

Arrowsic Selectmen's Meeting

September 11, 2017

Present: Sukey Heard, Bill Savedoff, Michele Gaillard, Mary McDonald, Katie Smith, Paul Schlein, Christine Woodman

Treasurer's Report and Warrant:

Warrant # 5 (\$48,125.04) was reviewed, approved and signed.

Minutes:

Minutes for 08/28/17 were reviewed and approved as written.

Waste Removal Contract:

The Selectmen reviewed, approved, and signed a new contract with R.C. Rogers for recycling and solid waste pickup and disposal for 7/1/17-6/30/18.

Recycling/Solid Waste Committee Discussion:

Katie Smith and Paul Schlein attended on behalf of the committee to discuss several topics including the results of the Town Meeting straw poll concerning extending bi-weekly pick up to the summer months and where to go from here. The Selectmen recommended going slow and taking every opportunity to communicate with residents, especially those who are not in regular contact with the Town. Several comments have been heard about issues related to the storage of seafood shells in the summer heat between pickups. Another topic was the previously discussed "Fix-it Café" which would provide a platform for people who need small repairs done to meet with handy townspeople willing to volunteer their services. Paul and Katie wondered about the liability issues for the Town and those performing the service. The Selectmen will contact MMA. We also discussed the committee's desire for more space and the potential for using the Little Barn, which is presently under-utilized.

Local Health Officer:

Christine Woodman, LHO, attended to follow up on our previous discussion on the brown tail moth public nuisance declaration that was solicited by the State. Anecdotal evidence, based on the experiences of the Arrowsic residents attending the meeting, suggests that the infestation is moving around the island and locations that were hard hit last year were spared this year, and vice versa. The Maine Forest Service, which projects future severity based on what they see from aerial surveys, is forecasting a reduction next year. We are still unsure of what the declaration triggers and Christine will continue to investigate but, especially because we do not understand the purpose or ramifications of the declaration, we see no reason to do so. The Selectmen recommended that more data is needed and perhaps a survey would allow us to gather useful information from residents about their experiences with and opinions about the infestation.

Christine also asked the Selectmen to give her some direction regarding information that she has shared about the advisability of culling deer populations as a way to control the tick population, especially on islands. The discussion included other vectors like mice. The Selectmen asked Christine to contact Jack Witham who has done some research in Holt Forest on Lyme disease-carrying tick populations and mice, which may inform the discussion. The Selectmen shared that

reaching consensus among residents to radically reduce Arrowsic's deer population would be a challenge.

CEO:

Michael Kreindler attended and described his communications with Town attorney, Kristin Collins, about a potential consent agreement to codify a grandfathered home business that is being passed on to a family member.

Town Office Renovations:

The Town has recently been informed by the DMV that they will not be continuing the program that allowed Arrowsic and other small towns to process new vehicle registrations manually. We have been given an October deadline to migrate our registrations to the computer, which will have an impact on the set up of the office to ensure efficient service. The Selectmen discussed their frustrations with the short implementation window in light of our need to purchase computers and reconfigure the office but also came up with several alternatives to fulfill this mandate.

Revaluation Update:

Bill related that he had spoken to Bill Van Tuinen, who indicated that the assessing work is proceeding. Bill will request a written report with more specifics.

Mail:

Sukey received a request from the University of Maine School of Forest Resources for our Trio property database so that they can determine the parcels in town greater than 12 acres that have changed hands in the last 5 years. The Selectmen were hesitant to send our complete property records, given the small number, if any, of properties that meet that criteria. Sukey will follow up.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Gaillard