

**TOWN OF DIXFIELD**  
**Board of Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor**  
**Monday, August 21, 2017 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Ludden Memorial Library**

Selectmen: Norine Clarke, Eugene Skibitsky, Aaron Jamison, Norman Mitchell, Hart Daley  
Town Employees: Town Manager Carlo Puiia, Public Work's Director Randy Glover, Police Chief Jeffrey Howe, Patrolman Gerald Maccione IV

Citizens: Peter Holman, Royal Swan, Judy Horne, Susan Holmes, Terri Mitchell, Walter Newman, Matt Foreman, Mason Corriveau, Don Lutick, Ken Hinkley, Silver Barnum, Angela Varnum, Chris Noyes, and Grayson Child

Guests: Matt Timberlake and Paul Pomerleau, Ted Berry Company, Greg Buccina

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:** 5.b. add #14; 7.a. postponed until September 25 meeting; 9. Oxford County notification to towns for 2018 Budget process.
3. **Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2017**  
Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Skibitsky, seconded by Mr. Jamison. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0-1. Mr. Daley abstained as he was not present at that meeting..
4. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:**
  - a. **Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 115, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13**
  - b. **Payroll Warrant #'s: 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14**
  - c. **Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 15, 16, 17**Motion to approve the warrants with additions was made by Mr. Jamison, seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 0.
5. **Department Head Reports:**
  - a. **Police Department**
  - b. **Public Works**
6. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Auditor's Report – Ron Smith of RHR Smith:** This item was withdrawn as Mr. Smith was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.
  - b. **Sewer Ordinance Update: Matt Timberlake of Ted Berry Co. – Workshop Format:** Matt Timberlake, President of the Ted Berry Company, reviewed an amended draft of the proposed Town's Sewer Ordinance. A clean version will be ready to present at the next Selectmen's meeting. No action was taken.
  - c. **Endorse Joint Ambulance Service Agreement with MedCare:** The Board members signed the new the year inter-local agreement for ambulance service with MedCare, which was approved by the citizens' vote.

- d. Endorse Equalization Services Contract for Revaluation with John O'Donnell and Associates:** The Board members signed the agreement to perform a Town wide revaluation.
- e. Endorse Commitment Assessor's Certification of Assessment and Commitment of Taxes:** The Board members signed the Tax Commitment for the 2018 Property Taxes. The rate of 22.3 mills was set at their August 14, 2017 meeting.
- f. Wind Energy Facility Ordinance:** Mr. Skibitsky made a motion to place the Wind Energy Facility Ordinance dated November 7, 2017 on a Town Warrant for a referendum vote by the citizens. Mr. Jamison seconded the motion. Mr. Daley expressed his concerns for the vote this fall, and would prefer it be voted on by the citizens when they vote on budgets next June (2018). The vote was approved 3 to 2, with Mr. Daley and Mr. Mitchell opposed.
- g. Appeals Board Ordinance:** A draft of a proposed Appeals Board Ordinance was presented to the Board from the Appeals Board members for the Selectmen's consideration to put it before the citizens.
- h. November 7, 2017 Referendum Vote Municipal Ballot:** Mr. Jamison would like to ask the citizens a binding question: Do you want to keep a Police Department? The Board members discussed the matter at length with regards to being well explained if approved. Mr. Jamison made a motion to approve placing a binding question on the ballot for November 7, 2017 that reads "Shall the Town of Dixfield disband the Dixfield Police Department effective December 31, 2017? Mr. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote was 3 to 2, with Mr. Skibitsky and Mrs. Clarke being opposed.

## 7. New Business:

- a. Planning Board Appointment(s):** Mr. Jamison made a motion to nominate Ken Hinkley for a term of three years. It was seconded by Mr. Daley. The vote was 5 to 0. Mrs. Clarke nominated Susan Holmes to a two year term as the Alternate. It was seconded by Mr. Skibitsky. The vote was 5 to 0.
- b. RSU 56 Letter regarding options for the 33 Nash St Building:** Judy Horne and Greg Buccina spoke in support of the Town considering taking ownership of the old school building as they believe the Wellness Center is an important part of this community. A business plan will be presented to the school board, as well as plans to seek funding through grant opportunities. A portion of the Cable Franchise fees was requested to be earmarked for the project. No action was taken. The building is open until September 30<sup>th</sup>. The Board asked citizens to submit, in writing, whether they support or oppose the idea of the town acquiring the building. Without an engineering report, some felt the board should tour the facilities.
- c. Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications:** A copy of the Charter Communications' proposed agreement was provided to the Board as to prepare

them for upcoming discussions towards establishing a new agreement. The current agreement is for ten years, and has three years remaining.

- d. Moratorium on Recreational Retail Marijuana Establishments and Social Clubs:** The majority of the Board does not support having one at this point as the State of Maine has not yet decided any regulations at that level, therefore, how would the town know what to regulate at this level.
  - e. Go Gold Proclamation recognizing September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month:** A motion was made by Mr. Daley to support the effort and recognize September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. It was seconded by Mr. Mitchell. The vote was 5 to 0.
- 8. Other Business:** Oxford County Commissioners notified and invited the Towns of Oxford County for the budget process and schedule meeting.
  - 9. Public Correspondence: Broadband Survey request from Community Concepts' Mia Purcell**
    - : Thank you cards from scholarship recipients Olivia Noyes and Liliana Meehan**
    - : Resignation of Library Trustee Vickie Carrier**
  - 10. Public Comment:**
  - 11. Board Questions/Comments:**
  - 12. FYI: Public Hearing for Wind Energy Facility Ordinance on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Dirigo High School Community Room**
  - 13. Next Meeting: Monday, September 11, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library**
  - 14. Executive Session: pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(E) to discuss a Legal Matter:** Mr. Daley made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRS §405 (6)(E) to discuss a Legal Matter at 8:42 p.m.. It was seconded by Mr. Jamison. The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:18 p.m. Mr. Jamison made a motion to allow the Town Manager to direct Attorney Ted Small of Skelton, Tainter & Abbott to address a construction issue with A.E. Hodsdon Engineering. It was seconded by Mr. Mitchell. The vote was 5 to 0.
  - 15. Adjournment:** A motion was made by Mr. Daley at 9:20 p.m. to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Jamison. The vote was 5 to 0.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Carlo Puiia**