

Town of Farmingdale  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
August 9, 2023

Members Present-Doug Ebert-Joseph Connors- Ike Peppard  
Other Present- Karen LaPlante-Steve Stratton-Nancy Frost-Gerald Staples- Deniece Vachon  
Zoom-Cathie Whitney

Meeting opened by Doug Ebert at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

The Select board approved and signed the Treasurer Warrants & Payroll Warrants #'s 3,4,5,6

Joe motioned to approved the July 12, 2023 minutes as written, Ike second, all in favor

**Doug**

- Review and sign the Tax Assessment Warrant-Mil rate increase of 20.5 to 22.3. Doug motioned to approve the warrant, Joe second, all in favor.
- Approval of service agreement with City of Gardiner Ambulance Services to cover the Town of Farmingdale. This agreement was passed at the Town Meeting in June, 2023.
- Reappointment of Positions within town government:
  1. Code Enforcement Officer-held by Greg Lumbert
  2. Health Officer-held by Greg Lumbert
  3. Gardiner Library Board of Trustees-held by Rachel Choate
  4. ACO-held by Joshua Howe
  5. Cemetery Sexton-held by Magen Spotswood
  6. Constable-held by Greg Smith

Doug motioned to reappoint all positions, Ike second, all in favor.

- Carry Forward from 2022/2023 to 2023/2024 fiscal year-

**Operations:**

RE Abatements: \$5,000  
Payroll: \$15,000  
Highway: \$122,200  
ARPA: \$84,769.71

**Sewer:**

Pump Maintenance: \$33,771  
Flushing: \$26,900

Doug motioned to approve all carry forwards, Joe second, all in favor.

- Update on water runoff issue for resident William Thiboutot at 161 Northern Ave.- Doug stated that the berms have been replaced at his property and the water runoff has been diverted as a result. He also stated that if the resident causes damage to the berms by plowing, etc. then he will be responsible to replace them himself.
- Iron Man competition in the area was a success. Farmingdale will be a host community for the competition for 3 more years.
- Dead River has completed the assessment of switching to propane and will be forwarding cost assessments to the Select Board in the near future.
- Follow up on property owned by Gerald Varnum. It has been sold to Steve McGee and the paperwork is being drawn up by Greg Farris, attorney and should be completed in a couple of weeks. Mr. McGee has given Mr. Varnum until September 1<sup>st</sup> to remove anything from the property he wants.
- Emergency Management meeting at the Fire Station. Attending from the town are Steve Stratton, Road Commissioner, Mike LaPlante, Assistant Fire Chief, and Natalie Jackson, Town Clerk. This is a training highlighting the document filing requirements for town reimbursement for the costs of natural disasters.

## Office

- Karen stated that the new ACO, Bob Henderson, has been a good addition. He is proactive in his responsibilities and the office staff is seeing townspeople responding by coming in to register dogs that are overdue.
- Karen also reminded the board that the Town Office is now open on Fridays from 7:30 to 12:30. There has been light client traffic so far but anticipate that it will increase once people become aware of the change. Karen confirmed to Doug that the new hours are posted to the website. Town Office sign and entry door.

There was no public comment.

Meeting adjourned by Doug at 6:46 p.m.

**Due to a prior commitment, Steve Stratton arrived after meeting adjournment. The Select Board met with him to get updates on road situations in the town.**

### Steve

- Concerns about the lack of a plowing contract for the winter. Doug stated that we have a 3-year contract with McGee and that the pricing is updated yearly. The select board is awaiting updated pricing for the upcoming winter plowing season. Steve will contact them and ask them to get that information submitted to the board.
- Pipe on Almar has been cleared and water is flowing again. The pipe itself is extremely fragile and needs replacement.
- Numerous washouts have occurred throughout town due to the heavy rainfall. Steve has done his best to repair them as soon as possible. He will continue to stay on top of them as the weather warrants.
- Steve said that there have been several dead deer on the roads lately. He has been able to contact a local animal wildlife refuge to take some of them. The others he has disposed of himself.
- Catch basins need to be cleaned of debris. Steve asked who we are contracted with for this service. Doug indicated that it was part of the street sweeping contract which is no longer in place. Doug recommended that Natalie contact Vortex to see if this is a service that they offer and if so, get an estimated cost.

Date 9-13-23



Doug Ebert



Joseph Connors



Ike Peppard

**\* Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, the minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of comments at the meeting, but a summary of the discussion and the actions that took place. For official meeting minutes visit our website @ [www.farmingdalemaine.org](http://www.farmingdalemaine.org) for the audio of this meeting.**