

Town of Dixfield

Selectmen Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 25th, 2017

5:30 pm

Ludden Memorial Library

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

Absent: Eugene Skibitsky

Town Employees: Town Manager Carlo Puiia, Police Chief Jeffrey Howe, Fire Chief Scott Dennett, Public Works Director Randy Glover, and Water Department Superintendent Jim White, Secretary to the Board Sylvia Fowler

Town Citizens: Ricky Davis, Susan Holmes, Donald Lutick, Dana Whittemore, Jr., Walter Newman, Clifford Hall, Royal Swan, Cynthia Terrell

1. Call to Order:

2. Public Hearing: The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing to take public testimony prior to voting on applications for 2018 Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard Permits in the Town of Dixfield.

Mrs. Clarke opened the public hearing and offered those in attendance an opportunity to speak on any of the applicants listed. Mrs. Clarke reviews. T.M. Mr. Puiia read off a list of those who have applied for a permit.

There was no testimony received from the public.

3. Agenda Adjustments:

Add #25 under Payroll Warrants and #20 under Water/Sewer Warrants.

T.M. Mr. Puiia announces that #5 on the agenda will be taken out of sequence and will proceed with #6. Introduces Christina Howe, the Town's auditor from the firm of RHR Smith & Company.

4. Approval of Warrants and Payroll:

a. Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 22, 24

b. Payroll Warrant #'s: 21, 23, 25

c. Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 21, 20

Mr. Jamison makes a motion to approve the Warrants and Payroll. Mr. Daley seconds. (4-0) Unanimous. 1 absent: Mr. Skibitsky.

6. Old Business:

a. Auditors Report - Ron Smith of RHR Smith & Company.

Christiana Howe reviews -

Ms. Howe: Water/Sewer, Statement A. The sewer still owes the town \$78,000 and the water owes \$72,000 to the town. The sewer debt is in the budget for last year and the next four years.. Talks over net position of Sewer and Water stating both are "healthy." Want to look at reserving approximately 3 mo. of expenditures. Last year the sewer had a reduction of \$115,000 and \$708.00 increase for water. If Sewer keeps reducing, it could take funds from water which needs to be avoided. Debt interest rates look good. For the town, advises to skip the tables net positions. Surplus - 1.1 mil. Had some funds that went down; Statement B (page 18) and Scholarships and community funds had a loss. Cash equivalence, equities and fixed income are what make up the cash in the town. She concluded with a positive note stating that we, as a town, have kept most things within budget. Her opinion is that the you are doing well as a town.

5. Department Head Reports:

a. Public Works: Mr. Glover states that summer projects are wrapping up. Todd from Manzer Paving will pave the week of October 8th. We have changed pipes, excavated and ditched. The High School still needs to be worked on - catch basins and drains which should be done by the end of the week. Holt Hill came out good along with Mill Road. Everything looks to be in good shape by the end of October.

b. Police Department: Chief Howe hands out 2016 reports. The first page give the totals for time reported and what day of the week. The second page consists of calls for service of agency assist. Breakdown by town and date and time. Byron, Canton, Carthage, Dixfield, Mexico, Rumford, Peru and Wilton. Next packet provides numbers for the months of calls of service. January (unsure as department was closed), February (90), March (92). The numbers are close to last year's numbers. Mr. Howe states Gerry is finishing his field training. He is on his second to last week. He has come along well. When he finishes up he will get into the rotation. He works well in the community. Mr. Mitchell asks a question on getting the eviction rights. Mr. Howe states he has spoken to the district attorney. Program in place that has our data entries but still in the early stages. Mrs. Holmes from the audience asks a couple of questions. The first one is on whether or

not the public can get access to the information Chief Howe handed out on the reports. Second question was on mutual aid. Wondered if Canton and Carthage are picked up by the Sheriff's department. You respond to the calls but do they come and meet you to the scene/call? Mr. Howe says that we are there to initiate and start the call. We are the first responders. Our job is to get there and make sure everything is safe and okay.

7. New Business:

a. 2018 Automobile Graveyard/Junkyard Permit Applications

Mr. Jamison makes a motion. Mr. Daley seconds. (4-0). 1 absent: Mr. Skibitsky

b. MDOT Land and Rights Acquisition Letter for Route 2 Construction Project

T.M. Mr. Puiia refers to a chart on the wall of the Route 2 Construction Project. The yellow represents fee acquisition. Eminent Domain. 12 acres. Road moved 15 feet toward public works. The orange represents slopes (drains). The blue represents drainage easement; clearing/maintenance. The pink represents temporary construction rights. We are putting it up to bid. Mr. Jamison makes a motion to contact the MDOT. Mr. Mitchell seconds. Table for next meeting. (4-0) 1 absent: Mr. Skibitsky

c. Maine Revenue Services Proposed 2018 State Valuations

\$146,300 last year. \$150,400 this year. The letter is on the right to appeal the evaluation.

8. Other Business:

Mexico Sewer District Contract: Two concerns. 1st, shared lines. 2nd, Mexico would assist for funds. 7 year agreement to approve sewer contract. Mr. Jamison made a motion to approve the sewer contract. Mr. Mitchell seconds. (4-0) 1 absent.

Outdoor Nomination: Economic development and committee outdoor market. Ed Roach. Mr. Daley makes a motion. Mr. Mitchell seconds. (4-0). 1 absent: Mr. Skibitsky

9. Public Correspondence: Marijuana Moratorium article from Norine Clarke

: Copy of Bob Myers, Executive Director Maine Snowmobile Association, email about Chadbourne Tree Farms Land Closure based on Wind Ordinance - Received by Don Lutick

: Maine Public Radio email regarding unavailability of news reports regarding British Off Shore Wind Towers - Mrs. Clarke

10. Public Comment: N/A

11. Board Questions/Comments: N/A

12. FYI: Special Town Meeting, Thursday, October 19th, 2017 at 6pm in the Dirigo High Community Room to discuss only disbanding the Police Department and the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance. - Mrs. Clarke

13. Next Meeting: Monday, October 9, 2017 at 5:30pm downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library - Mrs. Clarke

14. Executive Session: pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6) (F) to discuss confidential records

Mr. Daley makes a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:47 pm. Mr. Jamison seconds. (4-0)
1 absent: Mr. Skibitsky

Mrs. Clarke declared the Board out at 7:10 pm.

Mr. Daley makes a motion to deny Case number 2018-1001. Mr. Jamison seconds. (4-0) 1
absent: Mr. Skibitsky.

15. Adjournment: Mr. Daley makes a motion to adjourn at 7:11 pm. Mr. Jamison seconds. (4-0)
1 absent: Mr. Skibitsky

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia Fowler