



Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

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Report for Meeting of May 5, 2022

Happy May! I'm writing this in the final few days of April. We've had plenty of rain this month. Good for the wells and we're not in a drought that's for sure.

Congrats to Jo on her pending retirement, which will be in effect for your next meeting. The Ellsworth American has included an article on No Mow May in the upcoming edition, and the radio station from which I retired called looking for someone to interview (I gave them Larissa's number).

You might not have taken notice, but I've updated the Lamoine 150! Logo to use as a general logo for the town going forward. I managed to duplicate the background color, "paint" over the 1870-2020 and add "MAINE" below the Lamoine (see above).

An interesting development in the past 24 hours here in the office. We've had property inquiries on two existing homes which are for sale. The real estate agents are claiming they are two unit homes, though we have no official permitting or really any record that they are anything other than a single family dwelling. I have passed along property cards and septic designs to those inquiring on both properties. I'll be talking with our Code Enforcement Officer about how this should be handled.

Baseball season is under way. I used an opportunity last Friday to take five years of tax commitment books to U-Maine Orono for official binding following a game I umpired in Bangor. They should be ready in a few weeks.

Our Adopt-A-Highway program is under way with volunteers picking up copious amounts of litter from beside the public roads. I tackled part of Douglas Highway by the Kittredge pit last Saturday and got three bags full in a 4/10 of a mile stretch. It does look a lot better, but I noticed more litter the day after!

You don't have a huge agenda this time. Remember, the meeting will start with an [employee review](#) at 6:30 PM followed by the regular open meeting at 7PM. I've not yet scheduled the employee – if I can't get one of the others, I'll take that slot.

[Minutes – April 21, 2022](#) – Please review the minutes for errors. Thank you in advance.

[Expenditure Warrant 25](#) – A few non-normal items. The installment agreement with the heirs of Beverly Watts is signed and ready to file. I had Haslam septic come pump the septic tank and the outlet pipe in April – things were clogged up. Not a good thing. It's working fine again. There are several months of returnables proceeds to send to the school. I've got a full mileage sheet dating back to last October. The payroll next week will be included along with the school payroll and AP warrants. I don't think there will be anything large and unusual.

Cash & Budget Reports – These will be posted on the website and updated periodically with the report in printed form for the meeting.

American Tower Easement – The paperwork was filed at the Registry of Deeds the day after your last meeting. I noticed the payment from American Tower was up a bit, and expect a larger payment starting in May.

ARPA Premium Pay/Reporting – There is a separate memo regarding premium pay. We have a deadline of April 30, 2022 to report how the funds we've received have been spent. It's done through a Federal Treasury Department web page, and so far, I've not been able to submit any report. I can log in, but the reporting page that it comes up to does not match what it should. I've inquired of the treasury department for help, but have not yet received a reply. I'll keep plugging at it. The report should be easy to send, but this is the federal government we're talking about, and if there is a web application that they've developed, the chances are pretty good that it doesn't work.

Special Town Meeting – School Budget – The school board has not yet set a budget or a date. I hope to have more information by meeting night.

Aquaculture Ordinance – The Department of Marine Resources has said that the proposed ordinance from Gouldsboro is outside of town authority. We have nothing scheduled to start developing an ordinance. My suggestion would be to wait and see how the Gouldsboro plan plays out. It could go to a court to determine once and for all whether towns do have any jurisdiction past the low water mark.

Tech Committee – Computer Networking recommendation – Bob LaChance of the tech committee has put together a very comprehensive suggestion to improve network operations and backups here in the office. I've asked the Tech Committee to meet on this to get a final recommendation. A copy of the proposal is in your packets.

Reciprocal Agreement with Trenton – My counterpart in Trenton says her Select Board also favors some sort of emergency backup agreement. One of the tasks I hope to get done prior to the meeting is to draft something up as a starting point. You might have something on meeting night.

That's all I have for the agenda for now. See you on Cinco de Mayo (no Magaritas before the meeting please!).

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