

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 9, 2023

Members Present:

Hatch, Rapp, Leighton

Others Present:

David Jolly

Jerry Markley

Jamie Macnair

Business:

Meeting commenced @ 7:02 PM.

David is a board member of Maine All Care (MAC), whose goal is to see that all Maine citizens have access to equitable universal health care (UHC). MAC is looking to enlist the support of as many Maine towns as possible, to vote in support and in favor of this initiative. Penobscot would be among the first towns to vote if a referendum article can be put on the November ballot. Board voted to approve the referendum. Sally will contact the state elections office to make sure on exactly what needs to be done to get the UHC referendum on the ballot. Draft referendum attached.

Jerry asked to renew his concealed carry (CC) permit. Rapp informed him that his previous permit has expired by more than the allowable six-month grace period and that he would need to submit a new application. This sparked discussion about the town's current administrative capacity (the lack thereof) to process new permitting. Jerry will research the application requirements. He expressed a possible interest in providing the administrative services for new CC and renewal permitting.

Jamie Macnair inquired as to the minimum lot size here in town. She stated she could not find any info on the town website regarding lot size. Dana Willis was called and confirmed the minimum lot size to be 60,000 ft². Jamie stated that she had been told by the surveyor hired to break out a home parcel from a larger lot, had been provided incorrect information from Bryce Farnham. His claim was that Bryce had approved a smaller lot size. Bryce was called and she

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stated that that approval had not been provided. This prompted the discussion of the need to post the current land use ordinance on the website.

Elizabeth Hutchins is requesting a part time assistant tax collector to cover for Rita. Rita notified the Board last week of her need for a leave of absence to care for a family member. Elizabeth recommends Lyndsey Dow. Lyndsey has worked as tax collector for Blue Hill for years, and is now available on an as needed basis. Board approved Lyndsay as a temporary substitute.

Board will meet with Bill Hutchins at the transfer station this coming Thursday 5/11 @ 4:00 pm to stake out a parking area for the BHHT hiking trail to Wallamatogus, relocation of the transfer station gate, and relocation of the scrap metal pile.

Sally requested the installation of a weather proof ballot box she received from the state. Board will look into pouring a small concrete slab to mount the stainless-steel ballot box on, outside of the town office.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Draft 2023 Penobscot Referendum

Supporting the Creation of a Publicly Funded Health Care Plan for All Maine Residents

WHEREAS, every person in Penobscot deserves health care; and

WHEREAS, our present system is confusing, costly and wasteful, and leaves too many of our residents uninsured or subjected to high medical bills despite being insured; and

WHEREAS, a system which is simple, straightforward, and provides citizens with adequate health care is necessary; and

WHEREAS, eliminating high administrative costs and waste would be beneficial to families and businesses; and

Whereas, job losses resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have exposed the limitations of employment-based health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, improving the quality of life for residents in Penobscot by providing the health care they need is desirable,

Be it Resolved that the citizens of Penobscot call on the Maine Legislature to create a publicly funded health care plan that provides every Maine resident with comprehensive medical care.