



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes – October 8, 2015

Chair Gary McFarland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present were: Selectmen Nathan Mason, Bernie Johnson, Heather Fowler, S. Josephine Cooper, Gary McFarland; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, School Committee Chair Brett Jones, Superintendent of Schools Katrina Kane, School Committee Member Gordon Donaldson, Comprehensive Planning Committee members Fred Stocking, Bonnie Marckoon, Kathie Gaianguest, Valerie Sprague, Robert Christie, Assessor Michael Jordan and member of the public Jeff Cosulich.

Agenda Review – No changes were proposed to the printed agenda or addendum.

Minutes – September 24, 2015 – Heather moved to approve the minutes as written. Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 8 – Selectmen signed the warrant in the amount of \$99,817.20. Stu noted that \$75,000 was for school expenses and \$3,400 for the audit.

Cash & Budget Report – Jo asked about excise tax. Stu reported it was still ahead of the percentage of year passed, but will probably start to drop off a bit in November.

Checking Account Reconciliation – Selectmen signed the statement expressing satisfaction with their review of the checking account reconciliation documents sent via e-mail prior to the meeting

Quarterly Excise Tax Report – Stu noted that when compared to the previous fiscal year, the excise tax collections were down a bit for this fiscal year.

Personal Property Tax – Gary moved to abate an outstanding personal property tax bill to OCE Financial for \$29.45 as uncollectible. Heather 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Stu referred to a list of outstanding personal property taxes from the past few fiscal years and suggested that we consult with the town attorney as to how to collect. Nathan moved to authorize Stu to contact the town attorney in regard to the matter. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Possible Property Purchase – School – Superintendent of Schools Katrina Kane said she was happy to provide additional information about what the school department had in mind for the Clark property next door if the town were to approve its purchase. She said the house would be demolished, and they've obtained an estimate on that cost. The garage would remain and be used for storage purposes. She said acquisition would address some parking and safety concerns. She said they would move the present storage buildings, use the garage for storage, and possibly park the school buses there. She said the portable classrooms are also aging, and this would give the towns some more options in the long term in regard to future construction.

School Committee member Gordon Donaldson said it would also give an option to move the portable classroom away from the fire station. School Committee chair Brett Jones said there could be the possibility of a separate building in the future.

Bernie asked how large the lot was. Mr. Jones said 100' x 200'. Heather asked how many additional cars that could accommodate. Mr. Jones said about 40 more. A brief discussion followed on parking issues.

Bernie asked if the Selectmen were authorizing the beginning of negotiations. Gary said Mr. Clark has said to make him an offer. He said perhaps a price would be a starting point. Stu said he would need some direction. Jo said the School Committee and Selectmen should be in on that. Mr. Jones suggested going into executive session to discuss a negotiation. Jo said she was referring to a process, not numbers. Nathan said he agreed that the School Committee and Selectmen should meet with Mr. Clark. Gary said he knows Mr. Clark and could meet with him on a Saturday or some evening.

Superintendent Kane said the School Committee meets next week. Jo asked if the Selectmen could hold an executive session with the school committee tonight. Stu said he believes negotiations are an allowed executive session use.

Gravel Ordinance – Stu reminded the Board they wished to have time to review the draft summary statement in regard to the gravel ordinance that will be voted upon in November. He said that Gordon Donaldson had also created a document with areas highlighted that are proposed to change in the new ordinance. He suggested that both documents are political in nature, and was not advocating one over the other.

Dr. Donaldson said the only way that he could keep things straight during the ordinance drafting process was to highlight the new ordinance. He said the Planning Board has never proposed an ordinance change where they did not put out something with all the changes in it. He asked if there was a reason not to make the highlighted version available. A discussion followed on the ability to compare the current ordinance to the new ordinance. Selectmen said both could be made available at the public hearing on October 22, 2015.

Stu said his concern was that these documents might not be legal to make available at the polling place. After a brief discussion the Selectmen asked Stu to contact Maine Municipal Association Legal Services for an opinion.

Nate moved to approve the draft of the summary document. Bernie 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0 (Fowler Abstained) – Selectmen signed the document.**

Comprehensive Planning 2nd Alternate – Gary said there are three people interested in being appointed as the second alternate on the Planning Board. Stu introduced Jeff Cosulich who was one of those interested, along with Michael Jordan and a letter from Amy Morley. Mr. Cosulich gave a brief history and noted that he moved to Lamoine just

a few weeks ago. Jo asked if the Selectmen could appoint all three as alternates. Stu said the Board would have to approve two additional alternate positions.

Comprehensive Planning Chair Fred Stocking said there is plenty of work to do. A discussion on voting followed, with Mr. Stocking noting that eventually the committee will have to vote on a plan. He said if the Selectmen vote to create 4 alternate positions, it will have to be clear who would have first voting priority. He said he would prefer to have two alternates and two volunteers instead. Jo moved to appoint Michael Jordan as the 2nd alternate to the Comprehensive Planning Committee and encourage Amy and Jeff to attend the board meetings and be part of the process. Bernie 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Meeting with Comprehensive Planning Committee – The Comprehensive Planning Committee conducted an interview and discussion with the Board of Selectmen to gather input into the planning process. Chairman Stocking reported their community survey is ongoing and the committee is meeting with various town groups to gather input.

Transfer Station Schedule – Selectmen had no objection to closing on Christmas Day and New Year's Day and being open the day after both holidays from 9am to 5pm as usual. Stu said he would schedule a midday pickup on December 26th in anticipation of high trash volume.

Tree Trimming Specifications – Selectmen had no objection to sending out specifications to cut Mill Road and Shore Road and asking for estimates for the next meeting.

Budget Workshop – Stu presented written budget proposals for the Administration and Solid Waste budgets. He suggested the Board take them home for discussion at the next meeting.

MSW & Recycling Transport Contract – Stu said the contract with Pine Tree Waste/Casella expires next June. He said the PERC contract expires in March of 2018. He asked whether the Selectmen wished to possibly extend the transport contracts, bid a 21-month contract, or bid another 5-year contract. Selectmen instructed to Stu contact Casella about an extension proposal through the PERC contract.

State Valuation – Selectmen received the proposed state valuation from Maine Revenue Services. Stu noted the state valuation rose for the first time in many years.

Code Enforcement Officer Correspondence – Stu said he placed correspondence in the packets this evening from CEO Billings for informational purposes only. There is no action for the Board to take on either matter.

Next Meeting Dates – The Board meets next on October 22, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the school prior to the 7PM public hearing on the Gravel Ordinance. Meetings are also planned on November 12, December 3 and 17.

Executive Session – Gary moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1MRSA §405(6)(c) for the purposes of discussing acquisition of real estate with the Superintendent of Schools and School Committee members. Bernie 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0 at 8:38 PM. Out at 8:53 PM.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen