

Meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Alexander, Maine

4 April 2024

Attendance:

All the members of the Board of Selectmen:

Skip Colson
David Davis
Foster Carlow Jr.
Carl Oakes
David Sanford

Also:

Kristy Crawford, Town Clerk

Jane Manza, a Town Tax Assessor
Joe Manza

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM
Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Motion to approve minutes of the selectmen's meeting of 7 March 2024 by Skip and 2nd by Foster.
Voting: Unanimous

Appointments to town positions

Addressing Officer	Skip Colson	2025
Assistant Addressing Officer	David Davis	2025
Animal Control	David Townsend	2025
Assessment Board of Appeals	Wiebly Dean	2025
	Patrick Cormier	2025
	??????????	2025
Code Enforcement Officer	Andy Snowman	2025
Cemetery Asst. Caretakers	Jane Manza	2025
	Rhonda Oakes	2025
Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer	Kristy Crawford	2026
Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer	Lesliann Barnard	2025
Election Clerk	Jane Manza	2025
Election Clerk	Emma Hill	2025
Election Clerk	Chanise Provencher	2025
Election Clerk	Spencer McCormick	2025
Deputy Ballot Clerk/Warden	Lesliann Barnard	2025

Deputy Ballot Warden	Josie Wallace	2025
Registrar of Voters	Kristy Crawford	2025
Deputy Registrar of Voters	Lesliann Barnard	2025
Emergency Management	Edward Burgess	2025
General Assistance	Foster Carlow Jr.	2025
	Carl Oakes	2025
Health Officer	Janice Sullivan	2025
Planning Board of Appeals		
	Joshua Kinney	2025
	Stephen Seavey (Vice Chair)	2025
	Ted Carter (Chair)	2026
	David Sanford (Secretary)	2026
	Skip Colson	2027
Fiber Optic Broadband Liason	Ted Carter	2025
DBU Project Manager	Ted Carter	2025
DBU Rep/ Delegate	Ted Carter	2027
DBU Rep/ Delegate Alternate	Roger Holst	2027
Video Surveillance Monitor	David Sanford	2027
Combing Inspector	Stephen Cox	2025
Public Information	Kristy Crawford	2025
Road Supervisor	Larry Hill	2025
Selectboard Secretary	David Sanford	2025
Solid Waste Representative	Foster Carlow Jr.	2025
WCCG Rep.	David Davis	2025
WCCG Resident Rep.	Ed Burgess	2025
DEEMS Rep.	Foster Carlow Jr.	2025
DEEMS Alt.	David Sullivan	2025
Selectman Chair	Skip Colson	2025
Selectman Vice Chair	David Davis	2025

[DBU = Downeast Broadband Utility

WCCG = Washington County Council of Governments

DEEMS = Down East Emergency Management Services]

Skip nominates Skip to be chairman of board of selectmen and 2nd by David S.

Voting: Unanimous.

Skip nominates David D. to be vice chair and 2nd by Foster.

Voting: Unanimous.

Foster nominates David S. to be selectboard secretary and 2nd by Carl.

Voting: Unanimous.

Jane Manza, a town tax assessor

Jane: We [the assessors] hit the road April 1st. We viewed lake front property. Skip was "drowning" in his property [a lot of water on his property]. We did get on record what needed to be done by April 1.

Merle [Knowles III, recently elected to be a town tax assessor] is a good fit he knows it all already.

We are going from short form and long form [assessing records]. This means, "How many bedrooms and bathrooms?" and "What is kitchen like?" so we can get a more accurate valuation of each property.

Would it be OK to send out a survey to the property owners and ask them to return it? Then, all the people that don't reply, we would personally knock on the door [and see for ourselves]. If we didn't have to step inside, it would save us time.

David D: Can you use satellite pictures?

Jane: Not really. We would need different side angle pictures.

Kristy: I need to look into those [mail] meter programs that have a printer and a scale. I think it would save us some money.

Skip: I agree. Otherwise, it will take years to visit every home.

Jane: We didn't take the time because we had to hustle around to get the pictures.

We did Christy Hicks' [property].

Skip: How long did it take to do that one place?

ook 8 to 10 minutes, including some time just talking.

Kristy: Can we pull the list from TRIO of properties that have buildings versus no buildings, so we can narrow down quickly where to send those surveys?

Jane: I would bet we could. It has a building value on there.

Kristy: I think we could print address labels right from TRIO.

Are we going to give them self-addressed stamped envelopes?

Jane: They could include a snap shot

Skip: Let's see about a bulk rate for mailing.

David D: Could this just be sent out with the next tax bill in August?

Jane: No, we need it before the tax bill is sent out.

David D: Should you [the assessors] have something to identify you?

[Ideas from different people]: Orange vests, ID badges...

Jane: A magnetic sign on the vehicle.

Kristy: If Johnson's or Ace doesn't have one, then we will...

Skip: So for now, what do you need?

Jane: The OK to mail a survey.

Motion to give to the assessors the mailing and equipment needed by Foster and 2nd by Carl

Voting: Unanimous

Kristy Crawford, town clerk

Kristy: Stop in on Tuesday for the Road account.

What contact phone number to provide to the public?

If you don't want to use your number, you can put down the office number.

[Each selectman gives a preferred contact phone number].

Skip, you have a password and pin.

Where are your Freedom of Access Act FAQs. There is a page in the back with a certificate. Learn all you need to learn, then fill it out and bring it back to me in the office. Training is each year.

We did get our warrant for the assessors return for the Washington county taxes \$123,005. The county has a mil rate of 16.09. It was \$113,000 last year.

You have an email for you that came. This will require help from you guys and Larry. In 2018 you made a hazardous mitigation plan. You had not done a lot of these culverts [listed in the mitigation plan] because of a lack of funds. I believe that now they have been done, but I need to talk to Larry.

Skip: Tommy Long road has not been done.

Kristy. It says to return this by May 10.

It asks, "Have any of your projects been completed or deemed unnecessary?"

"Are there any that need to be added?"

Skip: I will see Larry tomorrow I will give him one.

The FEMA paperwork has begun. At first, I was nervous. I thought, "This is a very professional organization to work with." But then, [the FEMA representative] sent me...about 8 correction emails. So, I feel relaxed about that. We should be able to plow through that. I may need pictures.

We did not get any money for the January storms, just for December.

Skip: We will take a look.

Do we have road money, about \$70,000 and one more cheque for Dale [who is in charge of town road snow removal].

Town 200th Anniversary committee

Kristy: I want to put together some sort of committee. I don't know if anyone wants to help on that.

I think the anniversary will be in January of 2025. But we probably want to celebrate in July. The Grange will want to be involved.

Skip: Advertise for a committee.

Kristy: Maybe talk about a small budget to bring to you later.

Skip: Go ahead and put up a thing for volunteers.

Property Next To Town Hall That Could Be Purchased By The Town

David D: The person who owns that property next door to us...

Skip: I think we ought to look into that.

David D: It's a very small lot. I don't know what he wants for it.

Carl: You have a problem with the two wells right near that property.

Kristy: If we throw out numbers, we might be too high or too low and insult him.

Jane: It's valued at \$9000 for the first acre. It's hardly worth that.

Foster: A lot of places under an acre in town were still charged as a house lot. You have to have at least an acre of land in order to build on it.

Kristy: Joshua Probst is the owner. It's .46 acre.

Foster: We offer \$2000 or \$2500, that could be too low.

Kristy: We could say, "You aren't using the land. It's costing \$150 in taxes a year."

In Wesley people buy those 3 or 4 acres and then they don't use them.

Foster: It will be worth more.

Concealed Weapons Permits

Motion to go into executive session per 1 M.R.S.A § 405 (6)(F) by Foster and 2nd by David D. at 6:58PM.

Voting: Unanimous

Out of executive session at 7:06.

Motion to approve 3 concealed weapons permits by David D. and 2nd by Carl.

Voting: Unanimous

Motion to adjourn by Foster and 2nd by David D.

End time: 7:07 PM