



**TOWN OF GARLAND**  
**P.O BOX 36**  
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**PLANNING BOARD**  
**Minutes**  
**8/10/2021**

1. Call to order: 6:00

Declaration of quorum: Present: Ed Hummel, Peter Devine, Kandie Cleaves, Nathan Pitts. Guests: State Representative Steven Foster, Edie Smith (Regional Representative for Senator King), plus six additional members of the public.

2. Approval of minutes of 7/13/21: Moved and accepted as read

Motion: \_\_Kandie\_\_ Second: \_\_Nathan\_\_ Vote 4 / 0 / 0

3. Correspondence: None

4. Public participation: Concern expressed about a dangerous tree. Suggestion given to contact either the power company or town selectboard.

5. Informational meeting concerning broadband access with invited guests: Edie Smith informed those present about three resources on the state level and one at the regional level:

a. ConnectME (Connect Maine Authority)

<https://www.maine.gov/connectme/home>

peggy.schaffer@maine.gov (207) 624-9849

- b. Maine Broadband Coalition  
<https://www.mainebroadbandcoalition.org/> Andrew Butcher  
[connect@mainebroadbandcoalition.org](mailto:connect@mainebroadbandcoalition.org)
- c. Maine Connectivity Authority still getting organized with a board of directors but still hiring staff. First board meeting is August 17 from 2:00 to 4:00 (see ConnectME News)
- d. Eastern Maine Development Corp. (EMDC) – Vicki Rusbult, Director of Community and Business Services: [VRusbult@emdc.org](mailto:VRusbult@emdc.org) (207) 974-3238.

Steve Foster reminded us of the meeting he had with us in November of 2018 where it was determined that the town would have to come up with \$85,000 support broadband infrastructure. Presently there is at least \$166.5 million at the state level with more coming through the recent infrastructure bill. He also stated that Cambridge has written a grant, that Garland would have to contribute some amount of matching monies via a town meeting.

Edie also mentioned Danny Sullivan from Baileyville who was the coordinator for that town of their broadband program. She will provide us with contact info.

Robert Goings talked about broadband providers – Premium Choice and Consolidated and reported that Premium Choice has been far more proactive in building out capacity in the past. It was also noted that there are currently major lines on Rte 7 and Rte 15 courtesy of the three ring binder and also smaller lines on the Garland Line Road and Bear Hill Road in Dover-Foxcroft.

Ed is to contact the select board to get the go-ahead for Kandie to contact ConnectME, EMDC, and Danny Sullivan re: grants and next steps.

- 6. Work session on town roads status and official names: Peter reported that progress was limited since last meeting. He found out that the town office does not currently have a copy of the E-911 map and the state no longer updates the data. Shannon Doncet-Hall was E-911 coordinator in the past, but that has shifted to the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) who has not yet been trained in how to access the data. Karen, the admin, has offered to assist him. The names

on the official road signs around town have been recorded for future matching once an updated map is obtained.

Ed is to contact the select board to get approval for the planning board to engage with the CEO and Karen, the Admin. in updating the towns E-911 map.

7. New business and other matters: A special town meeting will be held at the end of August to elect a new selectperson and open discussion re: possible development of a comprehensive plan.

8. Adjournment: 7:16

Motion: Nathan Second: Kandie Vote: Unanimous