

Town of Dixfield
Board of Selectmen
Monday, January 27, 2020
5:30 pm
Ludden Memorial Library

Selectmen:

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

Town Manager:

Dustin Starbuck

Citizens:

Donald Lutick, Dan McKay

Town Employees:

Chief Aaron Mick, Robert Haseltine, Rex Schweighofer, Brandon Kelly

Press:

WVAC and Bruce Farrin

1. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance
2. Agenda Adjustments:
 - Succession (Old Bus)
3. Approval of Minutes: December 16, 2019
Added: January 13, 2020
Ms. Clark makes mention to minute taker to change email address from Carlo Puiia to Dustin Starbuck. Also, to make sure Peter Holman's name is correctly from Holmon to Holman.
Mr. Holman makes a motion to approve minutes of December 16th, 2019 with corrections. Mr. Davis seconds. (4-0-1) Mr. Mitchell abstains.
Mr. Mitchell makes a motion to approve minutes of January 13, 2020 with corrections. Mr. Holman seconds. (4-0) Vote Unanimous.
4. Approval of Warrants and Payroll:
 - a. Accounts Payable Warrant #'s: 58
Added: 60
 - b. Payroll Warrant #'s: 57
Added: 59
 - c. Water/Sewer Warrant #'s: 2
Mr. Kennedy makes a motion to approve the Warrants and Payroll. Mr. Davis seconded. (5-0) Vote Unanimous.
5. Head Reports:
 - a. Police Department
Chief Mick introduces two reserve officers, Robert Haseltine and Rex Schweighofer who were hired a couple of weeks ago along with reserve officer, Brandon Kelly from Auburn and Lewiston police departments who is now hired as a full-time officer. Haseltine and Schweighofer were both reserve officers in Old Orchard Beach prior to their position here in Dixfield and are also recent graduates. Haseltine and Schweighofer are thinking of taking a job out west for some firefighting training but after seeing the town are considering to stick around in town for six months instead.

The police department has three full time officers and five reserve officers in which four are working actively for Dixfield.

Former Dixfield Police Chief, Rep. Richard Pickett suggested to the Chief about getting a Cops grant. He stated it worked out well back when he was in office. Chief Mick responded saying there is a very short window to turn in the information by March 11th. If and when we receive the grant, it is good for four years. However, the town would have to pay for one year and the federal monies would pay for the other three years. Rep. Pickett said that this grant would especially work with a fifth officer where the town would save the town on overtime costs.

Mr. Mitchell is opposed to the idea. He feels there is no reason to have five police officers in a four- man department.

Mr. Starbuck believes the town would have to put away \$20,000 for the three years to cover the salary of the recipient who will receive the grant.

The board also talked about looking into a new building for the police department. After much discussion, T.M. Mr. Starbuck will do some research on the cost savings and to present those figures by the next selectmen meeting, Feb. 10th. Chief Mick also stated that he will get the application filled out and ready to submit by then as well.

b. Public Works

Mr. Randy Glover is absent. No report.

6. Old Business

a. Sue Holmes

T.M. Mr. Starbuck states he hasn't heard back on a price on a plaque of Susan Holmes. Gives an option that we as a board can go ahead with it or wait.

Mr. Holman believes there is no reason to wait. Mr. Holman makes a motion for the board to donate \$500 for the plaque. Mr. Mitchell seconds. (4-0-1) Mr. Kennedy abstains - he would like to know the price of the plaque first.

b. Succession

T.M. Mr. Starbuck states that if something were to happen to him, where he would be gone for a long time, there needs to be someone appointed to fill in while the current town manager is absent. The town manager or selectmen can appoint someone - best options as a suggestion would be former town managers i.e. Carlo Puiia or Eugene Skibitsky. Selectmen can NOT be a town manager.

Mrs. Clark would like to get the options set in place of promising candidates along with their phone numbers and addresses.

7. New Business

a. RMSD - future billing

RMSD (Rumford Mexico Sewer Department) will increase 5% for the next three years. There was no increase and no maintenance for the last 20 years.

The average sewer rate is about \$600 per year. It is \$300 per year for this area.

The State isn't going to subsidize a good deal. Our sewer rates are too low and therefore can't receive a grant.

b. Water Abatement

- c. Surry Seafood
 - T.M. Mr. Starbuck states Surry Seafood does not sell beer on Sunday. Back in 1980 the town of Dixfield voted on liquor and wine. Need petition to put on ballot.

- d. Confirm Reserve Police Officer Appointments
 - Mr. Kennedy makes a motion to appoint the three *** reserve officers for the town of Dixfield. Mr. Davis seconds. (5-0) Vote Unanimous.

- 8. Other Business: Oxford County Sheriff's 2019 Report
 - 23 calls for service
 - 8 agency assists
 - The board receives \$24,000 for Jerry's departure - statute of a payback. This money is intended to help officers in training/academy

- 9. Public Correspondence: N/A
- 10. Public Comment:
 - N/A
- 11. Board Questions/Comments:
 - Mr. Holman states we need to work toward getting/building a new police station - we need to set a committee.
- 12. Next Meeting:
 - Monday, February 10, 2020 at 5:30 pm downstairs in the Ludden Memorial Library
- 13. Executive Session:
 - N/A
 - Mr. Davis makes a motion to go in to executive session 1 MRS 405 (6) (D) Mr. Mitchell seconds. (5-0) Vote Unanimous.
- 14. Adjournment: