

TOWN OF DIXFIELD

Minutes of Meeting
Board of Selectmen
Selectmen's Budget Workshop
April 6, 2009
5:00 p.m., Town Office

Board Members Present: Bettina M. Martin, Norine H. Clarke, James L. Desjardins, Raymond E. Carlton and Brad E. Dyer

Board Members Absent:

Administration Present: Eugene R. Skibitsky (Town Manager), Charlotte M. Collins (Minutes), Police Chief Richard Pickett

Citizens Present: Herbert Courtney (Dixfield American Legion), Christine Donahue (and friend), Gene Ellis, Debbie Giroux, Chip Towle and Debbie Dolloff

Press: Eileen Adams, Lewiston Journal

PUBLIC HEARING SPECIAL AMUSEMENTS – AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 100

Chair Martin opened the public hearing at 5:00 p.m. to hear comments regarding the following approval of Special Amusement Permits for the Dixfield American Legion Post No. 100, 8 River Lane, Dixfield:

Beano – Cribbage - Sealed Tickets

Mr. Herbert Courtney, representative for the Legion, was present and explained the contributions that are made each year from the sale of tickets and bean/cribbage games. The charities include donations to veterans, local non-profit groups and Dixfield citizens in times of need. The hall is also available for rent for weddings, showers, birthday parties, etc. for \$75.00/day. There were no adverse comments made. The public hearing closed at 5:02 p.m.

On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Special Amusement Permits for the Dixfield American Legion Post No. 100. The Selectmen signed the permits which will be distributed by the Deputy Town Clerk.

**PUBLIC HEARING
LIQUOR LICENSE – GENE ELLIS, DBA ELLIS’ VARIETY**

Chair Martin opened the public hearing at 5:10 p.m. to hear comments regarding the approval of a Liquor License for Mr. Gene R. Ellis, DBA Ellis’ Variety, 126 Weld Street, Dixfield.

Mr. Ellis was present and explained to the Board of Selectmen that his intent is to serve beer and wine only in the restaurant area of his store. No “hard” liquor will be served.

Mrs. Clarke voiced a concern about the premises’ proximity to Dirigo High School.

Mr. Desjardins felt that it would not be a concern as Mr. Ellis takes precautions regarding his beer/wine sales. He felt that things would not get “out of hand”.

Mr. Ellis explained that all his personnel will receive appropriate training, and servers can sell at age 18 as long as there is someone present who is 21. No further comments were made; the meeting closed at 5:13 p.m.

Ms. Debbie Giroux, Ellis’ Variety personnel, explained that “wine” should be added to the permit as it was omitted in error. Chair Martin read the permit and then added the word “wine” to the document. The public hearing closed at 5:16 p.m.

On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Liquor License for Mr. Gene R. Ellis of Ellis’ Variety. The Selectmen signed the permit which will be distributed by the Deputy Town Clerk.

-
1. Chair Martin called the Board of Selectmen’s Meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.
 2. **General Assistance Ordinance:** A public hearing was held on March 30, 2009 to hear comments regarding the town’s General Assistance Ordinance amendments. No objections were heard. On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amendments to the town’s General Assistance Ordinance that will be in effect from April 24, 2009 through September 30, 2009.
 3. **2009 Distinguished Citizen Award Nominations:** The Town Manager explained to the Board that the time has come to call for nominations for the town’s 2009 Distinguished Citizen Award. An advertisement will be placed in the newspapers, and voting will be held at a later date by the Board of Selectmen.

4. **Budget Workshop:**

a. **Police Department:** Chief Pickett and the Town Manager explained the Police Department's 2009/10 Budget request. Increases are due to Dixfield's entry into the Maine Municipal Association Unemployment Fund and higher workers' compensation insurance rates. No increase in salaries is being sought.

On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board unanimously approved the amount of \$298,778 as their recommendation for the 2009/10 Police Department Budget.

b. **Executive Department:** The Town Manager explained the Executive Department's 2009/10 Budget. Increases are due to Dixfield's entry into the Maine Municipal Association Unemployment Fund and higher workers' compensation insurance rates. No increase in salaries is being sought.

The Tax Anticipation Note was adjusted to \$0 and the Legal Fees Account was adjusted to \$5,000.

On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board unanimously approved the amount of \$277,590 as their recommendation for the 2009/10 Executive Department Budget.

c. **Debt Service:** On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board unanimously approved the amount of \$45,080 as their recommendation for the 2009/10 Debt Service Budget.

d. **Reserve Accounts:** On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board unanimously approved the amount of \$152,014 as their recommendation for the 2009/10 Reserve Accounts Budget.

5. **Adjournment:** On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins
Deputy Treasurer

/cmc