

Town of Dixfield

Selectmen Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 26th, 2018

5:30 pm

Ludden Memorial Library

Town Manager: Carlo Puiia

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

Town Employees: Police Chief Jeffrey Howe, Fire Chief Scott Dennett, Public Works Director Randy Glover, P.W. - Leo Jolin, Deputy Town Clerk Angela Varnum, Recording secretary Silvia Lutick

Town Citizens: Susan Holmes, Donald Lutick, Errin Smith, Royal Swan, Silver Varnum, Peter Holman, Ricky Davis, Randy Holman, Dan McKay, Walter Newman, Patricia Benson, Ken Hinkley, Barry Prescott, Terri Mitchell and Roland Patenaude.

Press: WVAC- Thomas Rush, Ben Hines; Sun Journal – Bruce Farrin

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

2 Public Hearing: The Board of Selectmen will conduct a Public Hearing to receive public comment prior to their vote to consider an Application for Bottle Club Registration for the by the Sons of American Legion: American Legion Swasey-Torrey Post 100 located at 8 River Lane in Dixfield

Mrs. Clarke opened the public hearing to anyone present who would like to offer any comments regarding the Legion's application. There were no comments received. The public hearing was declared closed at 5:35 p.m.

3 Agenda Adjustments: T.M Mr. Puiia: add 5a, #82 and 5b, #81

4 Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes - March 12, 2018

Mr. Skibitsky made the motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2018. Mr. Jamison seconded. (4-0) Unanimous.

## 5 Approval of Warrants and Payroll

a Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 80, 82

b Payroll Warrant #'s: 79, 81

c Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 6

Mr. Skibitsky made the motion to approve the warrants as amended. Mr. Jamison seconded. (4-0) Unanimous

## 6 Department Head Reports

a Police Department: Chief Howe presents the total data analysis of agency assist calls for the whole year of 2017. Mr. Mitchell asks about the conviction rate. Chief Howe says they're sending the dispositions and will provide the compilations in a few months. Chief Howe also mentioned that he had a meeting with the school district on current safety issues regarding the school standings in this country on guns and violence. Pleased to work with the Superintendent.

b Public Works Department: Mr. Glover states that it is warming up and should be in good shape budget wise. Their department is getting ready for Spring Clean-up. Hope to start at the end of April. Rt. 2 project is underway. Started today. The old Canton road will have lots of traffic this summer.

## 7 New Business:

a Resignation of Board of Selectmen Hart Daley

Mr. Skibitsky makes a motion to accept the resignation letter from Mr. Daley. Mr. Jamison seconds. (4-0) Unanimous.

b Dixfield American Legion Post 100 Bottle Club Registration Application

Mr. Jamison makes a motion to accept the Application. Mr. Skibitsky seconds. (4-0) Unanimous.

c Discussion on New Traffic Concerns

Mrs. Clarke mentions a fourth lane has been established at the intersection in Dixfield. Watch and wait for the light to turn. Mr. McKay makes a point of people possibly using that side street as a way to leave the parking lot of the American Legion. Mrs. Holmes questions why they don't just have a green arrow on a timer. Chief Howe has talked to DOT and says they are working on it. Audience member chimes in on the timing of the light cycle; too fast and or too slow.

#### d Proposal to Change Recreation Commission from Elected to Appointed.

T.M. Mr. Puiia: Annual Town Meeting from April, 1993. Proposal on an annual town warrant to an appointed from an Elected Recreation Commission. Says it's something to consider. The Commission would have to follow the code of ethics and fall under the authority of the town policy. It says 7 year term, we can change that to three like all the other terms of the town's boards. There was enthusiasm then but no structure. Royal Swan asks if it's always been elected. T.M. Mr. Puiia states no, he doesn't believe so. Errin Smith, a member of the Commission, believes it's a good thing and would keep things straight. Angela Varnum asks about the old members. T.M. Mr. Puiia says it's a commission, not a board. Still have to go through the process. Members can run and serve more than once and encourages it! Asks if we should discuss this at a town meeting or referendum. Mr. Skibitsky and Mr. Jamison want a town meeting in order to give the citizens of the town a chance to ask questions.

#### e Discussion on McGouldrick Park Community Betterment Funds

T.M. Mr. Puiia states we have received a one-time payment of \$10,000 and an annual \$2,000/yr. payment to use for improvements to the park. Mrs. Clarke makes mention of a walking trail. Mr. Mitchell loves the idea of a walking trail but questions the responsibilities of Public Works. Mr. Skibitsky asks if it's to be a committee or a board. Also, if whether the Recreation board will take upon parks as part of their responsibilities. Mr. McKay is adamant on coming up with a plan. Economic persons. T.M. Mr. Puiia says he needs more input from citizens for updates so commissions can work on it. Mrs. Clarke ends the discussion stating it would be nice to make it ONE awesome park instead of having mediocre parks.

#### 8 Other Business: N/A

9 Public Correspondence: Dan McKay email regarding the Maine Municipal Association's position of the Governor's bill to protect the elderly from tax-lien foreclosures.

Mr. McKay explained why he agrees with the Governor and believes MMA should not have supported amending the Governor's proposal.

10 Public Comment: Mr. Holman agrees with Mr. McKay on the issue. It wouldn't be right to lose a home because they can't afford tax.

#### 11 Board Questions/Comments:

Mr. Skibitsky verifies that the board never sold a home out from under any home owner.

12 FYI: Nomination papers for two Board of Selectmen positions and two RSU 56 School Board members are due by April 13th, 2018 in the Town Office

: Budget meeting Monday, April 2nd, 2018 at 5:30 pm downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library

: March 28th and March 29th, 2018 at 4:30pm in the Town Conference Room will be Special Selectmen's meetings to hold executive sessions on personal matters. The Town Manager search is the personnel issue.

13 Next Meeting: Monday, April 9th, 2018 at 5:30 pm downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library

- Executive Session (Town Manager Search) Mr. Skibitsky makes a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. Mr. Jamison seconds. (4-0) Unanimous. Mrs. Clarke declared the Board out of executive session at 7:25 p.m. No action was taken.

14 Adjournment:

Mr. Skibitsky made the motion to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Mr. Jamison seconded. (4-0) Unanimous