

**Town of Sumner - Select Board Minutes  
August 8, 2023**

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

**Members present:** Mary Ann Haxton, Don Munroe, Shawn Corson, Sherry Sullivan, Laurie Arsenault

**Public present:** Clifford McNeil, Walter Jasniewski, Emmett Gartner, Ralph Dunn, Amy Corson, Terri Phillips, Hank Phillips, Kristen Chapman, Joel Chapman, Matt Demillo, April Paine, Craig Moore, Susan Runes, Earl Wingate III, Lori Hand, Sandra Farrar, Pauline Perron, Cheryl Savage, Bill Savage, Tracy Bullecks, Wayne and Susan Strout, Brian Bullecks, Douglas Fournier, Steve McGinty, Chris Tripp, Michael Henderson, Charlie Maddaus, Elaine Bunce, Vernon Bunce, Eugene Lucas, Richard Estes, Albert Borzelli, Mark Giannelli, Jesse Wallingford, Staci Wallingford, Bonnie Bishop, Rick Luetters, Ann Marie Adomaitis

**Reading of the July 25, 2023, Minutes Approved with a motion by Munroe, seconded by Haxton and voted.**

**Warrant #2**

|                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Checks                  | \$99,161.36    |
| Receipts                | \$15,511.46    |
| 2022-2023 Tax Collected | \$1,325,502.05 |
| 2021-2022 Tax Collected | \$1,309,095.03 |

**RSU #10 Report: Joel Chapman**

Chapman reported that new school board members were elected, new teachers hired for Buckfield High School and Mountain Valley High Schools. Troy Eastman was approved to coach girls' basketball team. Chapman announced he will be running for selectboard, if he is elected his position on the school board will need to be filled.

**CEO/LPI Report: Fred Collins**

No official update was received by CEO, Fred Collins.

**Roads Report: Shawn Corson**

Corson reported that he has ditched and cleared rocks on Black Mountain Road, will be moving to Fields Hill Road and removing trees to do ditching. Charlie Maddaus asked if rip rap will be used on Fields Hill Road, Corson will be using rip rap. Wally Litchfield asked about getting guard rails near store on rte219, Corson said that would be a state request.

**ACO Report: Shawn Corson**

Corson reported that there was a dog bite on Abbott Pond Road.

**Fire Department Report: Doug Fournier**

Haxton stated that the fire department payroll process will transition the volunteers to employee status. Fournier provided a report to the selectmen. *Report attached.*

**Forms, Reports, Correspondence:**

**Nomination Process**

1. Notice of Shortened Nomination Process, pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 2528(4)(E), that a shortened nomination process be used to fill a vacancy with a two-year term on the Board of Selectmen. Nomination Papers available beginning August 8, 2023. Signed nomination papers, with not less than 25 nor more than 100 signatures of qualified voters, must be returned to the Town Clerk by the close of business hours on Friday, August 18, 2023.  
**Haxton moved to accept this, seconded by Munroe, and voted.**
2. Notice of Shortened Nomination Process, pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 2528(4)(E), that a

shortened nomination process be used to fill a vacancy with a one-year term on the Board of Selectmen. Nomination Papers available beginning August 8, 2023. Signed nomination papers, with not less than 25 nor more than 100 signatures of qualified voters, must be returned to the Town Clerk by the close of business hours on August 18, 2023.  
**Haxton moved to accept this, seconded by Munroe, and voted.**

**New Business:**

The select board and budget committee recommended increasing the legal fee account to <sup>65,000</sup> \$80,000 to reflect the increase of legal fees caused by the investigation. The recommendation is to also allow for \$15,000 in the office assistance category.

Haxton announced the planning Board has an open vacancy.

Candidate Announcements will take place on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Select Board meeting for any candidates who would like to speak.

**Old Business:**

Sullivan stated that the FEMA reimbursement has been completed for the December storm. Reimbursement process for the May storm is still pending.

Haxton announced the CEBE Grant – Eco heat Efficiency Maine Application has been submitted.

**Solar Ordinance**

The Planning Board would like to have a moratorium put in place or reinstated. Haxton moved to reinstate the moratorium for commercial Solar for the next 6 months, Munroe seconded and voted.

Haxton announced the Zoom Recordings at Select Board Meetings are being done on a trial basis.

**Upcoming events:**

Annual Town Meeting –Hartford Sumner Elementary School, ~~Cafeteria~~ Sept 5 @ 6p  
Gym

**Open Session:**

Kristen Chapman stated, "For those who did not read the report by Matt Tarasevich, its important to know his statement: "Rather than criticizing those members, the Board should commend those members for looking out for the Department and for bringing these issues to the Board's attention, something Board member Kelly Stewart did not do."

Chapman continued, "Members of the Sumner Select Board, the fire fighters who are here tonight, and those who have continued to serve the Town of Sumner these past four months despite clear adversity, deserve our respect, and are to be publicly commended for their actions."

Hank Phillips expressed concern at the state of a residence on Arthur Allen Road. The lack of waste disposal and follow up from the town to require the resident to be in compliance has been time consuming and absent.


Cliff McNeil questioned Haxton's process for reviewing the town warrant to which Haxton replied the process going forward will be to improve the efficiency of submitting, verifying, and reporting the expenditures.


Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Munroe and so voted.

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August 8, 2023, minutes  
Submitted by Sherry Sullivan

Approved: August 22, 2023

  
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Mary Ann Haxton

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Munroe

# 08/08/2023 Selectboard Update

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 8:49 AM

**During July, 2023 Sumner Fire had 11(?) fire calls**

- Incident man hours - 45 hours
- Training man hours - 77 Hours

**Sumner Fire currently has 9 total members who are intent on moving the department forward and continuously improving service to the town. To that end -**

**In the last few months the department has:**

- Come into compliance with: Hose testing, Pump Testing, SCBA pack and bottle testing.
- Completed a voluntary audit from Bureau of Labor Standards
- In progress of rebuilding and bringing all member and department documentation up to date

**CPR/AED and First Aid - Thank you to ladies Aux!!!**

**We have 7 of our members certified CPR/AED and first aid.**

**In the coming week we will have 8 out of 9 members certified for CPR, AED and first aid.**

**Again, thank you to the Sumner Fire Ladies Auxiliary for paying for the training.**

**Additional First Aid training - We are looking into an additional course for hands on first aid and bleeding control.**

**SCBA -**

**We have, for the first time in years, the ability to meet the minimum 4 SCBA qualified crew**

**Mutual Aid -**

- We are in good standing with help and support from surrounding towns, especially those along Rt 26
- Conducted extrication training in West Paris with members of West Paris, Norway and Greenwood fire departments
- Sumner fire, after recent training, is to be dispatched to cardiac calls in Sumner alongside Buckfield rescue

**Sumner Fire in in progress of building its submission to the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation**

- Sumner fire is seeking roughly \$30,000 - \$35,000 from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation for all new turnout gear for the members

**Upcoming work includes:**

- Big ticket items:
  - o Service of the fire trucks
  - o New tires as budget allows
  - o SCBA bottles to bring a minimum of 2 bottles for each pack
- Replacing equipment as needed to get interior rated members equipment up to standard
- Building two CPR/First aid response bags around the two department AED

**Thank you to all members of the Sumner volunteer fire department who have shown their commitment to the town and dedication to the department over the last few months.**

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**Special thank you to the following members for their hundreds of hours of combined work bringing the department into compliance with equipment testing and administration tasks.**

Doug Fournier

Chris Tripp

Michael Henderson

Brian Bullecks