny its acquisition, and
- to report its findings to the Select Board by December 1.”

Arrowsic Broadband Authority update:

- As noted above, Don reported that the final Make Ready invoices from CCI had been received, totaling some \$52K. The USDA budget for MR is ca \$180K. Nothing has been received from CMP, which also owns some poles, but a much smaller number than those owned by CCI, so the ABA believes substantial savings will be achieved in this part of the budget.
- The ABA is working on submitting a revised budget to the USDA, which will request reallocation of budget category surpluses (MR and Little Barn savings) to budget category deficits (engineering, capital goods and labor). The ABA is hopeful the request will be approved, allowing the \$78K the USDA required the ABA to borrow and deposit in the DACA account to cover the engineering budget deficit, to be released.
- The minutes from the meeting of the County Board of Commissioners at which Don and Ken requested ARPA funding for the ABA were incorrect, and the ABA is working to correct the errors in the official record.
- The Maine Connectivity Authority has announced its schedule for the next round of funding, with applications due between September and November, and grants announced in December and January.

Disposal of 2001 Ford Fire Truck

- Michael indicated that former brush truck is now surplus. The Fire Department would like to sell it and deposit the proceeds in the FD Capital Improvement Reserve as has been the practice in the past. The Board agreed with that proposal and asked that the FD let the town’s insurance agent know as soon as the vehicle is sold so it can be removed from the town’s policy.

Digital Filing

- Though at first blush there seemed no reason not to go to exclusively digital filing, as the topic was further discussed it was noted that paper is a simpler and more durable medium than electrons requiring complex technology to decode. Joe indicated that when the county assessor’s office he used to work for in another state went to exclusively digital filing, it was very difficult. It was decided to table the discussion for the present.

Mail

- None.

Other Business

- DeeDee will attend the meeting Friday at the County Office with Senate Majority Leader Eloise Vitelli on LD 290, the so-called “property tax stabilization law” that goes into effect in August but will begin to effect municipal revenues in 2023, and that very negatively from the sound of it.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Neilson