

**Arrowsic Select Board**  
**Minutes of March 22, 2022**  
**(Zoom)**

**Present:** DeeDee Jorgensen, Will Neilson, Phine Ewing, Don Hudson, Don Kornrumpf, Rachel Strachan, Steve Bonine, Michael Kreindler, Michelle Gaillard, Brett Jensen

DeeDee called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

The draft agenda was reviewed and approved as amended.

The minutes of the Select Board meeting of March 8, 2022 were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Warrant #18 for \$6,846.48 was approved.

**Town Audit completion status:** the latest email indicated there was still one item – an ARPA form – our accountants were looking for. It is believed that Walter has the form, so we will provide it when he returns from vacation. A rough draft is hoped for next week.

**Town Meeting Preparation:** DeeDee is drafting the warrant; will send a reminder to committee chairs – hope springs eternal

**Election Clerks:**

Barbara nominated the following citizens as Election Clerks for 2022:

Mary Louise Blanchard, Warden  
Josephine Ewing, Warden  
Anita Brown, R  
Clarke Cooper, U  
Jim Flannery, D  
Olivia Glaubitz, D  
Lois Hewlitt, R  
Robert Kalish, D  
Marnie Kalkstein, D  
Gretchen Macleod, R  
James Macleod, R  
Lisa Margonelli, U  
Elizabeth Skillings, D  
Thomas Spear, D  
Victoria Stoneman, D

She noted that their party affiliations, or lack thereof, were roughly proportional to those of the Town's 425 registered voters (229 dems, 71 R's, 16 Greens, 109 U).

The Board voted unanimously to appoint the nominated persons as Election Clerks for 2022 and expresses its gratitude to Barbara and the Clerks for taking on this essential role in our democratic process.

### **Appointment of Assistant Assessor's Agent**

The Board's agent for assessing, Bill Van Tuinen has agreed to stay on for another year if Sukey Heard would assist him again. Sukey graciously agreed to do so, and the Board voted unanimously to appoint her as the Town's Assistant Assessors' Agent, with thanks.

### **ARPA Funding**

- **Current Status: what we have received, what spent, if any**
  - Nothing spent – we received ca \$38 K in October. A second payment is coming w/in a year. We have expenses to which we should be able to apply the funds, especially broadband, probably and probably Fire Department truck expense; what is the procedure? ;
  - FD will submit an accounting memo setting forth excess costs due to the pandemic.
  - First year report is due April 30 for the year ending March 31; all funds need to be disbursed by year end 23 or 24
- **Webinar May 21 on Overview of Reporting requirements for Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**
  - 3PM on Sat May 21; Steve and Will will try to attend

### **Town Staff Transition**

- **Administrator update** – Sheila will start training Norma when Norma gets back
- **Tax Collector update** – Rachel Strachan introduced herself. She will be shadowing a tax collector in a neighboring municipality (probably Phippsburg or Bath, or both), with DeeDee liaising. The property tax collecting ramps up in November, so learning the vehicle registration part of the job is the priority at the moment. The Board expressed its thanks to Rachel for stepping up to take this position, which is important for the convenience of the citizens of the Town.

### **Range Lights property update**

- Phine reported that the property is still not yet listed for auction on the GSA website. The director of the program is on maternity leave and her boss is also out till next week, but will call Phine back on the issue of whether there is any kind of municipal priority available in the sale of the property.
- Michael noted that there is a list of criteria for evaluating a public water access site in the recently published Arrow and suggested using them to evaluate the suitability of the site. There was some discussion of the best forum in which to attempt such an evaluation. Michelle noted that when she was on the Select Board, the Board had considered and rejected the suitability of the northern tip of the island at the end of Preble Pt. Road, (which, she reported, the Town already owns) at a regular Select

Board meeting. It was felt that the full Select Board needed to be present to consider how best to do this.

### **ABA Update**

Don Kornrumpf reported that the ABA was moving ahead on Make Ready. The latest speed bump was that the insurance agency had presented a different form of Surety Bond than the one the Town Attorney had reviewed and Walter had signed before his departure. He suggested that the Board could also authorize DeeDee as a signatory so that she could sign as soon as the Town Attorney vetted the new form of Bond. Will then moved that the same authorizing resolution passed to authorize Walter to sign be passed again naming both Walter and DeeDee, to wit:

**“Resolved: To authorize Walter Briggs or Dianna (DeeDee) Jorgensen, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the Town, to execute any and all documents necessary to obtain surety bonds for the benefit of Consolidated Communications, Inc. and Central Maine Power as obligees, to secure the obligations of the Town of Arrowsic and the Arrowsic Broadband Authority under pole attachment agreements to be entered into with each entity.”**

DeeDee seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Don stated that the checks to CCI and CMP to pay for their Make Ready services are ready to deliver as well, once the new form of Surety Bond has been executed.

Don Hudson reported that he and Don K had had an excellent meeting with the two persons actually in charge of reviewing of our submissions at the USDA, which had clarified and debunked some information that had been received from another source in the USDA. Though the requirements for filling out the FRS forms (used to request payment from the USDA loan/grant facility) are frustratingly detailed, Don H was of the opinion that once we mastered those, requesting and receiving payment from the USDA would become routine.

### **Any Other Business**

DeeDee raised a question about whether the Town was required to foreclose on a delinquent property after a specified period. Will reported that based on his conversation with Rebecca Mc\_\_\_\_\_ at MMA on Monday, he understood that issuing a notice of foreclosure was elective, not mandatory (except when foreclosure was the desired outcome), and that towns frequently refrain from doing so. To clarify the Tax Collector’s duty in this respect, the Board passed the following resolution:

**”Resolved: that no notice of impending foreclosure should be issued prior to further research into the consequences and so instructs the Tax Collector to forbear issuing such notice.”**

The meeting adjourned at 7:17PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Neilson