Minutes – December 1, 2016

Chair Gary McFarland called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Present were: Selectmen Nathan Mason, Gary McFarland, Kathleen Rybarz, Robert Christie, S. Josephine Cooper; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, and Cynthia Donaldson.

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

Minutes – November 17, 2016 – Kathleen moved to approve the minutes as printed. Bob 2nd. Vote in favor was 5-0.

Expenditure warrant 10 – Selectmen signed the warrant in the amount of $124,336.76. Stu noted that the school bills came in that morning and the firefighter reimbursements are on the warrant along with November plowing and road repairs.

Cash & Budget Report – There were no questions regarding the printed report.

Checking Account Reconciliation – Selectmen signed the form expressing satisfaction with review of the checking reconciliation documents.

Lamoine’s Little Kids- Cynthia Donaldson updated the Selectmen on her group’s projects, including the school library. She said she spoke with the Recreation Committee at their last meeting in regard to installing a small activity project on the hallway wall in the town office. She said it would show that the town is child friendly, and will cost about $130.00, plus shipping. She said the Rec Committee would help with the cost. She said the group also has books to distribute.

Nathan asked how large the group was. Mrs. Donaldson said they’ve served 12-to-14 youngsters over a 2-year period. She said the group is currently serving 4-to-5 little kids, including some from Ellsworth. A brief discussion followed regarding publicity for the group.

Jo moved to approve installation of the activity device. Kathleen 2nd. Vote in favor was 5-0.

Resignation – Jo moved to accept the resignation of Heidi Garrison from the Lamoine Recreation Committee with regret. Gary 2nd. Vote in favor was 5-0.

Loose Trash @ Transfer Station – Gary said the Selectmen received a write-up from transfer station manager Chris Meyer, and a letter from the Health Officer stating that she could not sign the memorandum. He said Mr. Meyer is concerned with people dumping trash that is not bagged up directly into the dumpsters.
Stu reported he researched the policies and the operations manual and could only find that requiring trash to be bagged was contained in the Commercial Trash Hauler policy.

Nathan said as long as the sign is posted at the transfer station requesting trash in bags only, it should be OK. Kathleen said she likes the bags only idea as it keeps trash from blowing around. Jo said she was under the impression from previous conversations with Mr. Meyer that bagged trash was a state law. The board discussed what the town policy and state rules contain.

Jo said she’s reluctant to go any further with policy or ordinance at this time, as the transfer station needs a redesign. Nathan said the transfer station does a very good job controlling trash and is one of the better ones in the area. Bob suggested that someone approach the person with whom the transfer station manager has a concern to request that they bring bagged trash only. A brief discussion followed.

Jo said she would like to table the matter for now. She said the town has no ordinance, the Selectmen are exploring a reconfiguration, and the board is not ready to act. After a brief discussion, no action was taken.

**Transfer Station Gate** – Stu reported the gate to the transfer station suffered some cosmetic damage when one of the Casella trucks caught it while taking the trash. He said it still functions adequately.

**Town Owned Property Inventory** – Selectmen reviewed a report compiled by Stu listing the various pieces of town property. There were discussions about the status of Map 1 Lots 52 and 56, as well as the town hall lot area and a corner lot on Birchlawn Drive acquired for non-payment of taxes that is required to be kept forever green.

**Lamoine, WA Inquiry** – Gary McFarland reported that he called a gentleman from Lamoine, Washington, who had inquired about finding a picture of a Lamoine Sardine label. Jo said she had responded to the gentleman’s e-mail, and forwarded it to Historical Society chair Susan Hodgkins as well as Anne Stocking. She said Lamoine Washington’s story was quite interesting, as it apparently was named for the Sardine label. Gary said he understands that Joe Young, Sr. has a label and he’s going to get a picture of it. A brief discussion of the former sardine industry in Lamoine followed.

**Cold Spring Water Co. Status** – Stu reported a broken pipe at the water company caused the system to lose water last week. He said it was quickly located and repaired and things are normal. He said there does not appear to be any water quantity problems.

**Comprehensive Planning RFP** – Jo moved to send out the RFP for a consultant from the Comprehensive Planning Committee. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Recreational Marijuana** - It was noted that Maine Municipal Association is working on options for towns to have regarding the matter likely passed by voters in November. Jo suggested the town ought to be proactive on it. There was a very brief discussion about
options including becoming a “dry town” for marijuana or enacting a moratorium to give the town time to regulate sales and social clubs.

**General Assistance Portal** – Jo moved to authorize General Assistance Administrator Stu Marckoon have access to the DHHS portal. Nate 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0; Gary signed the authorization form.**

**Lamoine Beach Lease** – Kathleen said she had questions about the setup at Lamoine Beach in regard to the town leasing the facility from the state. She said a memorandum prepared by Stu clarified things nicely. There was a brief discussion about the parking lot area which was originally a common lot for the adjacent subdivision.

**Burned mobile home** – Stu reported he spoke with the insurance agent for the mobile home that burned in September on Lamoine Beach Road, and that the homeowner has contacted a local contractor to remove the debris. Stu said he would ask the contractor about the status the next time he sees him.

**School CTV Wiring** - Jo moved to approve the proposal from Connectivity Point to wire the Lamoine Consolidated School for Cable TV production. Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Mud Creek Road Pole** – Stu reported Emera Maine had originally applied to the town for permission to place a stub pole on Mud Creek Road. He said he called to inform Emera that Mud Creek is a state road, and that they’ve applied to the state instead.

**BMV Proposal** – Stu reported that he spoke with both State Senator Brian Langley and Secretary of State Matt Dunlap earlier in the week regarding a desire to simplify the motor vehicle registration process. Selectmen had no objection.

**Budget** – Stu reported the budget print-out did not include a $700 social service request he found on the fax machine after printing the document. He noted that expenses are up in almost every department for a variety of reasons. There was a brief discussion about electronic signs, and encouraging the school department to consider one too, and perhaps there could be a volume discount.

The Selectmen noted the bottom line of the municipal portion of the tax commitment was up about 9%. Stu said it could be lowered if more of the road fund and undesignated fund balance was utilized. Selectmen said they would like to use $20,000 more than proposed on the latest printout from each surplus and road funds to cushion the property tax impact.

**Next Meeting Dates** – Gary listed the next meetings for the Board as follows:

December 15, 2016 (warrant signature needed 12/29/16)
January 12, & 26, 2017
February 9 & 16, 2017
March 7, 8, 9, 2016 (town meeting election, open meeting, organizational meeting.)
Nomination Paper Availability – Kathleen asked when nomination papers for the March 2017 town meeting will be available. Stu said it would be on December 12, 2016. She asked to publicize that well.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stu MarcConn, Adm. Asst.