

Arrowsic Select Board Minutes
Tuesday, February 28, 2023
As Approved on March 14, 2023

Present: Due to snow all participants joined the meeting via Zoom.

Attended via Zoom: Walter Briggs, DeeDee Jorgensen, Steve Bonine, Don Kornrumpf, Karin Sadtler, Vicky & Nick Stoneman, Denise Parker

Excused: Will Neilson

Call to Order: 6:05pm by Walter Briggs

Agenda: Reviewed & approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Walter.

Items for approval:

- Minutes of Select Board Meeting on February 13, 2023, approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Walter.
- Treasurer's Warrant #16 for \$11,985.03 approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Walter. Charges for road work were tabled pending review by DeeDee.
- ABA Warrant #9 for \$90 approved on a motion by DeeDee seconded by Walter.

Town staff & volunteers:

- Animal Control Officer—Matt Norris, shared with Georgetown, has been unresponsive. Georgetown and Arrowsic are both recruiting.

Town Meeting

- Committee reports for the Annual Town Report are needed by March 17, 2023.
- Waste Ordinance – Nadine de Vries is seeking approval for a waste ordinance. Guidance is needed regarding what we can legally do; the town attorney will be asked to review the ordinance. Walter will respond to Nadine.

Arrowsic Broadband Authority (ABA) update – Don Kornrumpf:

- Positive responses have been received from Maine Connectivity Authority (MCA). Full documentation is not yet available from MCA. Preliminary documentation is 40+ pages and is being reviewed by attorney Kristen Collins, who is also doing Vienna, another Axiom MCA guarantee. Don will meet with MCA representatives on March 7, 2023. Funding from USDA will be discussed. Accounting and reporting questions will be discussed.
- MCA will provide 25%-30% of funding upfront. Approximately \$250,000 plus anonymous donor funds will be used for upfront payments.

- Finley was advised of probable change to MCA; likely to advise on project going forward. Don and Ken HT discussed terminating USDA funding with Finley. Amount funded to date is \$24,000 with the possibility of \$10,000 more. Expect to save more than \$100,000 vs USDA budget, offsetting increased fiber costs.
- Construction contracts will probably be with Axiom, who will subcontract with Hawkeye. Otherwise, there will be two contracts. Finley is the consulting engineer.
- Southport's fiber may be used. Hawkeye has the title. While the Southport fiber is not a perfect match for Arrowsic's needs, having more heavy lines than Arrowsic needs, but it would work. Terms and pricing to be determined. Axiom and Hawkeye will work on this. Construction could begin in the June to August timeframe and be completed by yearend.
- Home connections will mostly be aerial or clean conduits. Of the 230-250 homes 50 or so may have connections in need of work—a new conduit, aerial or buried, or 3/4 -inch duct all seem to be options. If a new connection to a home is required, the incremental cost will be the responsibility of the property owner.
- The upfront charge to the property owner for early connection will be \$99. Connections made after the early connection period will be higher.
- Nick & Vicky Stoneman offered to assist with marketing materials.

Solar Donation: Malcolm Persen doesn't yet have the proposal from Revision.

Other business:

- LD130—discussion regarding the pros/cons of paying state fees outside of a warrant took place. No change in the current process will be made at this time. Steve will contact Georgetown to find out what they are doing.

Mail:

- Senator Susan Collins is seeking letters of support to submit a Congressionally Directed Spending request to fund an Army Corps of Engineers Survey of the Kennebec River in FY24. No action will be taken at this time.

Adjournment: 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Parker
Town Administrator