

Town of Dixfield

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 11, 2017

5:30 pm

Ludden Memorial Library

Board of Selectmen: Norine Clarke, Aaron Jamison, Hart Daley

Absent: Eugene Skibitsky, Norman Mitchell

Town Employees: Town Manager Carlo Puiia, Water Supt. Jim White, Fire Chief Scott Dennett

Town Citizens: Susan Holmes, Donald Lutick, Dana Whittemore, Ricky Davis, Grayson Child

Press: WVAC

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance: Mrs. Clarke

2. Public Hearing: The Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing in regards to the adoption of the State of Maine's General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-D 2017-2018

Mrs. Clarke: This is an Annual procedure. T.M. Mr. Puiia: Have copies of the state's guidelines. Rent, food, clothing, fuel, etc. Metropolitan and Rural

3. Agenda Adjustments: Add Accounts Payable Warrant #19 under agenda item 5.a. and under 5.c. add Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: #19

4. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes - July 10, 2017

Mr. Daley states he was absent that day. He would like to table until next meeting.

5. Approval of Warrants and Payroll:

a. Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 15, 17, 19

b. Payroll Warrant #'s: 16, 18

c. Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 18, 19

Mr. Daley makes a motion to approve Warrants and Payroll as adjusted. Mr. Jamison seconds. (3-0) Unanimous. 2 absent: Mr. Skibitsky and Mr. Mitchell

6. Department of Head Reports

a. Emergency Management Director: Oxford County Red Cross Mitigation Plan

Jay Bernard: Since early 2000's signed by the selectmen throughout the years. Opening the door by signing off in case of future disasters in the area. Some areas are more chronic which makes it a bit difficult to fund. This whole plan encompasses all of Oxford County. That is why it is a significant document. Just need approval of signatures. Mr. Jamison makes a motion. Mr. Daley seconds. (3-0) Unanimous. 2 absent: Mr. Skibitsky and Mr. Mitchell.

b. Water Department

Jim: Up to 51 meter changes for the year. Target 60. Well people came in. States that his original assessment was correct. We will be at \$8,012 by the time we're finished. River Lane - last part of the project is to dig down into the main. Plan on doing that on Columbus Day while the bank is closed. This will eliminate overtime. Furnace at the plant had originally put in our budget for \$3000. Was able to get online and see the item for \$1,300 to be shipped in and whatever the cost would be for Community Energy to start it up. Would like approval to spend approximately \$1,300 to buy the furnace and get it set up. It would be under budget. Needs to get it installed asap. Mr. Daley makes the motion to allow Jim to purchase the furnace. Mr. Jamison seconds. (3-0) Unanimous. 2 absent: Mr. Skibitsky and Mr. Mitchell.

c. Public Works Department: No report

7. Old Business:

a. Moratorium on Recreational Retail Marijuana Establishments and Social Clubs

T.M. Mr. Puiia: Copy of Ordinance and Moratorium that was passed in Sanford. Has some merit to it. Mrs. Clarke states that she would like for this item to start being worked on. Knows that a lot of towns already have a moratorium. If they have retail social clubs and retail medical marijuana, that's fine. Personally, I don't want one in Dixfield. Hart Daley agrees with Mrs. Clarke. Mr. Jamison disagrees. Mrs. Clarke says that we need to get it started. It takes steps. A meeting and a vote at a special town meeting needs to take place. Mrs. Holmes asks if it is legal or illegal, if it's been passed yet or still in the process of. Hart Daley explains that recreational isn't ironed out yet. Medical Marijuana hasn't changed however. People can still be providers and caregivers and distribute for medicinal purposes. Cannot be under the influence and drive (considered an OUI). T.M. Mr. Puiia: 180 days. Mr. Daley: would motion for moratorium. (Feb/March - 6 month window). Mr. Jamison: Push the business! Believes there is no problem to have a distribution center of marijuana in town. T.M. Mr. Puiia: Many would oppose having a distribution center close to the High School. Mrs. Clarke suggests we wait for a whole board to determine the moratorium.

b. RSU 56 Letter regarding options for the 33 Nash St. Building

c. Endorse Certificate of Appointment for Planning Board member Kenneth Hinkley

Signatures of Selectmen appointing Kenneth Hinkley to Planning Board.

8. New Business:

a. Dirigo Wellness Center Request for Cable Franchise Fees

Ms. Judy Horne: On behalf of Fitness Board, the building was funded first, 10 years ago. Granted a "give back". The building is on the line for closing. Would look to find a way to fund. Physical education, science, and life skills classes. The fitness center has members from ages 12-90 yrs. old. We serve 60 senior citizens. Around 200 regular citizens. \$4,500 Cable Franchise fee. Ms. Horne continues by thanking the Selectmen Board for considering.

Norine Clarke suggests to put it off until we discuss the building. T.M. Mr. Puiia Franchise: 13,521.61. Two Thirds - \$9,031. Asking for the remaining One third goes to the fitness center.

Mr. Daley asks Ms. Horne what she believes what will happen between now and then?

Ms. Horne: School Board meeting tomorrow night about the business plan. If we agree, then shut down when it gets cold (end of Sept.). Makes a note that we cannot sell the equipment.

b. Adoption of the State of Maine's General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-D 2017-2018

Mr. Jamison makes a motion to adopt the State of Maine's General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-D 2017-2018. Mr. Daley seconds the motion. (3-0) 2 absent: Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Skibitsky

c. Maine Municipal Association Workers Compensation Fund Dividend

Refund of \$1,543 to go back to general fund (all employees of the town).

d. Maine Revenue Services Estimated Impact of Wind Power on Budgets and Taxes

Mike Rogers - Maine Revenue. 8-9 years ago too. Copies of the 4 different scenarios showing the impacts of budgets and taxes. #1 (no Tiff), #2 (plane), #3 (50% Tiff), #4 (100% Tiff). Mr. Whittemore makes the comment that he believes it's a disclaimer. Could be 30% off. Mrs. Clarke responds to his comment saying it's an estimated impact. Mr. Whittemore: 3-8 wind turbines... quite the difference. Mrs. Clarke says that Oakfield was smart getting what they wanted. T.M. Mr. Puiia states that they have the right to place the project wherever as long as it's within the perimeters.

9. Other Business: N/A

10. Public Correspondence:

Letter opposing additional Industrial Scale Wind facilities from Somerset County Administrators to Governor LePage.

Mrs. Clarke: Somerset County decided to do offshore power. Britain and Norway. Looking to reducing subsidies. It was on NPR.org

Thank you cards from Bryce Whittemore

11. Public Comment: N/A

12. Board Questions/Comments: N/A

13. FYI: Public Hearing on Disbanding the Police Department on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 6 p.m. in the Community Room at Dirigo High School

14. Next Meeting: Monday, Sept. 25, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Ludden Memorial Library

: Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017 Special Town Meeting at 6 p.m. Dirigo High School

15. Executive Session: pursuant to MRS § 405 (6) (F) discussion of Confidential Records

Mr. Jamison makes a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Daley seconds. (3-0) Unanimous. 2 absent: Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Skibitsky.

16. Adjournment: Motion made by Mr. Daley to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Jamison, Vote 3 to 0 at 7:11 p.m. No action was taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia K. Fowler