

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

Town of Dixfield

Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor

Monday, February 28, 2011

5:00 p.m., Town Office

**Board Members Present:** Norine H. Clarke, Stephen G. Donahue (Chairman), Malcolm M. Gill and Katherine N. Harvey

**Board Members Absent:**

**Administration Present:** Eugene R. Skibitsky (Town Manager), Darlene Brann (Minutes), Chief Richard Pickett.

**Press Present:** WVAC, Sun Journal (Eileen Adams)

**Citizens Present:** Ralph Clarke

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Donahue called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
  - a. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Gill, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of February 10, 2011.
3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:**
  - a. 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.
4. **Department Head Reports:**
  - a. **Police Department (Chief Richard Pickett):**
    1. Several Dixfield citizens have received calls from a company soliciting funds for the Mexico Explorer's program. Chief Pickett contacted Mexico Police and found this group to be legitimate. He is however telling people to ask for an address to send the money rather than placing it on the door as requested. There is a phone scam going around, and a resident of East Dixfield received a phone call from a woman claiming that he was to receive \$7000.00 in a government grant. He did not have to send any money, all he had to do was give her his bank information so she could process the grant money. This gentleman was wise to the scam and when he stated he had no bank accounts she disconnected the call.

2. Officer Edmunds has a spot at the academy for August 2011 pending the results of her scheduled psychological and polygraph examinations.
  3. Speed limit for Averill Hill has been changed and signs are up.
  4. The department will be doing another “Drug Take Back” program. This will be in April and they are hoping to offer it in two spots. The drug take back program allows people to take their old prescription drugs to a safe place for disposal.
  5. The department has started “Operation Sunshine”. Officer Edmunds has put together a list of elderly residents, which the department will be checking on. They will be calling them twice a week followed by a monthly visit.
- b. Mr. Donahue congratulated the Chief on the letter he received from the Town of Bridgton. Chief Pickett was part of the Police Chief Search Committee, for their town.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Ralph Clarke commented on the subject of phone scams. This is not limited to the phone. He has a friend who was contacted by email. His friend was to send money to help a relative that was in jail in another country.

Chief Pickett informed the board that he has a reserve officer experiencing medical issues. The board would like a Get Well card sent to the officer on their behalf.

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

- a. **Ted Berry Company Interim Contract:** Ted Berry Company has had a three year contract with the Town of Dixfield for the operating and maintenance of the sewer system. The current contract will expire at the end of August 2011. Matt Timberlake proposed a three month continuance in the amount of \$16,530.22. The proposed amount has been built into the budget. Mrs. Clarke motioned to extend the contract with Ted Berry Company for the amount listed, seconded by Mr. Gill, all approved.
- c. **Complaint Process:** Last meeting the Town Manager brought a draft to the board outlining a complaint process. The draft has been retyped however the third paragraph second to the last sentence needs to be deleted. The Police Department has their own complaint process put forth by the Maine Chief of Police Association that they follow. Mrs. Harvey approved the Complaint Process Policy with the changes. Seconded by Mr. Gill, all approved.

- d. **Averill Hill Speed Limit:** The speed limit on Averill Hill has been changed and signs are up.

6. **New Business:**

- a. **Request to Sponsor Girls State Student:** Mrs. Clarke received a letter from the Auxiliary asking that the town sponsor a student. Mrs. Clarke stated that there was enough money in the Outdoor Market fund to sponsor one girl, but it would be nice if the town could sponsor two. This is a great opportunity for young students to be involved and understand the operations of State Government. The support cost is \$275.00 per student. Mr. Gill motioned to sponsor one boy and one girl from Dirigo High School with the funding coming out of the Board of Selectmen funds. Seconded by Mrs. Harvey, approved.
- b. **Preliminary 2012 State Valuation:** The Town Manager handed out the preliminary 2012 State Valuations. The figures come in slightly less than last year, however the town is still valued at 100% which is where we want to be. Where we stand with other towns will determine our State Funding.

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

- a. **Mid Maine Waste:** Mid Maine sent a letter to the town regarding how many tons of bulk waste they have received from our town. The letter was a bit confusing as the board had never received one before. The town manager will contact Jessica and have more information for the board at the next meeting.
- b. **Pepsi Grant:** The Pepsi Corporation supports surrounding towns by sending teams out to help communities with projects. Charlotte has a great need to inventory cemeteries. This is a great opportunity to have them help read and record the information off of the stones. Charlotte will be putting a team together from the town and the Historical Society to assist with the work.

c. **Other:**

1. Mike Rogers will be here for the TIF Implication Workshop on Tuesday March 29, 2011. He is neither pro nor con regarding TIFs. His only involvement is to give information on the implication of what TIFs might do for our community.
2. Calvin Beaumier, the Towns Code Enforcement Officer, has sent a letter to the town regarding a property that the town has foreclosed on and now owns. The property is located at 7 Church Street in East Dixfield, and needs to be cleaned-up. There is a building on the property that will need to be removed but because of shore land zoning it can not be buried or burned. The board would like to wait until the snow melts before putting the property up for bid.

At that time they will bid the property out As-Is with the understanding that the property will need to be cleaned-up.

3. TheTown Manager received a resignation letter from Cheryl Dickson, Dixfield's representative to the Medicare Board. Dan Mitchell is the towns alternate. Mr. Gill motioned to accept the resignation with regret, Mrs. Harvey seconded the motion all approved.
8. **Board Questions and Comments:** Mrs. Clarke would like to put word out that the Outdoor Market is in need of volunteers. This year's market is on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Harvey stated that she was willing to help with the preliminary work but was not available on the day of the market. Mr. Gill is willing to help as well.

Mrs. Harvey would like to invite other committees to attend the workshop with Mike Rogers on March 29, 2011, so they may also hear his presentation.

Mr. Donahue would like to congratulate the Boy's Basketball team on their Mountain Valley Conference title.

9. **FYI:** So Noted.

10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, March 14, 2011, 5:00 p.m., Town Office.

12 **Adjournment:** At 6:10pm Mr. Gill motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Harvey approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Brann  
Secretary

/db

Attachments