

**TOWN OF DIXFIELD
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015, 5:30 PM
LUDDEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

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

Town Employees present: Town Manager Carlo Puiia, Interim Police Chief Jeff Howe, Highway Dir. Calvin Beaumier, Vickie Carrier, Angela Varnum, Leo Jolin.

Citizens present: Peter Holman, Grayson Child, Dan McKay, Ricky Davis, Susan Holmes, Jeff Knight, Jarred Luczynski, Mr. and Mrs. Gilsleider, Donald Lutick, Rhonda Palmer, Mrs. Mitchell, Charlotte Collins and note taker Norine Clarke

Non- Citizens:

Press present: Matt Daigle Sun Journal, WVAC tv 7

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairman Daley opened the meeting at 5:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chair Belskis entered following the Pledge.

2. Agenda Adjustments

- a. to 4. a add #82
- b. to 4. b add #81
- c. add #4 and #5
- d. to 9 add impact studies
- e. Add Oxford Co. Legislative Delegation

3. Minutes: Mr. Daley made a motion to approve all three sets of minutes and Mr. Whittemore seconded. All were in favor.

4. Warrants and Payroll

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to accept the warrants and payroll as in the agenda corrections. Mr. Whittemore seconded and all were in favor.

- 1. Public Comments :** Chair Belskis asked that Public Comments be moved to just before

Board Comments on the Agenda. There were no objections.

6. Department Head Reports

a. Public Works: Director Beaumier reported that John Deere Loader which is 25 years old has a blown engine. It would have about a \$5000 trade in value. It would cost about \$40,000 to repair it. The backhoe is not big enough to do most jobs. There is a lease agreement available through John Deere. At the end of the lease the loader can be purchased for \$1 or put toward a new lease agreement for a new loader. Insurance and registration are purchased by the town. The loader is used about 680 hours a year. Rent

for the John Deere is \$3700 per month. There is currently a new one on loan at the Town Garage. Mr. Mitchell said that he would prefer looking into acquiring a used loader. Dir. Beaumier said they could put off the decision if they rented one for a month in order to look for other options. Mr. Mitchell made a motion to rent the loader for a month. Mr. Gill seconded and all were in favor.

7. Old Business: none

8. New Business

- a. There are openings on several town boards. Richard Pickett and Craig Coulthard have both resigned from the Planning Board leaving two openings. Six people have applied. Mr. Gill asked to have it advertised so that citizens will be aware. Mr. Whittemore said he was not prepared to choose. The six names presented were Lauren Hebert, Jarred Lucynski, Jeff Knight, Susan Holmes, Michael Palmer and Ricky Davis who is the current alternate. The issue will be brought back at the next Selectmen's meeting.
- b. There is one opening on the Finance Committee which has been advertised. Ricky Davis had applied but when it was discussed that he could not serve on two boards he asked to be removed from the Finance Committee list. This appointment will also be held over.
- c. The informational material has been received from the Western Valley Access Channel. A short discussion reviewed that there is an Ordinance in place which automatically assigns 2/3rds of the Franchise Fees for the use of the Station until or unless the Ordinance is changed or rescinded by Town Meeting vote. Dan McKay requested that it be put back on the Warrant to see if the citizens still agree.
- d. Police Operations. Chair Belskis requested that the Town manager continue to sit in talks with Mexico and Dixfield Chiefs about conditions of sharing a Chief and he said that he would.
- c. TM Puiia gave copies of the reports from Mike Rogers and Eaton Peabody about the effects of income from windmills. He reminded them that the figures are not current. Dana asked about benefits to other towns and Beaver Ridge, Woodstock, Eustis and Mars Hill were discussed. Information had been put in earlier Selectmen's packets.

9. Other Business: none

10. Public Correspondence:

- a. A letter has been received from the Oxford County officers with the notification that Dixfield's assessment has gone up.
- b. A copy of a letter from RSU 10 to Mexico was presented to the Board
- c. The board was given a copy of a letter to them from Charlotte Collins which related to the lack of ethics on the Selectboard. She said that she had two major concerns, one, that the landowner's rights were not being followed through and that two, that town votes should be implemented, not changed. She feels the Board should let the permitting begin on the windmills and that some members of the Board are biased. Mr. Daley responded that he felt they were protecting the landowners.
- d. The selectmen received a copy of an email from Vern Maxfield, Town Manager of Woodstock, answering many earlier questions.

- e. The Maine DOT is having a public meeting on Thurs. March 12 about the proposed Highway Reconstruction on Routes 2/17.
- f. AVCOG has scheduled a Hazardous Waste Program for Sat. June 15 from 9-11:30 at Region 9 in Mexico.

11. Public Comment and Board Questions/Comments

- a. Dan McKay asked when the bids for the High St. Project would be opened and was told March 31, 2105 was the date.
- b. Mrs. Varnum asked how the Planning Board members would be chosen and she was told that they would use the information on the application forms.
- c. The Board was polled for comments and Mr. Belskis, Mr. Daley and Mr. Mitchell had none. Mr. Gill said that he felt the Board needed an ethics policy. Mr. Whittemore asked Chair Belskis to remind those who are participating in discussions should direct their remarks to the Board, not to each other.
- d. Mrs. Holmes said that she felt that the ethical thing for the Board to do was to leave behind the anti-wind activities and work for the Town.

12. FYI: as noted on Agenda

13. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is Monday, Mar. 23, at 5:30pm at the Ludden Library.

14. Executive sessions: Mr. Daley made a motion for the Board to go in to executive session for a. and b. on the Agenda pursuant to 1 MRS§405(6)(A) for two Personnel Matters. Mr. Whittemore seconded and all were in favor. The Chair declared the Board out of executive session at 8:22 p.m. No action was taken.

15. Adjournment: Mr. Daley made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. It was seconded by Mr. Whittemore and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Norine H. Clarke, secretary
nhc/nhc

