



MINUTES

HARRISON SELECT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 11, 2024 – 6:00 PM

All regular select board meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Meetings are recorded and posted on the Town Website and on Lake Region Television usually in 2 days.

Please practice social distancing. Reminder to the attending public: Select Board meetings are open to the public, but the public may not speak unless recognized by the Chair or Vice Chair only during Public Participation. Comment time is limited to 2 minutes per speaker. Matters related to personnel will not be heard or discussed.

Present: Chairman Matthew Frank, Vice Chair Philip Devlin, Select Person Frederick Ross, Select Person Nathan Sessions, Select Person Colleen Densmore, Town Manager Cass Newell, Secretary Denise Dumont, Finance Officer Mauren McAllister, John Wentworth Code Enforcement Officer/Assessing Agent, Brianna Morris Recreation Manager

Absent: None

Public: LRTV, attendance sheet attached

- I. Call the Meeting to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Public Participation (Non-Agenda Items)
 - Steve McFarland – 1) We need to get away from the Good Ole Boy Network way of doing things. 2) Need to do a better job of listening, at meetings and public hearings. 3) I would like to see Main Street more colorful, painting roads 4) I would like to see the Town increase Assets like buying the Olde Mill Tavern and using it as a community room, or to have coffee etc. 4) Welfare of our children paying for childcare. 5) Use our assets the Town Manager used to have an Assistant Town Manager let's put that back into the budget, so we don't burn her out.
 - Don Jacobson – 1) Will this budget use the new valuation or the old? NEW
2) We need crosswalks – they are not painted and signs with lights like Norway and other towns.
3) The budget has \$190,000 for a backhoe, could we buy a used one?
 - Peter Brown – Can we rethink 2 minutes to talk? I think it was terrible how the last meeting was run when they were talking about rec and they were shut down. I think an apology is warranted.
- IV. Adjustments to the Agenda - None
- V. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Unsigned Warrants #56- #59 - Approved by signature **Informational**
 - B. Approval of Select Board Minutes – March 21, 2024
Motion to approve Select Board Minutes for March 21, 2024, made by S. Devlin, 2nd S. Densmore Approved 5-0
 - C. Approval of Special Select Board Minutes – March 28, 2024

Motion to approve Special Select Board Minutes for March 28, 2024, made by S. Sessions, 2nd S. Devlin Approved 5-0

D. Event Permit Harrison Community Fair Aug 3, 2024

Motion to approve the Event Permit for Harrison Community Fair on August 3, 2024, made by S. Ross, 2nd by S. Densmore Approved 5-0

E. Event Permit Lions Club Pancake Breakfast June 23, July 7, July 21, Aug 11, Sept 1, Sept 29

Motion to approve the Event Permit for Lions Club Pancake Breakfasts as listed made by S. Densmore, 2nd S. Fred Approved 4-0 (Chairman Frank recused himself as he is part of the Lions Club)

VI. New Business

A. R.M. Davis Economic & Market Presentation (Brian Noyes – R.M. Davis)

Investments of the Murray Scholarship. Similar to last year and previous years. Market pivots. Stocks are performing well in the 1st quarter of this year.

Tab 1 Page 4 – as is evident the Town's money is broadly diversified and is market neutral.

Page 13 & Page 14 Summary: Since 1994 the beginning value \$360,970 since that date \$737,310 has been disseminated to students and still have \$860,864 as the ending value. The Annualized return is 7.52%.

No questions.

Thank you from the Board for taking and investing the money well. We appreciate your diversification and the conservative nature in which the money was invested.

VII. Old Business

A. Revaluation Update (John Wentworth & Bob Gingras – Parker Appraisal)

Informational

They are done with updates, and the conversion in Trio is done. They are working on Personal Property and waiting for a few more updates which will be done by May. Everything will be done and waiting for the mil rate to be set in July.

S. Devlin would like notices to go out about what people's new valuation is in May or June. He stated that people want to know how much a percentage did their property will go up. They can then figure out by the New Town Valuation how much their property taxes will go up.

John Wentworth and Bob Gingras both said that the mil rate is not set until July so people will not know what their bill is and might get confused because they want how much money they will owe in taxes.

Bob Gingras stated that they can send revaluation letters out without a mil rate if that is what the board would like, but it might cause confusion to taxpayers.

Consensus from the Board S. Devlin, S. Ross, & S. Sessions would like it to go out in May. S. Frank & S. Densmore would like to wait.

B. Voting on Recommendations on final warrant articles

Motion to change the wording on Article #28 to raise and appropriate \$441,128 for County Tax and Motion to fund \$36,183 out of Undesignated Funds made by S. Devlin, 2nd S. Sessions Approved 3-2

S. Devlin would like the Town Manager to contact MMA about putting in an article about Tax Levy Limits.

All articles to appear as Select Board Recommendation: yes

Articles 28, 19 and 20 with Select Board Recommendation: None

Motion to for all articles recommended as favorable with the exception of Articles 28, 19 & 20 made by S. Densmore, 2nd S. Devlin Approved 5-0

VIII. Other Business - Informational

(Matt)

A. Nomination Paperwork for the Office for Selectperson, Planning Board, Appeals Board & School Board. Papers **Due by April 12th at 4 pm**

B. Upcoming Meetings:

- State Primary/Municipal & School Elections, June 11, 2024, from 8 am to 8 pm
- **Town Meeting** June 12, 2024, at 6 pm at Harrison Elementary School.

IX. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager's Report – April 11, 2024

1) ADMINISTRATION-

- a) Interaction with Harrison Citizens and Employees - visits/calls/emails
- b) Worked on Day-to-Day Administration

2) TOWN CLERK – Preparing for the State Primary, Municipal, and School Election in June.

- Presented the Boston Post Cane to Mr. Carlo Viitala on Friday, April 5th at 2:00.
 - Preparation of the Town Report continues.
 - Daily business at the counter as usual.
 - Planning Board/Board of Appeals Agendas/Minutes etc.
 - Working on renewing Business Licenses
- Nomination papers are available for Selectboard (2 Seats), Planning Board (2), Appeals Board (1), & School Board (1). They are due to the Clerk's office by 4:00 pm on Apr 12th.

2) PUBLIC SERVICES (PUBLIC WORKS/PARKS) – During the month, the crew has been busy keeping roads clear during snowstorms and cleaning up road debris from wind events during this winter season, In between storms we do some preventative maintenance on the trucks, loader and the backhoe so they are ready when mother nature makes a mess on your roads. Making the roads in Harrison safe for your travel is our priority. The road limits signs for town roads will be lifted on April 15th, thank you for your understanding over the last month. Bring on Springtime!!! We're ready.

As always, we appreciate the support of our citizens.

The Transfer Station had 2365 visits in March.

The following was shipped:

Trash 8 loads to Ecomaine

Recycle 2 loads to Ecomaine.

Demo 2 loads to Riverside

Bottles 2790 picked up by Paynes Redemption

Clothing 1820 lbs. picked up by Salvation Army

238 bulbs to Veolia

42 tires to BDS tire

Yearly recap for 2023.
We had 35,497 visits for the year.
We shipped;
2,068,860 lbs. of trash
350,700 lbs. of recycles
631,660 lbs. of demo
280,480 lbs. of metal
1147 bulbs
160 lbs. of batteries
1900 lbs. of computers
360 lbs. of printers
9120 lbs. of tv's
656 tires
32,320 lbs. of bottles
25,780 lbs. of clothing

3) CODE ENFORCEMENT – During March: 5 new building permits were issued. YTD 13 permits have been issued. 1 permit was issued for new housing for a YTD total of 3

A total of 8 plumbing permits were issued during the month. YTD 20 plumbing permits were issued.

26 inspections were conducted for March for a YTD total of 74.

52 Walk-in customers came into the office for research, questions, or assistance in some way. YTD total of 143.

It continues to be busy dealing with violations and phone research for realtors and builders.

4) RECREATION –The conference at the Samoset Resort was very informative! I heard a lot of great ideas that I would love to be able to implement in our community. My favorite session was Promoting and Planning Programs for Older Adults! It was full of different ideas, ways to implement it, and how to advertise for it so that it is successful! I met new people, both colleagues and vendors to connect with!

Our Easter Egg Hunt was a success again! The turnout was smaller than last year, but not by much. I think the weather played a part in it because it was chilly!

I have been in contact with David Barber from the Harrison Lions Club about a wiffle ball home run derby which is scheduled for July 13th with a rain date of the 20th!

The chosen date for the Community Fair is August 3rd!

March Madness was postponed to April 7th. It went well and was a huge success. We had a great time. Some walk-ins along with the people signed up. Some of the people who signed up didn't make it because they had no power and had trouble getting out, but their friends took takeout to them.

Baseball registrations have closed.

Softball- Majors- 1 (who will join the minor team)

Minors- 9

Rookies- 9 (with 2 more who are supposed to be doing a late registration today)

Baseball- Majors- 6

Minors- 2

Rookies- 9

Tball- 9

We also had 6 paper registrations that do not show levels, just age.

- 5) **FIRE DEPARTMENT – 22** Total Incidents (see attached) Total calls: 79
Monthly Events/Details/Meetings: March 05 – Apparatus Checks
March 12 – Training
March 19– EMS Checks
March 26 - Officers Meeting

6) **PUBLIC SAFETY-**

ACO – March

Dogs at large
Animal Bites/Attacks w/injury
Welfare/Abuse/Neglect
Dead/Injured/ill/trapped
Barking dog

Cumberland County Sheriff's Office – Cumberland County Sheriff's Office – Waiting on March

ON-GOING PROJECTS

- Downtown Revitalization –
- Public Works facility – almost there
- Fire Study

X. Select Board Items

S. Devlin is requesting that the Town look into purchasing Electronic Voting devices to use during Town Meeting.

S. Devlin gave an update on Broadband: Spectrum is getting closer to finalizing their survey and then they will send it to the state with recommendations on what they are going to do for underserved locations covered by the State Grant. A reminder that the State moves slowly but there is still progress.

XI. Next Regular Select Board Meeting: **05/09/24**

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made at 7:35 pm by S. Devlin, 2nd S. Ross Approved 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Frank, Chairman

Denise Dumont, Secretary