

MINUTES OF MEETING

Town of Dixfield

Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor

Monday, October 12, 2009

5:00 p.m., Town Office

Board Members Present: Bettina M. Martin (Chair), Raymond E. Carlton, Norine H. Clarke, James L. Desjardins and Stephen G. Donahue

Board Members Absent:

Administration Present: Eugene R. Skibitsky (Town Manager), Charlotte M. Collins (Minutes), Leo Jolin (Public Works), Jim White (Water Dept.)

Press Present: Eileen Adams (Sun Journal)

Citizens Present: Brenda Norcross

PUBLIC HEARING – GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE

Chair Martin opened the General Assistance Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. to hear comment regarding the adoption of the State-recommended General Assistance Ordinance changes and Appendices A-C for the year 2009/2010. These changes will be used by the town in guiding the use of General Assistance funds. No comments were made, and the hearing closed at 5:01 p.m.

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1. Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
 2. **Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 28, 2009.
 3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Warrants and Payroll as listed on the agenda.
 4. **Department Head Reports:**
 - b. **Public Works Department:** Leo Jolin reported as follows:
 - The crew ended work with the excavator; the Drown road is not complete
 - Two culverts were installed and 10,571 feet of road has been ditched
 - Hall Hill and Mill Street extension may be “reclaimed” with materials we have on hand
 - Most of the past two weeks have been spent on ditching and excavator work

c. **Water Department:** Superintendent Jim White reported as follows:

- The water department crew will be flushing the main during the last week in October; it is scheduled for a 4-day flush
- Due to other projects, there was no time to do the access road to the reservoir
- The water flow meter has been acting up; after a good cleaning, it is now working fine
- The Water Department truck may be in need of four new tires; the Town Manager and Mr. White will handle the purchase
- Forty-five meters have been replaced
- The chlorine pump has been repaired
- The Newton Avenue water main project turned out to be more difficult than anticipated. The water table was much deeper than expected causing additional time in laying pipe. Pressure tests failed which caused the pipe to be dug up after laying it. The gasket failed. 28 yards of stone were needed and additional gravel was brought in to grade the road properly. The project should still come in under budget or if not, it might be slightly over. Eleven customers are now quite happy.
- The apartment building on the corner of Mill and Third Streets is continuing to be a problem. There is no power in the building, but people have been reported as living there. Water is being used by running a hose. PUC rules dictate the steps needed to insure payment to the water department. These steps will be taken soon. \$700 is owed for the last quarter.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

5. **Old Business:**

a. **Ellis Street:** The people poled on the street are not in favor of making Ellis Street a one-way street. Board members agreed that painting lines, moving the Stop sign to its appropriate location and making sure cars are parking where they should be are the best solutions for now. The Town Manager will see that this is carried out.

b. **Road Projects:** The Road Committee met and went over the bids for the road construction. The bid was awarded to the Bedard Company for both projects. Leo Jolin and the Town Manager will oversee the sites, and payment will be made from the Road Construction Reserve Account.

c. **Sidewalk Plow:** Mechanic Craig Woods researched the possibilities of purchasing a new or used sidewalk plow as the town's is in very poor condition and will not last the winter. After discussion, the Board agreed to consider a lease/purchase agreement. The information for this will be brought to the next meeting for final discussion.

6. **New Business:**

a. **Boiler Bids:** Boiler bids are due October 16, 2009 and will be ready for opening at the next meeting of the Selectmen on 10/26/09.

b. **General Assistance Ordinance:** The Board approved and signed the General Assistance Ordinance changes and appendices as recommended at the above hearing.

7. **Town Manager's Report:**

- AVCOG's Planning Day will be held on November 5, 2009 from 8:30-3:30 p.m. in Auburn. Windpower will be on the agenda and the Town Manager encouraged the Selectmen to attend.
- The new stencil that will be added to the new Public Works Department truck was presented to the Board for approval. Other companies will be asked for a quote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

8. **Board Questions/Comments:**

Mrs. Clarke: Mrs. Clarke reported on an upcoming meeting at the Muskie Auditorium in Rumford concerning windpower.

Ms. Martin: Ms. Martin reported that she and Mrs. Clarke had met again with the Mexico Sewer District Trustees to discuss the final contract between towns. She needed a vote regarding the percentages that will be used in the final contract. On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted unanimously to use the 100% force main-50% gravity proposal.

9. **Other Business:**

10. **Executive Session:**

11. **FYI:** So noted.

12. **Next Meeting:** Monday, October 26, 2009, 5:00 p.m., Town Office

13. **Adjournment:** On a motion from Mr. Carlton and a second from Mr. Donahue, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins
Secretary/Deputy Treasurer

/cmc

Attachments