

Town of Dixfield

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 8th, 2016

5:30 pm - Ludden Memorial Library

Board of Selectmen: Norine Clarke, Aaron Jamison, Eugene Skibitsky, and Norman Mitchell

Absent: Hart Daley

Town Employees: Town Manager Carlo Puiia

Fire Chief Scott Dennett, Public Works Director Randy Glover, Public Works Leo Jolin, CEO Mike Moore

Citizens: Susan Holmes, Dan Mckay, Peter Holman, Ricky Davis, Walter Newman, Kenneth Rufus, Rep. Richard Pickett, Ed Ellis, Ken Ellis, Steve Ellis, Terri Mitchell, Grayson Child

Press: WVAC and Matt Daigle

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance:

Norine Clarke opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:30

2. Public Hearing: The Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing to receive public comment prior to their vote to consider extending a Wind Energy Facility Moratorium for a period of up to but not to exceed 180 days:

Dan Mckay: Turbines; read letter concerning changed of the turbine issues throughout the years and asking for human consideration to our fellow neighbors. Also mentioning the cost and rate expenses.

Susan Holmes: Turbines; requested the start date of the moratorium.

T.M. Puiia: August 21st, 2014 answered

Peter Holman: Turbines; voting for state = no moratorium?

T.M. Puiia: Correct, answered. Last extension on the wind ordinance ends on August 9th, 2016 at midnight.

Susan Holmes: Planning board coming up with new ordinance?

T.M. Puiia: No, answered

Dan Mckay: Never been confronted on the DEP rules, suggesting the planning board/Puiia does some research

Susan Holmes: Will rules apply to the town?

Norine Clarke: Rules regulated by state, if ordinance has "tougher" rules we as a town can override. If not, then we have to obey under state laws, answered

Peter Holman: Waiting 4 years... (tired of waiting) comments.

T.M. Puiia: Reads a letter from Hart Daley. Subject on Turbines, the project and protection for citizens.

3. Agenda Adjustments: 5.a: and 12, other business = letter from outdoor market

Mr. Jamison Seconds. Mr. Mitchell opposes (3-1). Mr. Mitchell motioned 5 (a,b, c and 12). Mr. Jamison seconds it. (4-0)

4. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting minutes - June 27th, 2016

: Regular Meeting minutes - July 8th, 2016

Mr. Skibitsky motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Jamison seconded it. Norine Clarke comments on research needed to be sited. A fix in the minutes taken before: She stated that she believed the item was voted down because of the dBC's, not the DEP. Mr. Skibitsky amends his motion on minutes with corrections. Mr. Jamison agreed to amend his. Vote was unanimous, 4-0.

5. Approval of Warrants and Payroll:

a. Accounts Payable Warrant #s: 5, 7, 8, 10

b. Payroll Warrant #s: 6, 9, 11

c. Water/Sewer Warrant #s: 16, 17

Mr. Mitchell made the motion to approve the warrants with adjustments. It was seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. Vote 4-0 to approve.

6. Department Head Reports:

a. Fire Department Update:

Scott Dennett reads a letter of appreciation, thanks to fellow firefighters. Requested from Randy Glover to get bids from the Bruce Manzer Company to help out on new pavement for fire station (1" overlay over ground/asphalt). \$4,200 proposed estimated. Would take out of Building Capital account the fire station holds.

b. Public Works Update:

Randy Glover handed out a sheet with a list of projects his workers have done and will be doing in the future up to the year of 2021. The projects focused mainly on the outer town roads. Today, July 8th, 2016, the crew installed underground drainage pipes on Norton Road. Upgrades to the water will be a factor in 2021 and would like to do these projects in a timely fashion and efficiently, in order to save time and money.

Dan Mckay: Will the numbers for these projects be provided?

Mr. Glover: Yes, he responded.

Jamison: How many projects require an excavator?

Mr. Glover gave examples on particular projects where the excavator has been used and will need it the most for the upcoming projects.

7. Old Business

a. Authorize Town Manager to sign all Excavator Lease Purchase Agreement Documents

Ed Ellis believes sits cheaper to lease the excavator instead of purchasing. Glover brings up that 6 months of renting would equal the same price if purchased for the 6 months. "It's another "tool" in the "tool box", Glover states. Relayed from one of the Ellis brothers was the question, "How long will these projects take?" Glover plainly states that it depends on the job. One will take 3 weeks and the next could take 4 weeks. Mr. Skibitsky states the termination period can end at any time. Mckay makes a point in saying there is more to paving/working on roads than the use of an excavator. Clarke says to give it a year. 4 weeks in renting the excavator is the only comparison that can be used. Mr. Mitchell motions to authorize the Town Manager to sign all necessary documents for the excavator lease. Mr. Skibitsky seconds. Vote (4-0) unanimous

8. New Business

a. Set Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2017 : TM Puiia provided the board with five different tax rates and the overlays generated from those rate:

2017 Tax Rate Proposals

Minimum Tax Rate	19.817	<u>Overlay</u>
Scenario #1	19.900	14,520.26
Scenario #2	20.000	31,966.04
Scenario #3	20.100	49,411.83
Scenario #4	20.250	75,580.49
Scenario #5	20.400	101,749.16
Maximum Tax Rate	20.807	

Overlay protects the Town in case there are abatements, or budget overruns, such as winter roads. If it is not used, it is returned to the general fund and provides for the help of the next year's tax rate.

Mr. Jamison made the motion for a 20.10 mill rate, seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. Vote was 3-1, Mr. Mitchell opposing.

b. Consumer Fireworks Ordinance Review

12 towns allow use of fireworks. T.M. Puiia read an article from the Sun Journal. Summarized that creating a town ordinance may be a waste of time as another Town's attorney said it wouldn't be possible to enforce it.

c. Appointment of Planning Board Member: Re-nominated - Jared Luczynski (3 year term) motioned by Mr. Jamison and second by Mr. Skibitsky. Vote was 3-1, Mr. Mitchell opposed.

d. Appointment of Appeals Board Member Re-nominated - Vicky Carrier (4 year term). Motion by Mr. Skibitsky, seconded by Mr. Jamison. The vote was unanimous, 4 to 0.

e. AE Hodsdon Walkthrough Report for High/Pine Construction

Side walk issue, too narrow asked by Mr. Skibitsky. 5% = \$110,000 estimate by T.M. Puiia retaining fee until job is approved. CH Stevenson was the contractor for the project.

f. River Valley Workshop for Medical Marijuana

T.M. Puiia: Participate or not? Mr. Skibitsky sates no need for voting to participate. Can attend individually.

g. Oxford Country Budget Committee Caucus on Wednesday, August 31st, 2016

6 p.m. August 31st. Board informed on the Caucus. Committee comes together to further discuss the caucus. Entails/involves jail, Sheriff, deeds, records, etc.

h. Extension of the Wind Energy Moratorium Ordinance

Mr. Mitchell motions to extend. Motion died for a lack of a second. Outcome: moratorium expires at 12 midnight on August 9, 2016.

i. Wind Energy Facility ordinance: DEP Site Location Development Law and Regulations

Tom (Patriots representative) gives updates on the Canton wind project. 8 turbines will be placed next year in 2017. Patriots Renewable is still interested in working with Dixfield. Ask what the town wants/needs and negotiation will take place.

9. Other Business

Water supply in Dixfield is very low, fire risk is severe as well. Observed by Susan Holmes.

Item #15 Dan McKay questions

10. Public Correspondence: Thank you Card: from Irene Weld

Email: to Fire Chief about Norton Road Fire

Emails from Dan Mckay concerning wind power

- cost/rate expenses

- list of Common Road people against wind

11. Public Comment:

12. Board Questions/Comments:

Rep. Pickett praises the girls for the outdoor market. Challenges Selectmen to attend this year and participate.

Susan Holmes: Is the marijuana workshop open to public/citizens?

T.M. Puiia: Yes, answered

13. FYI: The Annual Dixfield Outdoor Market will take place on Sunday August 21st

First installment of 2017 Property Taxes will be due September 15, 2016

14. Next Meeting: Monday, September 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library

15. Executive Session: pursuant to MRS 405 6(C) to Discuss Acquisition of Real Property or Economic Development

Mr. Jamison motions. Second by Mr. Skibitsky. The vote was unanimous, 4 to 0.

The Chair declared the Board out of Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. No action was taken.

16. Adjournment: Motion made by Mr. Skibitsky to adjourn at 8:01 p.m., seconded by Mr. Mitchell. All were in favor, 4 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia K. Fowler