

MINUTES OF MEETING

Town of Dixfield

Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor

Monday, December 13, 2010

5:00 p.m., Dixfield Town Office

Board Members Present: Stephen G. Donahue (Vice Chair), Norine H. Clarke, Malcolm M. Gill

Board Members Absent: Bettina M. Martin (Chair), Katherine N. Harvey

Administration Present: Eugene R. Skibitsky (Town Manager), Charlotte M. Collins (Minutes), PWD David Phair, Water Dept. Jim White, Fire Dept. Scott Dennett

Press Present: WVAC, Eileen Adams (Lewiston Journal), Cherri Crockett (Rumford Falls Times)

Citizens Present: Freemont Tibbetts, Dan McKay

PUBLIC HEARING: SPECIAL AMUSEMENTS – AMERICAN LEGION POST No. 100

1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chair Donahue opened the Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. to take comment on the American Legion's Special Amusement License for Cribbage Games. As there were no comments from the Board of Selectmen or others present, the hearing was closed at 5:02 p.m. Mr. Donahue continued with the Board of Selectmen's meeting.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 22, 2010.
3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to approve the warrants and payroll as listed on the agenda.
4. **Department Head Reports:**
 - a. **Water Department – Jim White:** Mr. White reported as follows:
 - All hydrants have been pumped, checked and antifreeze added
 - Completed the year-end inventory
 - The property owner of 22 Lyons Lane has had \$428.96 abated from their water bill due to a damaged water valve caused by a former employee of the Water Department. Approximately \$20.00 in parts were used to repair the problem. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board voted unanimously to approve the abatement since it was used for utility purposes.

b. **Public Works Dept. – Dave Phair:** Mr. Phair reported as follows:

- The sidewalk project has been completed on Weld Street; sawcuts every five feet and sealer
- Holt Hill Road has been completed with no change orders
- Brian Street is finished and all bills have been submitted
- The ice rink at McGouldrick Park will be maintained by the Public Works Department this winter
- Repaired a small washout on Severy Hill, and replaced a culvert on Rollins Ridge Road
- Added fill near the Coolidge residence
- The sidewalk drainage is good
- Hugh Daley will no longer be doing the snow shoveling jobs at the town buildings

Public Comment: None

5. **Old Business:**

a. **Bid Opening on East Dixfield Fire Truck:** One (1) bid was received—Woodstock Fire Department bidding \$2,100 for the 1985 Fire Truck. Their check was enclosed with the bid. Fire Chief Scott Dennett stated that he had hope for a little more, but would accept this bid. On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to accept the bid from Woodstock Fire Department in the amount of \$2,100 for the 1985 Fire Truck, the money going into the Fire Truck Reserve Account.

b. **2011 Water and Sewer Departments Budgets:** The Town Manager explained there were very few changes made to the proposed budgets this year. The loss of Irving Forest Products’ private fire protection will impact the Water Department’s revenue and bridge inspection work will impact the Sewer Department. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approve the 2011 Water and Sewer Departments budgets.

c. **Webb River Bridge Project:** The Town Manager discussed the State’s Webb River Bridge project and the funding that must be secured by the Town to fund a new force main, sewer line. Among the possibilities are Federal funding, Bond Bank, Farmers Home Administration or a local bank. Mr. Skibitsky estimated the town costs as follows:

\$ 80,700	Construction Costs
<u>17,500</u>	Inspections, legal work, Ted Berry Co., fees
\$ 98,200	Total

Mr. Skibitsky will contact the Board when a meeting is needed.

6. **New Business:**

a. **Special Amusements:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Special Amusements Permit for cribbage for the American Legion Post 100 in Dixfield.

7. Town Manager's Report:

a. **Cancellation of Selectmen's meeting of 12/27/2010:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to cancel the meeting of 12/27/2010.

b. **Roads Committee:** The committee has met twice with engineering firms with one more firms to interview. The committee will then decide on their recommendations or choose to schedule second interviews.

c. **River Valley Animal Advocates:** The Board noted the report from RVAA regarding their spaying/neutering program and the progress made over the past year. They were gratefully acknowledged for all the work they do to help animals in the Dixfield area.

d. **Police Reserve Officer:** Chief Pickett reported that a new reserve officer was appointed (Dustin Broughton). Mr. Broughton is an academy graduate, worked for the Town of Mexico and knows the area very well. He can be hired after completing the FTD program.

Public Comments: None

8. Board Questions/Comments:

Vice Chair Donahue wished everyone in attendance a Merry Christmas and reminded them to remember our young people in the Armed Forces during the holiday season.

Town Manager Skibitsky stated that a special Selectmen's Meeting may be scheduled before the next regularly scheduled meeting to conduct business regarding the sewer loan.

9. **FYI:** So Noted.

10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, January 10, 2011, 5:00 p.m., Town Office

11. **Adjournment:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins
Secretary/Deputy Treasurer

/cmc - attachments