

TOWN OF DIXFIELD
Board of Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor
Monday, October 23, 2017 - 5:30 p.m.
Ludden Memorial Library

Selectmen: Norine Clarke, Eugene Skibitsky, Aaron Jamison

Absent: Norman Mitchell, Hart Daley

Town Employees: Town Manager Carlo Puiia, Public Work's Director Randy Glover

Citizens: Dana Whittemore, Jr., Rick Davis, Peter Holman, Don Lutick, Susan Holmes, and Royal Swan

Media: Bruce Farrin, Sun Journal, Kelsey Bevins, WVAC-TV

1. **Call to Order:** Mrs. Clarke called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.
2. **Agenda Adjustments:**
3. **Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2017**
Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Skibitsky, seconded by Mr. Jamison. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.
4. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:**
 - a. **Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 26, 28, 30, 31, 33**
 - b. **Payroll Warrant #'s: 27, 29, 32**
 - c. **Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 22, 23**Motion to approve the warrants with additions was made by Mr. Jamison, seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.
5. **Department Head Reports:**
 - a. **Water Department - none**
 - b. **Fire Department** – Chief Dennett was available to speak following item 5.c. He reported that the Town's ISO protection report is a class 5 and saw a slight improvement from an x to a y. He explained the difference of in town versus rural standards. The insurance company is considering how to review new data with the communication center. Mr. Jamison questioned what it would take to improve Dixfield's rating to a number 4. Chief Dennett informed the Board that a larger personnel response and more training hours would be required.
 - c. **Public Works Department** – Randy Glover reported to the Board that all the summer projects have been wrapped up. Just finished up on a section of the Rollins Ridge Road. They found an old road underneath that was causing all the heaves, so it was excavated and re-graveled. Also corrected a water issue on Park Avenue where ice buildup near the trailer park entrance was an issue. A catch basin was added to drain the water, and about 60 feet of road was paved. They are busy putting up winter sand. They will be purchasing fuel from RSU 56. Still pump waste oil from Irving's for the garage use. New roof has made a difference, and the canopy roof seam was repaired because of leaking.
6. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Broadband: Maine West Broadband Goals** – Mia Purcell from Community Concepts attended to review the broadband planning project and the survey. Over 350 individuals

participated, as well as 60 businesses. Maine West has a list of reasons and setting goals to support broadband. Mr. Skibitsky recommended adding Wi-Fi hotspots around town. He also recommended that a goal should be to lower the cost of broadband through competition. A motion to approve participating in the broadband goal setting effort was made by Mr. Jamison, seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

- b. Property Revaluation Progress Report** – A letter from John E. O’Donnell’s and Associates provided the Board members with a letter explaining the initial field visits have been completed and the next step will be towards data entry, sketch scanning, and picture naming. The letter also detailed out a framework of the remaining services provided during a revaluation program.
 - c. Moratorium on Recreational Retail Marijuana Establishments and Social Clubs** – The Board was provided with the most up to date information from the Maine Municipal Association’s legal department regarding the State’s implementation and amendments for the legalization of recreational marijuana. No action was taken.
 - d. Charter Communications Cable Franchise Fee Agreement** – The Board discussed some of the terms in the agreement. A full Board is desired before any decisions are made. A public hearing will be scheduled in the future following the Board’s final decisions. No action was taken.
 - e. RSU 56 Letter regarding options for the 33 Nash St Building** – A plan to have a special Selectmen’s meeting to collectively visit 33 Nash Street was decided as the best way to move forward before discussing the possibility of the Town considering acquiring the building by placing a vote before the people next June. The Town Manager will schedule a meeting and tour with RSU 56’s Kenny Robbins.
- 7. New Business:** none
- 8. Other Business:** none
- 9. Public Correspondence: Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope Letter**
: Thank you card from Mandy Parsons, retired Library Assistant
- 10. Public Comment:** Don Lutick questioned that if the number of firefighters, hydrants, etc. have an effect on homeowners’ insurance rates, is Police like that too?
: Dana Whittemore questioned the ability of the transmission line to be able to allow how many more turbines added on the line, as projected in the Maine Revenue Service’s estimates for the Town of Dixfield. Based on the number of towers already installed in Canton and Carthage that are included on that line, he believes there will be fewer than projected. He also commented on the Police Department vote, and believes we approved a budget and we should operate until June 30th, then possibly consider 18 hour coverage instead.
: Sue Holmes spoke on behalf of the Police Department saying the vote at the special Town Meeting was 2 to 1 in favor; 40 for and 20 against, approximately. She believes we need more research and more discussion before making a decision like this.
- 11. Board Questions/Comments:** none
- 12. FYI: Voting on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 from 8 am to 8 pm at the American Legion Hall, Swasey-Torrey Post 100 or by absentee ballot available from the Town Office until Thursday, November 2nd**
: Sewer Committee I & I meeting Tuesday, October 24th 10 am Mexico Town Hall

13. Next Meeting: Monday, November 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library

Executive Session: pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6) (F) to discuss Confidential Records - Motion to approve going into executive session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6) (F) to discuss Confidential Records was made by Mr. Skibitsky, seconded by Mr. Jamison at 7:08 p.m.. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0. The Chair declared the Board out of executive session at 7:35 p.m. Motion to deny case #2018-102 was made by Mr. Skibitsky, seconded by Mr. Jamison. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0. Motion to deny case #2018-103 was made by Mr. Jamison, seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

14. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. was made by Mr. Jamison, seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. The motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.