

MINUTES OF MEETING

Town of Dixfield

Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor

Monday, October 26, 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), Police Chief Pickett, Fire Chief Dennett, CEO Beaumier, David Phair

Press Present: Eileen Adams (Sun Journal)

Citizens Present: Many Citizens

PUBLIC HEARING – JUNKYARDS-AUTOMOBILE GRAVEYARDS

Chair Martin opened the Junkyards-Automobile Graveyards Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. No comments or objections were made to the following applicants who applied for a permit:

Averill, Lester N. & Claude – 275 Averill Hill Road
Blanchard, Robert S., Sr. – 85 Holman Road
Drown, Shannon L. – 133 Drown Road
Hall, Clifford – 803 Canton Point Road
Mitchell, Norman – 64 East Dixfield Road
Morrison Motors, Inc. – Morrison Road
Philbrick, Colin & Jean – 15 Norton Road
Speranza, James – 38 Old Staples Hill Road
Tyler, Roland H. – 1118 Canton Point Road

Chair Martin closed the Public Hearing 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. Carlton and a second from Mr. Donahue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 12, 2009.

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

4. Department Head Reports:

a. Police Chief:

Chief Picket reported as follows:

- Due to a computer glitch, the fuel log will be included in next month's report
- The town has had use of the Oxford County electronic speed sign for two weeks. It has been moved to various locations throughout town so that citizens can better gauge the speed that they are traveling. It has proven to be a useful tool. The Chief will return it at the end of the week.
- Barricades will be set up on various streets to accommodate the Halloween Walk that will take place on Weld Street beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- The Police Department tasers arrived today and training will begin within the next two weeks. The Board will be notified so that they may attend.

b. Fire Chief:

Chief Dennett reported as follows:

- Chief Dennett reported on the fire truck that the department is hoping to purchase. It was looked over from top to bottom. A new chassis overhaul will be included in the purchase at no extra cost.
- The two fire truck doors at the station will need to be raised to accommodate the new truck sizes. A reputable mason will be recommended for the job
- Electrical work will also need to be done at the same time the doors are raised.
- An additional panel will be needed to accommodate the door enlargement.
- The fire truck reserve account will be more than enough for the truck purchase, and the fire station reserve account will be needed for the repairs to the station. The total price is approximately \$238,934.00.

On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of the fire truck using Fire Truck Reserve funds.

On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the renovations to the fire station using the Fire Station Reserve funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Isaac Libby stated that Brian Street was not repaired satisfactorily as no water is flowing into the catch basin. He felt the money was thrown out the window. There are exposed shoulders on both sides of the road, and the repair is already showing signs of deterioration as the water is undermining the pavement.

The Town Manager stated that the upper part of Brian Street needs to be repaired and that he will try to find at least a temporary solution before winter sets in.

5. Old Business:

a. Boiler Bids:

Community Energy	Boiler w/hot water heater	\$10,027
Community Energy	Boiler w/tankless hot water coil	7,996
RPH, Inc.	Boiler w/hot water heater	10,549
RPH, Inc.	Boiler w/tankless hot water coil	7,087
Specialty Services Corp.	Boiler w/hot water heater	10,985
Specialty Services Corp.	Boiler w/tankless hot water coil	8,210.99

It was determined that the external tank was more efficient for the town's needs. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board vote unanimously to accept the bid from Community Energy for a boiler w/hot water heater for \$10,027.

b. Sidewalk Plow: Kevin Doyle, Sales Representative from TENCO, was on hand to demonstrate and speak about the possibility of the town purchasing a new sidewalk plow. The particular piece of equipment demonstrated will also sweep streets, mow lawns and can be used as a hydraulic shovel in addition to plowing sidewalks.

His company will offer a lease option, rental option or outright purchase option. No decision was made at this time.

6. New Business:

a. Patriot Renewables – Wind Power: Tom Carroll from Patriot Renewables stated that his company will be opening an information office sometime next week at the Holmes' Market property on Main Street. It will be manned on Monday and Tuesday/Thursday and Friday. He will be available to answer questions that citizens might have pertaining to the newly proposed wind turbine project. Townspeople are encouraged to stop by and ask questions and pick up their literature.

An informational meeting is being planned and will be held sometime within the next three weeks.

b. Jim Packard – Porter Road: A side spur off the Porter Road, called "Packard Road", is not a town-accepted road according to town records. Mr. Packard explained to the Board that in 1968 the original road was discontinued that ran by his house and a new section was created that made the spur that services his house. The town has been maintaining it for 41 years since 1968. He felt that the town should continue to maintain the road to his house as it was agreed upon 41 years ago by his father and Selectman Lloyd Armstrong.

The Town Manager consulted MMA’s legal team that stated if there were no written agreement, town meeting acceptance, etc. the town has no right to continue servicing this road as it became a private drive once the old road was discontinued.

The Town Manager checked all the old Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes (as well as old Town Meeting records), talked with various “old” crew members and researched everything possible to no avail. He will search old deeds to see if anything appears in them to allow the town to continue the maintenance. The solution is to have the town accept the spur as town property/town road.

c. Junkyards – Automobile Graveyard Renewals: Code Enforcement Officer Calvin Beaumier explained to the Board the State criteria that must be followed by the Board of Selectmen when issuing permits for junkyards. By statute, there are several issues that must be addressed to become a viable junkyard business.

He has visited some of the applicants’ properties as well as others that have no permits and has found many to be in violation of DEP and State requirements. Mr. Beaumier requested another month to do adequate inspections. Norman and Terri Mitchell of East Dixfield disagreed with Mr. Beaumier’s findings and wanted their license renewed.

On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted to approve all junkyards/automobile graveyards. Permits may be revoked if, during the course of an inspection by the CEO, the junkyard is not meeting standards.

Selectman Martin	Yea
Selectman Carlton	Yea
Selectman Desjardins	Yea
Selectman Donahue	Yea
Selectman Clarke	Abstained

7. Town Manager’s Report:

- Town Manager Skibitsky introduced Mr. David E. Phair of 39 Blayne Street, Dixfield, to the Board of Selectmen as his candidate of choice for the position of Road Foreman in the Public Works Department. He asked the Board to ratify his choice. On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted as follows to ratify the Town Manager’s recommendation as follows:

Selectman Martin	Yea
Selectman Desjardins	Yea
Selectman Donahue	Yea
Selectman Clarke	Yea
Selectman Carlton	Nay

- The Beautification donation of \$500 was tabled for a future meeting.

The Bank Resolution was updated to current employees. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Donahue, the following vote is hereby unanimously adopted by the Dixfield Board of Selectmen:

- VOTED: (1) That under and pursuant to Title 30-A, Section 5772 of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended and supplemented, there be and hereby is authorized the issuance of a General Obligation Bond of the Town to finance the purchase of a truck for the Dixfield Public Works Department as approved by town meeting vote on May 28, 2009.
- (2) That said Bond shall be dated October 30, 2009, shall be payable in five annual installments payable on October 30 of each of the next five years and shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by the Chair or Vice Chair of the Select Board and otherwise be in such form and bear such details as the signers may determine.
- (3) That the Town Treasurer and Chair or Vice Chair of the Select Board are hereby authorized to issue the aforementioned General Obligation Bond in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000).
- (4) That the economic life of the truck is hereby determined to be in excess of 5 years, thereby meeting the IRS requirement which states that the term of the Bond may not exceed 120% of the economic life of the acquisition.
- (5) That said Bond is hereby sold and awarded to Bangor Savings Bank at an interest rate of 3.35%.
- (6) That said Bond is hereby designated qualified tax-exempt obligation of the Town for the 2009 calendar year pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
- (7) That all things heretofore done and all action heretofore taken by the Town, its municipal officers and agents in the authorization of said Bond are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed, and the Treasurer and Chair or Vice Chair are each hereby authorized to take any and all action necessary or convenient to carry out the provisions of this voting, including delivering said Bond against payment thereof.

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- The Dirigo athletic department has requested permission to re-build the scoring tower at Harlow Park. There will be no cost to the town; funds will be raised through donations of money and materials. The Board decided to study the plans and revisit the project at the next meeting.
 - Rumford is hosting the Air Force Band on November 4, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Municipal Building. The band will kick off efforts to open this space up to more use by the public. There will be a designated section

dedicated to local dignitaries. For those who would like to attend, please contact the Town Manager.

- The Senior Class will be hosting a Haunted Hayride at McGouldrick Park on Halloween from 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. to raise money for the class. Last year's was a success with no complaints.
- AVCOG will be hosting a Planning Day/Windmills on November 5, 2009 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Lewiston from 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. for those who care to attend.
- The Town Manager showed the Board two markups of the town seal to use on the new Public Works vehicle. Brushmarks was quite a bit cheaper (\$185.00) so the Board's consensus was to use Brushmarks for the lettering.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John W. Menthe, Sr. of Severy Hill reminded the Selectmen that there had been an earthquake in 1980 located near Col. Holman Mountain.

8. Board Questions/Comments:

Mr. Donahue: Commented about the Brian Street concerns.

Mr. Carlton: Stated that the hot top job that was done by the Thaddeus White Bridge was a poor job and poor workmanship.

9. Other Business:

10. **Executive Session:** On a motion from Mr. Carlton and a second from Mr. Donahue, the Board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 7:05 p.m.

11. **FYI:** So noted.

12: **Next Meeting:** Monday, November 9, 2009, 5:00 p.m., Town Office

13. **Adjournment:** On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins
Secretary/Deputy Treasurer

/cmc

Attachments