

**TOWN OF DIXFIELD**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Board of Selectmen – Budget Meeting**  
**Monday, May 11, 2009 - 5:00 p.m.**  
**Dixfield 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) Leo Jolin (Public Works), Scott Dennett (Fire Chief), Jim White (Water Dept. Superintendent)

**Citizens Present:**

**Press:** Eileen Adams (Sun Journal)

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Mr. Carlton and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes with the following correction:

Mrs. Clarke asked that the Road Foreman Report be labeled better to include titles and dates, along with the labor hours.

3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** On a motion from Mr. Carlton and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the warrants and payroll as listed on the agenda.

4. **Department Head Reports:**

a. **Public Works:** Leo Jolin presented the Board with the Public Works Department monthly report and commented as follows:

- The storm report was corrected to reflect 420 tons of salt used @ \$78.00/ton; 120 tons were taken to Mexico
- Spring clean-up has been completed
- Drainage work will begin at the Town Garage and will take approximately three days to complete

Selectman Desjardins felt that potholes should be addressed before the drainage work begins. He asked that all holes be filled, not just the large ones and suggested that one worker could fill potholes while two worked on the drainage problem.

- Painting crosswalks will begin next week as well as culvert work
- A culvert on Severy Hill was replaced; it is still quite wet, however, but passable as one lane

(f) **Under New Business (Marble Lane Oak Tree):** The town received a complaint from Mr. Donald Cushman that an oak tree located on Marble Lane seemed dangerously close to splitting and falling, possibly causing damage to power lines. The Town Manager explained that there are no visible signs of the tree splitting. After a short discussion, it was decided that the Town Manager would request an estimate from Danny Anctil for the removal of the tree. The Town Manager will also determine the road width of Marble Lane.

b. **Water Department:** Mr. White reported as follows:

- Flushing has been completed using 465,000 gallons of water to flush mains
- The new water meter program has begun with about 19 new meters having been installed
- Mr. White requested that the town formulate a meter policy soon
- The new style meter is much more accurate and the master meter is again working well
- It will take approximately 3 days to repair the Water Department's truck that recently hit deer for a cost of \$1,700
- Mr. White was called in late Friday afternoon due to the breaker to the chemical pumps being tripped. A screw was loose in the breaker, and an electrician will be repairing it
- The hydrant painting will begin in a week or two

c. **Fire Department:** Chief Dennett attended the meeting and reported on the following items:

- Chief Dennett, Selectman Clarke and Town Manager Skibitsky attended a Fire Department meeting in East Dixfield that was held by the East Dixfield and Wilton Fire Departments. East Dixfield needs another fire truck to service the residents of both East Dixfield and Wilton. Next year they plan to make a presentation for a new truck. The current tanker is leaking quite badly. It should hold 1,000 gallons of water but can only sustain 450.
- The new truck will be jointly purchased by the Towns of Dixfield and Wilton
- In the meantime, East Dixfield Fire Department needs to borrow Dixfield's older truck. If needed, the truck will be brought back to the Dixfield station

On a motion by Mr. Carlton and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board unanimously approved moving the fire truck to East Dixfield for the use by the East Dixfield/Wilton Fire Departments for the next two years with the stipulation that when our fire engines go out for service, the vehicle will be moved back to Dixfield for that day. Town Manager Skibitsky will compose a "Memorandum of Agreement"

for the use of the truck with any stipulations for the East Dixfield/Wilton Fire Departments and the town.

**5. New Business:**

a. **Code Enforcement Officer Nomination:** Town Manager Skibitsky recommended hiring Calvin Beaumier as the town's next C.E.O. He spoke of Mr. Beaumier's background as well as Mr. Beaumier's expectations of the job in Dixfield. He will be working on a regular weekday schedule. The interview went well; the town has budgeted \$2,700 for this position. On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Town Manager's recommendation.

b. **2009 ATV Grant:** Resident Daniel Mitchell would like to apply for an ATV grant through the state for the town. Seventy (70%) percent of the work on trails (\$32,716.50) would be reimbursed by State of Maine. After reviewing the grant paperwork, Mr. Carlton moved to approve the application and submission of the ATV grant. Mr. Dyer seconded the motion which was approved unanimously by the Board of Selectmen. The Town Manager will sign all paperwork.

c. **Distinguished Citizen 2009 Award:** On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to award Mr. Montell C. Kennedy the 2009 Distinguished Citizen Award.

**d. Sewer Department :**

1. Ms. Denise Letalien of 20 Park Avenue filed for a temporary disconnection of the sewer located at this property. The building burned a few weeks ago, and she will be selling the land only.

2. Mr. Jeffrey Hodges of 25 Hall Hill filed for a permanent disconnection of a sewer service located on his property. A mobile home has been moved, and the sewer connection will be capped and not used in the future.

On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to approve both requests.

e. **Voting Day, Place and Hours (Selectmen):** There is no state referendum or primary voting to be held this June, and the Regional School Unit No. 10 Director was chosen in January. The only voting that will be held is for the election of Municipal Officers (Selectmen).

On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to approve holding the election of municipal officers on Thursday, May 28, 2009, from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Annual Town Meeting will be held on the same day beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the T.W. Kelly Middle School.

## 6. Old Business:

a. **Cemetery Mowing:** The Town Manager presented the Board with a spread sheet that outlined the grounds and mowing costs to date (June 2008 through May 2009). A consensus by the Board is that the cemetery mowing will be done by Mr. Daley for \$10,000, snow removal around town buildings will be done by Mr. Daley for \$1,000 and municipal grounds will be done by the Public Works Department for the 2009/10 budget year.

b. **Sewer Force Main:** The Board approved an agreement with the Rumford/Mexico Sewerage Department for the town's sewer waste treatment for approximately \$27,000 annually, but will work further toward an agreement on the sewer force main's ownership and/or obligations for replacement and repairs. Town Manager Skibitsky was directed to negotiate with the Mexico Sewer District Board and with its council.

A meeting has been scheduled for May 19, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mexico Town Office conference room. The meeting will be attended by Selectmen Martin, Clarke and possibly Desjardins and Carlton.

On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted unanimously to accept the agreement between the Rumford/Mexico Sewer District and the town.

c. **Draft Warrant (Annual Town Meeting):** A short discussion was held regarding the possibility that the meeting might adjourn until Saturday morning. The Town Manager has scheduled a moderator for Thursday evening, but is still unable to find one for Saturday.

A few discrepancies were also noted by the Chair which will be corrected before the final warrant is made available for signatures.

## 7. Town Manager's Report:

a. **Post Office Painting:** The Town Manager suggested that an informal bid be placed to do the Post Office painting job this summer with the 2009/10 budget. Colors that the Post Office requires will be obtained from the Postmaster. The bricks on the back of the Post Office will be done in this year's budget.

b. **Shoreland Zoning:** The DEP has signed off on the town's re-zoning of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Gerrier will now need a building permit to construct a barn within the new zone.

c. **Mobilize Maine:** So noted by the Board.

**d. Auditor Schedule:**

June 30, 2009	Pre-Audit with Vernice Evasius
July 1, 2009	Book Closing with Vernice Evaius
Week of August 10, 2009	Audit

8. **Board Questions/Comments:** None

9. **Other Business:** None

10. **Executive Session:** On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:20 p.m. per 1 MRSA 405 (6)(D), Labor Negotiations.

11: **FYI:** So noted.

12. **Next Meeting:** Monday, May 18, 2009, 5:00 p.m., Town Office

13. **Adjournment:** The Board voted to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins  
Deputy Treasurer/Secretary

/cmc

Attachments