

**Location:** Carmel Town Office

**Selectmen Present:** Daniel Frye, Suzan Rudnicki, Jared Fitts, Isaac Raymond and Timothy Richardson, Jr.

**Interim Town Manager:** Andrew Hart

**Rec. Secretary:** Coreen Sylvester

**Guests Present:** Planning Board members William J. Mixer, Zack Russell, Seth Braun, Troy Garland, Donald Kneeland and Jessica P. Meek, Michele Daniels of Brewer, David West of B&B Paving Inc., Fire Chief Ralph Shaw, Glennis McSorley, Toby Pelletier, Jacob Moore of Wellman Paving and Marshal Deckers

**6:30 PM:** Daniel Frye called the Selectmen’s meeting to order.

**MINUTES:** Isaac Raymond made a motion to accept the minutes of March 18, 2024 as written. Timothy Richardson seconded. Four voted in favor. Suzan Rudnicki abstained as she was not present for that meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Open Paving Bids:** Selectmen received the following bids for the 2024 paving projects:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Total Price</u>	<u>Total Tons</u>
Wellman Paving Inc.	\$145,193.75	1,257
Vaughn D. Thibodeau II Inc.	\$190,723.00	1,292
Hopkins Paving LLC	\$136,890.00	1,248
Eurovia Atlantic Coast LLC Dbn Northeast Paving	\$189,600.00	1,265
B & B Paving Inc.	\$170,855.00	1,281

Daniel Frye made a motion to accept Hopkins Paving LLC’s bid of \$136,890.00. Suzan Rudnicki seconded. Five voted in favor.

**Meeting With Planning Board – Solar Discussion:** Daniel Frye said we have an application for a solar farm before the Planning Board, and there is a question of whether we want to add more language to our Land Use & Zoning Ordinance to cover solar farms and/or windmills.

Interim Town Manager Andrew Hart said the Planning Board accepted Novel Energy’s application at their last meeting and since that meeting, Novel Energy has asked to delay the public hearing and meeting. There was discussion between the Board, the Interim Town Manager, Planning Board members and guests regarding the pros and cons of solar

energy and whether we want to impose a moratorium on solar farms and/or other renewable energy facilities. After discussion, Selectmen and Planning Board members agreed they would like to have a moratorium put in place, and asked to have attorney Mike Hodgins at the Planning Board meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup> if he is available.

**Fire Truck #424 Pump Repair:** Fire Chief Ralph Shaw presented a quote from Reliance Equipment for repair of the pump that has failed on #424. The quote was for \$3,500.00 to \$8,300.00 depending on what they find when they take the pump out. Dan Frye made a motion to accept the quote to have the pump repaired. Sue Rudnicki seconded. Five voted in favor.

**Review & Approve CEO Ad/Job Description:** Andrew and Selectmen reviewed and edited the CEO ad/job description and agreed to post it in various places, including the Town's website, MMA website, Code Enforcement Officer chatter website and possibly the State of Maine website.

**Local Plumbing Inspector Position:** Isaac Raymond said he spoke with Hermon's plumbing inspector, Jessefa Murphy, and confirmed he is still willing to do all of Carmel's plumbing inspections for the town's permit fees. Andy asked if Mr. Murphy will be generating the report for the State, and Isaac said he will ask him.

**Discussion of Next Steps for the Trails Project:** Isaac said we will need some wetlands permitting, and he is trying to get surveyor Alan Perry to come get the parking lot marked out. It was decided Andy will call Doug Beck from the state to find out the grant requirements including the timeline, and to also ask Doug to attend a Selectmen's meeting, when he is available.

**Discussion of Next Steps for the Town's Municipal Facility Renovation & Expansion Project:** There was discussion regarding the previous proposal from Artifex Architects & Engineers and the need to pare it down. Andy, Ralph and the Selectmen looked over a re-design Kevin Howell had done, and discussed design needs and options. Dan said he is waiting to hear from Carol Woodcock of Senator Susan Collins' office as to the timeline of the grant. We will have to get town meeting approval for the percentage match. Selectmen asked Ralph to show the design to his staff and get ideas from them to get some more suggestions for renovations, and then the next step would be to reach out to the architect and find out the timeline for the grant.

**Charitable Donation Request:** Andy let the Board know he received a request from Sweetser for a donation from the Town. Selectmen said they do not approve charitable donations with taxpayer funds, because it should be up to individuals to choose who they will donate to.

**WARRANT:** Isaac Raymond made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **March 25, 2024** in the amount of **\$8,196.26**. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor.

**WARRANT:** Isaac Raymond made a motion to accept the accounts payable warrant of

**March 25, 2024** in the amount of **\$13,344.87**. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Daniel Frye made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 1MRSA § 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter. Isaac Raymond seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen went into executive session at 8:11 pm. Selectmen reconvened in regular session at 9:17 pm. No action taken, informational only.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Dan Frye made a motion to adjourn. Tim Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.