

**TOWN OF DIXFIELD**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Monday, Dec. 16, 2013**  
**5:30PM, Ludden Memorial Library**

**Board Members Present:** Malcolm Gill, Dana Whittemore, Scott Belskis, Hart Daley, and Robert Withrow.

**Administration Present:** Linda Pagels-Wentworth (Town Manager).

**Citizens Present:** Freemont Tibbetts, Dan McKay, Ed Ellis, Norine Clarke (Recorder of Minutes)

**Non-Residents Present:** Matthew Tarazevich

**Town Employees:** Water Supt. J. White, CEO Calvin Beaumier, Leo Jolin.

**Press:** WVAC tv 7, M. Daigle Sun Journal

**1. Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Gill called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Public Hearing: American Legion Post #100 BYOB Function 12/31/2013**

Ed Ellis explained that they were looking to get a license to be in compliance with the law. Hearing no comments, Chairman Gill called the hearing closed at 5:31.

**3. Agenda Adjustments:** Held till later in the meeting.

**4. Approval of Minutes:** Hearing no objections or corrections, Chairman Gill declared the minutes accepted as presented.

**5. Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** Hearing no objections or corrections, Chairman Gill declared the Warrants and Payroll accepted as presented.

**6. Department Head Reports:**

**a. Public Works:** Calvin Beaumier, newly hired Public Works Director reported on his first weekend. There was a foot of snow and sub-zero temperatures. The primary roads were treated with salt priority and other roads were to be plowed.

Sidewalks are scheduled to be cleared on Tuesday.

The recently repaired public works garage roof is leaking and he will call the contractor to come back.

McGouldrick Park has got a broken underground wire to the warming shed. The plan is to try to add an additional wire and if it is not successful, perhaps propane will be used for the winter.

Selectman Belskis asked about the protocol for clearing the roads since between 2 and 4 am, there was 4 inches of snow on Canton Point Rd. Mr. Beaumier responded that he checked with several other Public Works Departments and because of the unusually low temperatures for a storm of this type, he chose to leave the light snow and conserve the stores of the salt priority materials and manpower.

**b. Police Dept.:** no report.

**7. New Business: Consideration of Application of American Legion Post #100 BYOB Function**

Mr. Daley asked if there were any problems at last year's function.

Mr. Withrow said that he had had questions last year and had not heard of any problems. Mr. Withrow moved that the license be allowed, Mr. Daley seconded. All were in favor.

**8. Old Business**

**a. Consideration of 2014 Water Budget**

Copies of the adjusted budget were passed out with adjustments made to reflect the changes of the new contract with Mexico. Mr. Withrow made a motion to accept the new budget which was seconded by Mr. Whittemore. Vote was 4-1 with Mr. Belskis being the dissenting voter.

**Consideration of Monthly Water Billing for large meters**

In the Selectmen's packets were copies of the proposal to change the billing for large water meter users to monthly rather than quarterly. It can not go in to effect immediately but will be in place by the end of the first quarter. Affected customer will be notified in advance of the billing schedule change. Mr. Whittemore made the motion to accept the proposal and Mr. Daley seconded it. The vote was 4-0 with Mr. Belskis abstaining.

The Selectmen made the decision to move Public Comment (#11) ahead of Agenda item #9.

**11. Public Comment / Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

Mr. Tibbetts said that he felt that the item that had been in the morning paper had not been warning enough for the safety issue. He feels that the public should be educated about how unsafe the crossing by Aunt Hannah Bridge on Rt. 142 can be. He has talked to several people and showed them the conditions but no one has said they could do anything about the situation. He feels there should be a sign warning the traffic. Mr. Belskis said he felt that perhaps the ATV and Snowmobile clubs could petition the state to have signs placed on either side of the dangerous area. Mr. Beaumier agreed that Caution signs could be used. The Town Manager reminded the Board that an ordinance strictly prohibiting ATV use in this area was passed in May 2012 shortly after Mr. Tibbetts approached Town Officials on this issue.

Dan McKay questioned the Board about progress on the possibility of referendum voting for this next town meeting. He is concerned that the public be informed. The Town Manager and Board members said that those topics will be discussed when the budget deliberations begin each year.

**9. Executive Session: Consultations with Legal Counsel pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(E)**

A motion was made at \_\_\_\_\_ by Mr. Daley to go into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(E) for the purpose of Consultations with Legal Counsel. Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all were in favor.

A motion was made at 6:35 by Mr. Daley to reconvene session. Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all were in favor.

**10. Executive Session: Consideration of Personnel Issue pursuant to: 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A)**

A motion was made at 6:36pm by Mr. Daley to go into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) for the purpose of Personnel Issues. Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all were in favor.

A motion was made at 6:44 by Mr. Daley to reconvene session. Mr. Belskis seconded the motion and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. Daley and seconded by Mr. Whittemore to deny the grievance request without merit. Motion voted 4 in favor, 1 abstained (Mr. Belskis).

**11. Public Comment:** Taken out of order.

**12. Board Questions and Comments**

Chairman Gill announced that none of the Board had any comments.

**13. Next Meeting:**

The Board will meet on Jan. 6 at 5:30 pm at the Ludden Library.

**14. Adjournment:**

Respectfully submitted,

Norine H. Clarke, recorder of minutes  
nhc/