

**CORRECTED MINUTES**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Town of Dixfield  
Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor  
Monday, September 13, 2010  
5:00 p.m., Town Office

- Board Members Present:** Bettina M. Martin (Chair), Norine H. Clarke, Katherine N. Harvey, and Malcolm M. Gill
- Board Members Absent:** Stephen G. Donahue
- Administration Present:** Eugene R. Skibitsky (Town Manager), Charlotte M. Collins (Minutes), David Phair (Public Works), Jim White (Water)
- Press Present:** RVAC and Eileen Adams
- Citizens Present:** Fremont Tibbetts, Danny McKay, Mike McClellan (Fast Forward Program)

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING – SEWER DEPARTMENT LOAN**

Chair Martin opened the public hearing to hear comments regarding the Sewer Department Loan for the needed installation of new piping under the Webb River Bridge when the State of Maine DOT replaces the Webb River Bridge.

The Town Manager explained the process the State is following with bidding going out in mid-October. The Town of Dixfield is on their list. The \$250,000 loan is the maximum amount needed to complete the job, including inspection services.

The hearing ended at 5:05 p.m.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted to approve the minutes of 8/23/2010. Mrs. Clark abstained from voting as she attended the meeting late and could not comment on all agenda items. (3-0)
3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the warrants and payroll as listed on the agenda.

## 2. Department Head Reports:

### a. **Water Department (Jim White):** Mr. White reported as follows:

- The North Street job was completed with few problems and came out very well
- North and Pine Street paving will be done on Tuesday, September 14, 2010
- If the approval for paving Coburn Avenue with a 2" binder is given, the jobs will be complete. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the extra funds to complete the job on Coburn Avenue.
- A new valve is needed at the intersection of High and Main Streets near the laundrymat as the old one is leaking. The cost is approximately \$4,600; the department has nearly \$1,600 of it in stock at the garage. It will cost about \$3,000 to replace the valve and piping, but then it will be complete and will not interfere with the State's job when replacing the Webb River Bridge. On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to expend the funds to replace the valve.

### b. **Public Works Department (David Phair):** Mr. Phair reported as follows:

- Foreman Phair collected the scrap metal (copper and brass) from the water projects and recycled them, earning \$1,680 for the metal. He requested approval of purchasing a trailer in which to haul the Kabota around. On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board voted unanimously to grant approval for the purchase.
- 3,775' of ditching has been completed by the Public Works crew: 582' on the Old Canton Road, 880' on the Drown Road, 624' on the Merrill Road, 835' on the Valley Road and 835' feet on other areas
- Culverts have been installed on the Merrill, Drown, Valley and Severy Hill Roads
- Two culverts installed on private property on Severy Hill will be paid by the property owner
- Other work accomplished: assisted the Water Department, mowing and weed whacking the cemeteries
- Spoke with Mr. Roy on the Old Canton Road regarding the need for surface gravel being added to the road in the future

**Presentation from Mr. Mike McClellan/Fast Forward Program:** Mr. McClellan explained the new economic development program offered by the State that will involve Rumford, Mexico and Dixfield. Consulting skills will be offered to 30 businesses who apply in the area; this should help increase business profits by approximately 15%. Any business who may be interested in the Fast Forward Program can contact Mr. McClellan at 329-6148 or [www.fastforwardrestart.org](http://www.fastforwardrestart.org).

### **Public Comment:**

Danny McKay suggested that the Board may wish to consider extending the Wind Energy Facility Moratorium Ordinance as it will be expiring on October 8, 2010.

### **5. Old Business:**

a. **Planning Board Appointments:** On a motion from Mrs. Harvey and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Michael Peters and Craig Coulthard to the Planning Board for three-year terms of office, expiring at Town Meeting of 2013.

b. **Hemingway Consent/Agreement:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to approve and sign the Consent Agreement for the Ronald and Yvonne Hemingway property.

c. **Sidewalk Grant Application:** Town Manager Skibitsky reported that the sidewalk grant had been re-submitted in the amount of \$204,544. The town will share 20% of the costs for a sidewalk that will run from the Superintendent's office on Nash Street up Weld Street to the Middle School. The town has \$8,019.57 in reserve funds, and the town can also do "in-kind" work to lower the costs to the town.

d. **Mexico Water District Contract:** The Selectmen had previously approved the Mexico Water District contract with the Town of Dixfield. The Board signed both copies of the contract: One for Dixfield/one for Mexico.

e. **Teamsters Local #340 Contract:** The town has not yet received the approved contract to sign from the union's representative.

### **6. New Business:**

a. **School Zone Signs/Pine Street:** The Seventh Day Adventist Church has requested "School Zone" signs for their new school located on Pine Street. The Chief of Police stated that the signs would be placed in line with those of Dirigo High School. On a motion from Mrs. Harvey and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board voted unanimously to install the signs as recommended by the Chief of Police. The Public Works Department will install them.

b. **Ballots for November 2, 2010 Elections:** Town Manager Skibitsky stated that the Wind ordinance and Comprehensive Plan Revisions had included all legal advice as well as that from AVCOC in the final drafts. Five (5) ballots will be included at the polls on November 2, 2010 from the Town: Curfew Ordinance approval, Sewer Loan approval, Comprehensive Plan Amendments approval, Citizen Petition regarding zoning and the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance approval.

1. **Curfew Ordinance Ballot:** On a motion from Mrs. Harvey and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board unanimously approved the Curfew Ordinance Ballot as written.

2. **Sewer Loan Ballot:** On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board unanimously approved the Sewer Loan Ballot as written.

3. **Citizen Petition Zoning Ballot:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Clarke, the Board unanimously approved the Citizen Petition Zoning Ballot as written.

4. **Wind Energy Facility Ordinance Ballot:**

**CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF 9/13/2010**

**Page #4, ¶4:**

**Wind Energy Facility Ordinance Ballot:** Mrs. Clarke moved to **NOT** include the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance on a November 2, 2010 ballot as she wanted the townspeople to have input before it went to a vote. The motion died for lack of a second.

There was further discussion from the Board regarding the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance on the November 2, 2010 ballot. Mrs. Clarke stated that last year the townspeople were told that they would have a chance to make suggestions to the ordinance. She felt that she could not condone this action if taken.

Mr. Gill moved, Ms. Martin seconded, to place the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

Mrs. Clarke felt that she must resign if the ballot went before the voters without citizen input prior to voting. Ms. Martin stated that this was a form of blackmail and was inappropriate to place this stipulation on the Board. She stated that there would be the largest turnout at the November 2, 2010 elections. By waiting until December or later, very few people would be voting. The Board voted as follows:

Mr. Gill	Yea
Mrs. Harvey	Yea
Ms. Martin	Yea
Mrs. Clarke	Nay
Mr. Donahue	Absent from Meeting

The motion was approved. These corrections will be approved/disapproved at the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen on Monday, October 11, 2010.

Mrs. Clarke moved, seconded by Ms. Martin, to not include this ordinance on a November 2, 2010 ballot as she wanted the townspeople to have input before it went to a vote.

There was no vote. Mrs. Clarke felt that she must resign if the ballot went before the voters without citizen input prior to voting. Ms. Martin felt that it was inappropriate for Mrs. Clarke to place this stipulation on the Board; further discussion followed.

There was further discussion from the Board regarding the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance ballot. On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board approved the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance ballot.

Mr. Gill	Yea
Mrs. Harvey	Yea
Ms. Martin	Yea
Mrs. Clarke	Abstained

5. **Comprehensive Plan Revisions:** On a motion from Mrs. Harvey and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board voted as follows to approve the Comprehensive Plan Revisions ballot as written:

Mr. Gill	Yea
Mrs. Harvey	Yea
Ms. Martin	Yea
Mrs. Clarke	Nay

c. **East Dixfield Fire Truck:** The Town Manager explained that at the last Annual Town Meeting, the citizens approved the purchase of an East Dixfield Fire Truck with the Town of Wilton in an amount not to exceed \$100,000. East Dixfield Fire Chief Randy Hall has requested a meeting with both Boards of Selectmen to discuss the purchase. A meeting has been scheduled for 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 4, 2010 at the East Dixfield Fire Station.

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

a. **Labor Standards Fines:** The Town Manager met with the representative of the Bureau of Labor Standards and all fines were waived as the town has complied with all violations, etc.

b. **Mexico Sewer District:** The town previously agreed to meet with the Mexico Sewer District on an Administration Committee. A meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at the Mexico Town Office. Ms. Martin and Mr. Gill will attend.

c. **Trees on Route 2:** The Town Manager met with the ME DOT to discuss the hazardous trees on Route 2 located on the Henderson property. A State Arborist needed to view them and he agreed that two could be taken down. However, all five trees will be removed.

d. **Septic and Energy Grants:** Due to the easements required and rules of the grant, one of the homeowners who applied has withdrawn his application. The other one will be submitted to the DEP and most likely the bidding process will be held in the spring.

Energy Grants: Mechanical Services has looked at the town's energy audit; we are awaiting the results.

e. **Paper Talks:** Solicited funds for advertising. So noted.

f. **Boston Bond Trip:** The Town Manager, Mrs. Harvey and the bank manager will be attending a meeting with Standard and Poor's in Boston on Thursday, September 16, 2010.

g. **Oxford County Commissioners:** So noted the Oxford County budget letter.

**Public Comments:** None

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

9. **FYI:** So Noted.

10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, September 27, 2010, 5:00 p.m., Ludden Memorial Library

11. **Adjournment:** On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins  
Secretary/Deputy Treasurer  
/cmc - attachments