

Town of Dixfield
Board of Selectmen
Monday, September 24th, 2018
5:30 pm
Ludden Memorial Library

Selectmen:

Present: Norine Clarke, Norman Mitchell, Montell Kennedy, Peter Holman

Absent: Aaron Jamison

Town Manager: Dustin Starbuck

Audience/Town Employees: Donald Lutick, Royal Swan, Dan Mckay, Ricky Davis, Randy Glover

Press: WVAC and Bruce Farrin

1 Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

2 Regular Meeting Minutes - September 10, 2018

-Selectman Montel Kennedy made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2018 as read. Selectman Mr. Norman Mitchell seconds the motion. (4-0) 1 absent: Selectman Mr. Jamison

3 Agenda Adjustments:

-T.M. Mr. Starbuck proposes a signature from the Selectboard in approval of accepting a new town clerk and deputy treasurer. Paper signed by Selectmen.

-Sharon Farrington to be added to the bank account. A motion to be made and be reflected in the minutes in order to receive approval from the bank.

-Selectman Mr. Kennedy makes a motion to add Sharon Farrington to the bank accounts. Selectman Mr. Holman seconds the motion. (4-0) 1 absent: Selectman Mr. Jamison

4 Approval of Warrants and Payroll:

a Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 25, 26

b Payroll Warrant #'s: 24, 27

c Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 20

-No motion or second made on the approval of warrants and payroll.

5 Department Head Reports:

Mr. Randy Glover announces the Adirondack chair has been set in place by the gazebo in town. The Hall Hill Project is waiting on grinding and paving. They hope to grind within a week and

paved by the first of October. The sidewalk has been started and confident it will be finished by Friday. Selectman Mr. Holman asks if there are any more big projects for the season. Mr. Glover claims there is nothing else other than minor touch ups around town. Mainly ditching, shoulder work and clean up some culverts. Selectman Mr. Holman also asks about any updates on donations for the tree. Mr. Glover claims he has not seen any thus far but have a couple avenues when the time comes. Chairman Mrs. Norine Clarke asks when the proper season is to replace the tree - fall or spring. Mr. Glover suggests the fall. Mrs. Clarke also compliments the appearance of the sidewalk.

6 Old Business: None

7 New Business:

a Add Sharon Farrington the Sewer/Water clerk to bank accounts

-This agenda item was completed on agenda item #3 under Agenda Adjustments.

b Supplement Assessment - 9 Kidder Ave

-T.M. Mr. Starbuck gave to the Selectman, a copy of a document containing information about 9 Kidder Ave becoming a tax acquired property about 1-2 years ago. Ms. Hartness (?) *** came in last year and paid off the taxes. Unfortunately, it hadn't been communicated to the clerk and therefore it is still listed as town property which means nothing was assessed against it for the year 2018. An assessment is needs to be created for this individual and then the taxes can be collected. She is very honest and came forward. To sum it up, her assessing date will be different than that of the rest of the town.

c Tax-acquired property

-T.M. Mr. Starbuck states there is no need of a decision tonight but to simply inform the board of this issue. There are currently 22 properties the town acquires and will be picking up another 40 by December. These properties are not bringing in revenue which is a problem. There are also liability issues with the properties. If something were to happen to the individual(s) at these properties (while the property is vacant), the town is held responsible. Mr. Holman makes a point that there needs to be someone to check these buildings and should lock these places. T.M. Mr. Starbuck agrees but the question at hand is what to do with the properties. These are some people's homes. There are a couple options -can explain to these people that if they do not pay the taxes, the property can be put up for bid and then from there it would be up to the landlord on whether or not to evict them. The other option would be to evict them first and then sell them the property. Doing nothing is also an option but that would not be fair to those who are paying taxes. Mrs. Clarke suggest payment plans being an option as well. T.M. Mr. Starbuck says that is possible - it is possible to sell the house back to them. There are several options. Unfortunately, this is taking place during the christmas season. No final decisions tonight, just something for the board to think about. Mr. Holman states that we should work with those who do live there and are willing to work something out. T.M. Mr. Starbuck will provide a list of various options for the board to review. Citizen Mr. Dan Mckay asks if the tax acquired properties are public record. The answer is yes.

8 Other Business:

None

9 Public Comment:

None

10 Board Questions/Comments:

Chairman Mrs. Clarke thanks Mr. Randy Glover for securing the adirondack chair

11 Next MeetingL October 8, 2018 at 5:30pm downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library

12 Executive Session: pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6) (C) to discuss disposition of public held property

Selectman Mr. Norman Mitchell makes a motion to go into executive session: pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6) (C) to discuss disposition of public held property. Selectman Mr. Holman seconds. (4-0) 1 absent: Mr. Jamison.

13 Adjournmen