



Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

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Report for Meeting of November 2, 2023

Late October greetings! I'm writing this on Wednesday, October 25th, and will be ending the volleyball officiating season after a game this evening and the state championship match on Friday evening. I've also been filling in on the radio and that'll end November 2nd, the day of your meeting.

Things have quieted down a bit at the town hall which allows for serious budgeting work, and you'll have a budget workshop on your agenda. The assessor was in yesterday and had only one appointment with a taxpayer. That allowed him to get a lot of work done, and this seems to be working out fairly well. I'm hoping to create a property card format for him to approve in our database system instead of the TRIO system that his firm uses. This should be much easier for them to maintain here instead of both of us entering data in separate systems.

You actually have a fairly busy agenda with people coming to meet with you (or possibly via zoom).

[Minutes – October 19, 2023](#) – Written corrections are most welcome!

[Expenditure Warrant 12](#) – The warrant is posted on the website and will be updated periodically. Included will be the purchase of a saw by parks commissioner Bob Ehlers to cut the rebar from the boat ramp, which he accomplished yesterday, making it much safer. There's also the bill for the stone/plaque at Lamoine Beach as the final bill in the Little Children's playground project. I expect we'll have a paving bill shortly, and that'll mean that we'll have to transfer funds from the investment account to pay for it.

[Cash & Budget Reports](#) – This will also be periodically updated on the website.

[Checking Account Reconciliation](#) – I should have that done on Thursday for the meeting and will e-mail you and print the short version.

Meeting re: MacQuinn Road – Material from Steve Salsbury is in your packet. Basically, Harold MacQuinn, Inc. is asking to put a gate up at the Lamoine end of their facility and install a turnaround prior to the gate. This apparently requires town meeting approval.

Meet with Casella Waste – Jim Dunning, our sales rep with Casella, will be here or on zoom to give us the options available. I've printed off a recent article from the Bangor Daily News regarding the landfill where our waste is currently going. The PERC plant in Orrington is supposed to be auctioned off today (October 25th). This could be an interesting discussion.

I spoke with Jim a couple of weeks ago and said our big concern is the cost of recycling which is nearly \$600/ton. That's not sustainable, and you'll have to decide whether to keep doing it or not for the 2024/25 budget.

Ellsworth Library Box – The new director of the Ellsworth Public Library may be at your meeting. She’s asked if they can install a small box at the town hall to offer books. A memo from Sarah Lesko is in your packet. The school has a similar box.

Facilities & Infrastructure – I’ve prepared a report on what space needs there might be at a future municipal building and it’s in your packet. The goal is to present something to the Facilities & Infrastructure committee for them to consider.

Code Enforcement – 591 Douglas Hwy – The owner has received a notice of violation. He spoke by phone with Rebecca on Monday and her summary of the conversation is in your packet. Town attorney Dan Pileggi has been e-mailed to help out by attending your November 16th meeting.

Shoreland Zoning Complaint – Rebecca received a complaint about tree cutting at a Shoreland property on Narrows Way. She is investigating.

Unpermitted RV – Pinkhams Flats – The property owner called after receiving the letter that the RV needs to be permitted and cannot use a porta-potty. He said he would let the occupants know they need to apply for the permit and hook up the RV to the existing septic system. So far, there has been no application.

Solar Project – No update yet from Revision.

Comprehensive Plan – Nothing new to report. The Planning Board continues to work on ordinance amendments.

Lamoine Beach Boat Ramp – I have called and left a message with Mr. Beck at the State Bureau of Parks & Lands. He has not yet called back.

Budget Workshop – You’ll have a lot of material to review for the 24/25 budget. The good news is, many of the budgets are a reduction or very minimal increase from the current year.

That’s the agenda for now. Looking forward to the meeting.

Stu