

**TOWN OF DIXFIELD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, December 8, 2014, 5:30 PM
LUDDEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Present: Board of Selectmen, Chair Belskis, Dana Whittemore, Hart Daley, and Malcolm Gill. Norman Mitchell was absent.

Town Employees present: Town Manager Carlo Puiia, Chief Pickett, Vickie Carrier, Water Supt. White, Paul Pomerleau of Ted Berry Co.

Citizens present: Peter Holman, Aaron Jamison, Grayson Child, Dan McKay, Ricky Davis, Susan Holmes, and note taker Norine Clarke

Non- Citizens: Chairman of Canton Board of Selectmen, Don Hutchins.

Press present: Matt Daigle Sun Journal, WVAC TV 7

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Belskis called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Agenda Adjustments

- a. to 4. a. add #53
- b. to 4. b. add #52
- c. to Item 6, Department Heads add 6. b. 2015 Water Budget
- d. to Item 6, add item 6, c. 2015 Sewer Budget
- e. to Item 9, add Hand out Wind Ordinance adjustments.

3. Minutes

Mr. Whittemore made a motion to accept the minutes of Nov. 25, 2014 and Mr. Daley seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

4. Warrants and Payroll

Mr. Daley made a motion to accept the warrants and payroll as in the agenda adjustments. Mr. Belskis seconded and all present were in favor.

5. Public Comments

None

1. Department Head Reports

- a. There was no discussion of Public Works.
- b. Water Supt. Jim White handed out copies of the 2015 Water Budget with adjustments. The Selectmen took several minutes to read the proposal. Chair Belskis asked for a motion. Mr. Gill moved to accept the Budget as presented. Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all present were in favor.
- c. Paul Pomerleau of Ted Berry Company presented a portion of the 2015 Sewer Budget, the remainder will be available at the next Selectmen's Meeting.

1. Old Business

a. Mr. Piper, the Sextant for the Cemetery Assoc., was not present, but the costs were available. Dixfield currently charges \$200 for a lot which includes \$100 for perpetual care. Other cemeteries in the area charge between \$250 and \$550. The proposal by Mr. Piper was that the cost for a lot be changed to \$300 which would include \$150 for perpetual care. This change will require a Public Hearing which will be held at the beginning of the next regular Selectmen's meeting on Dec. 22, 2014.

b. In regards to the upcoming vacancy in the position of Chief of Police, TM Puiia said that in light of all the proposals being made in the area of Police Coverage in the River Valley that a decision should be made that will be best for Dixfield. Mexico and Rumford's merger is not clear right now and the sharing of a Police Chief with Mexico is not feasible because of Dixfield's current Cops Grant which requires that we keep a 5 man patrol force until January of 2016. The choices would be to go ahead with a hiring committee to find a replacement for Chief Pickett or to hire an interim which would require hiring a 5th patrolman. There are currently 8 candidates on the list of possible members of a hiring committee. Chief Pickett and Aaron Jamison were asked if they still were interested in serving and both said yes. Mr. Gill made a motion to set up a search committee of seven members to hire a Chief. If they do not choose a chief, they should choose an interim who will hire the 5th patrolman. It was seconded by Mr. Whittemore. The vote was 3-0. Mr. Mitchell was absent and Mr. Daley abstained.

1. New Business

a. TM Puiia asked for the approval of a quit claim deed for Tax Map 16, Lot 59. He reported that the back taxes have been paid and all agreements have been fulfilled. Mr. Daley made a motion to issue a quit claim deed for Tax Map 16, Lot 59 and Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for those present.

1. Other Business

TM Puiia handed out the changes made to the latest proposed Wind Ordinance which included the 100% decommissioning section, the change from 45 to 42 decibels, and Section C on page 24 which is all new language. Numerical corrections were also made.

1. Public Correspondence

TM Puiia read an email from Susan Holmes which addressed the addition of Section C in the proposed Wind Ordinance and questioned that it had not been discussed at a meeting or with the public.

Peter Holman questioned the possibility of the Selectmen sitting down with a representative of the wind company in a private or open meeting. He was told that there could not be a private meeting.

1. Board Questions/Comments.

Mr. Gill was the only Board member with a comment. He wanted to state that when Chair Belskis spoke about Ethics at the end of the last meeting he was not speaking for the whole Board. Mr. Belskis said he was speaking for himself.

1. **FYI** The Town Office and Library will close the end of the day Dec. 23rd for the holiday.

2. **Next Meeting December 22, 2014 at 5:30**

3. Executive Sessions:

- a. Mr. Daley made a motion to go into executive session at 6:17 p.m. to discuss Labor Negotiations pursuant to 1 MRS §405(6)(D). Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all present were in favor. Declared out of executive session at 6:22 p.m. At 6:23 p.m., Mr. Daley motioned to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and the Public Works Union, seconded by Mr. Belskis. All voted in favor.
- b. Mr. Daley made a motion to go into executive session at 6:25 p.m. to discuss Confidential Records pursuant to 1 MRS §405(6)(F). Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all present were in favor. Declared out of executive session at 6:27 p.m. At 6:28 p.m., Mr. Daley motioned to approve the request for a payment arrangement, seconded by Mr. Whittemore. All voted in favor.
- c. Mr. Daley made a motion to go into executive session at 6:20 p.m. to discuss a Personnel Matter pursuant to 1 MRS §405(6)(A). Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion and all present were in favor. Declared out of executive session at 6:35 p.m. At 6:36 p.m., Mr. Daley motioned to approve the Town Manager's evaluation for Full Time employment and increase the wages according to the Agreement, seconded by Mr. Whittemore. All voted in favor.
 1. **Adjournment:** Mr. Daley motioned to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Mr. Whittemore seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Norine H. Clarke, secretary
nhc/nhc

