



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes of February 3, 2011

Chair Jo Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present were: Selectmen S. Josephine Cooper, Richard Fennelly Jr., Cynthia Donaldson, Gary McFarland; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, and Road Commissioner / Assessor / Deputy CEO Michael Jordan. Selectman William Brann had told the board he would not be able to attend this meeting as he would be out of state.

Agenda Review – There were no changes in the order of business on the printed agenda or addendum.

Minutes of January 20, 2011 – Richard and Cynthia presented a few minor written changes. Richard moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 15 – Selectmen signed warrant 15 for \$25,470.66. Stu reported the bulk of the warrant was for snow plowing and the audit. There was a brief discussion about the snow plowing effort this winter and the Selectmen said they were pleased with the job Richard McMullen was doing, given that it's his first year on the job and it has been an extremely snowy winter. Stu said the price of diesel has kicked in past the escalator amount and the number of storms may also kick in the contract escalator.

Cash & Budget Report – Stu reported the interest income for January was very good and the interest income overall is closer to the budgeted amount.

Audit Question – Stu reported that the auditor explained that the unrealized gain on investments was not included in the balance sheet amount for undesignated fund balance, but is indicated in the audit figure. Cynthia asked which one is correct. Stu said the balance sheet amount would be correct, reflecting what actually was in the bank on June 30, 2010.

Tax Bill Reminders – Selectmen, by consensus, approved of sending post card reminders for the 2nd half property tax due date.

Annual Town Meeting – Selectmen reviewed the draft warrant and approved of a few corrections. Stu said he would make those after the meeting ended and have the warrants ready for signing.

Water Testing – Stu reported that Norlens would be in town tomorrow to look over the installation that is needed at the home the DEP is asking to have a filter. He said he received an e-mail earlier in the day from the DEP indicating that they are planning to test water at another home that is near the closed landfill.

Recycling – Stu said he awaits word from both Coastal Recycling and the City of Ellsworth on the processing costs for the town's recycling.

Job Descriptions – Jo said she is working on her copies which she will drop off at a later date. Cynthia submitted several edits and questions.

Town Report – Richard had a number of corrections written out and quickly reviewed them.

MDOT Process – Stu reported he placed a communication from the Maine Department of Transportation in the Selectmen's materials regarding comments sought on the road construction process.

Execute Deed on Foreclosed Property – Stu reported that payment in full has been received from Wayne Wright. He said Mr. Wright's attorney drew up the deed, and asked that the property be transferred back to the Hambys and Mr. Wright would proceed from there. He recommended that the Selectmen sign the deed. Jo moved to sign the deed, Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.** Stu made some minor corrections to the deed, including removing Selectman Brann's name, and the deed was signed after adjournment.

Checking Account Reconciliation – Selectmen signed the statement expressing satisfaction with the reconciliation of the checking account. Stu noted that two stale payments continue not to be processed, and he would likely ask for a write-off at the next reconciliation.

Report from Deputy LPI re: Pollution on Skillings River – Deputy Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI) Michael Jordan reported that he has done a fair amount of investigating in the past two weeks, and he has found no problem with any septic systems in that area. He said he's seen all but three of the septic fields, and there is no evidence of a breakout. He said he is pretty certain the pollution is not coming from a human source. He said he plows snow in that neighborhood and often sees horses and can see brown material coming down the hill by Eagle Point Road. He said he's not 100% sure it's the former Kief Farm.

Mr. Jordan said he talked with Robert Goodwin of the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) about the problem, and Mr. Goodwin said it's a problem when it rains hard. He said the pollution may be a cumulative problem of all the animals in that area. He said there is nothing that can legally be done to stop the horses from using the field. Richard said there are some federal agriculture grants available for such issues. He said he's discussed the situation with Hannah Annis from DMR. He said a depuration company could come in and dig the flats hard and go through a purification process with the clams, and that could clean out the flats. He said the municipal officers could write a letter saying that a plan is being developed to identify and control the pollution source. He said that buys two years to accomplish that goal with a possible extension. He said the joint municipal board could have letters of support from Lamoine and Hancock, the two affected towns, and submit the application to DMR. He offered to draft the letter.

Cynthia moved to authorize Richard to write the letter saying that the town is committed to identifying and controlling the pollution problem. Jo 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Mr. Jordan said the Mud Creek area closure has also crept back. He said there are a lot of beaver ponds on Springy Brook, and that is a potential source. He said the only other new thing by Spring Brook is a cornfield, and he would check with the farmer working that field to see if manure is being spread. There was a brief discussion about the Mud Creek area.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be February 17, 2011 (not the 27th as mistakenly printed on the agenda).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM

Following adjournment, Selectmen signed the town meeting warrants and the municipal deed to the Hambys.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.