



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

606 Douglas Hwy
Lamoine, ME 04605
(207) 667-2242
town@lamoine-me.gov

Minutes – April 13, 2017

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

Present were: Selectmen S. Josephine Cooper, Nathan Mason, Robert Christie, Gary McFarland, Kathleen Rybarz; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Parks Commission Chair Cathi Goebel, Conservation Commission Chair Larry Libby, and Parks/Conservation Commission member Jeff Cosulich.

Agenda Review – There was no objection to moving items concerning the Parks and Conservation Commissions higher on the agenda to accommodate those present.

Minutes – March 23, 2017 – Nathan moved to approve the minutes as drafted. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0 (McFarland abstained).**

Expenditure Warrant 20 – Selectmen signed expenditure warrant 20 in the amount of \$106,380.53. Stu reported he moved \$75,000 from the investment management account to the checking account to cover the checks.

Cash & Budget Report – Stu reported excise tax collections have been very strong during the first two weeks of April.

Checking Account Reconciliation – Selectmen signed the statement expressing satisfaction with the reconciliation which had been e-mailed to them prior to the meeting.

Quarterly Excise Tax Report – Jo noted the previous quarter was the highest for excise tax collection since 2009. Stu reported the town gained over \$4,000 when the Trenton Bridge Lobster Pound trucks were registered in Lamoine after the business sold.

Pinkham Park Proposal – Parks Commission chair Cathi Goebel said the Pinkham family wants to donate 2.5 acres of land on the Mud Creek Road near the “S” curves for a park. She said both the Parks and Conservation Commissions looked at the land, and would propose a 5-car parking lot with picnic tables and a future launch for canoes or kayaks. She said there are number of steps that have to take place for this to go through. She said the town would need a permit from the Maine Department of Transportation, the town would have to approve a Shoreland Zoning change, the site should be surveyed, construction of a parking lot is needed, and signs have to be posted. She said both commissions support the idea. She said the town meeting would have to approve the donation.

Gary asked what the costs might be. Mrs. Goebel said the parking lot might cost about \$5,000 plus the picnic tables are \$200 or so each. She said she didn’t know how much signs would cost. Nathan asked if there was a projected maintenance budget. There was discussion about what those cost would be, including trash disposal and mowing.

Stu asked if there is some sort of written offer. Mrs. Goebel said Fred Stocking could work on that. A brief discussion followed on what might be happening. Nathan noted that funding would be needed for a survey, legal work, and would have to come from some fund. A discussion followed about exactly what area was being proposed and what the disposition would be of the informal road turnout in the area.

Jo asked if they wanted the Selectmen to act tonight. Nathan said there was nothing to act on. Stu said he's seen no formal offer. Conservation Commission chair Larry Libby said they wanted to learn if the effort ought to proceed. Stu noted that the Hodgkins Fund is dedicated to municipal buildings and parks, so there could be some money available. Bob said he would like to see some paperwork with the formality of an offer so that the town can respond. Mr. Libby said they could do that. There was no opposition.

Trail Camera – Bloomfield Park – Mrs. Goebel said the Parks Commission has discussed concerns about people, noise, and drug activity at Bloomfield Park in their past two meetings. She said she spoke with the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency and they accept anonymous tips, and that information was given to park neighbors. She said the Parks Commission felt a camera could show how much activity is going on, and could potentially assist the MDEA. She asked what kind of permission is needed for a camera to monitor a public area.

Bob said if the intent is for law enforcement, the town has no police department. He suggested some guidance from Maine Municipal Association. Nathan noted that when he served on the Parks Commission years ago, they thinned out the woods so that activity was much more visible. He said there have been issues at the park for a long time. He said there was discussion in past years about motion activated lights. He said he didn't like the drug activity, but he's not sure if a game camera is the answer. He said the park seems to be a magnet for hidden activity.

Jo said she didn't think a camera would be a bad idea. Stu asked what questions would be needed for MMA. Jo said some clarification about privacy. Stu said it's a public park. A brief discussion followed on how cameras work.

Kathleen said a camera could be a vandalism deterrent. She said the snowmobile club just past the park has a security camera. Mrs. Goebel said the parks commission has discussed possibly gating the park at night, and neighbors are concerned.

Jo said if the Board could explore the legal piece, she might favor a camera. Stu said he would contact the leaders of the snowmobile club to see what they have in place.

Broughman Builders – Consent Agreement – Jo reported that Bob, Kathleen and Stu went to the latest small claims court session. Bob said it was a riveting 12 minutes. Gary said it would cost more in legal fees to collect the entire \$5,350 than the difference on the offer from Mike Wight of \$5,000 to close this out. Bob recounted the various offers leading up to the \$5,000 offer. He said the town's attorney, Diane O'Connell, collected the check. He said this way Broughman Builders doesn't have a judgment against them.

Nathan said it would be foolish to pursue this further. A brief discussion followed on the principle of the situation.

Bob moved to accept the \$5,000 and to file the consent agreement. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-1 (Rybarz opposed).**

Bob said the Board discussed the situation in Marlboro at its last meeting and there needs to be a discussion with the Code Enforcement Officer about the hours available. He said the CEO is the only real enforcement mechanism in town. Stu said some of that should take place in executive session. He said there is plenty of budget money available and suggested the discussion take place at the next regular meeting.

Resignation – Jo moved to accept the resignation of Melissa Johnson as the Cable TV Operations Manager with regret. Bob 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Appointment – Nathan moved to appoint Amanda Frost as an alternate member of the Recreation Committee. Bob 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Land Donation – Selectmen signed a thank-you letter to Ken Smith for donating a portion of land to the town as well as taking care of preparing and filing all the paperwork.

Clerk's Week – Nathan moved to proclaim May 7 through 13 as Municipal Clerk's Week. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Contracts – Jo said she was impressed by the number of contracts the town has on a list prepared for the meeting. Stu said the most pressing need would be a new trash hauling and recycling contract. He said the SPCA has offered to renew the stray animal contract which he noticed had expired while compiling the list. Jo moved to approve that contract. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Expiring Appointments – Jo said the next step is to contact those whose appointments expire in June to see if they are interested in continuing to serve. Bob asked when the appointments would be ready for action. Stu said usually early to mid-June. Stu said he would start contacting those involved.

School TV Wiring – Kathleen asked what the status was. Stu reported that the camera controller had arrived, but one camera is not functioning with that. He said they still await the equipment from Time Warner (Charter/Spectrum), and he would contact them again. He said he's been in contact with Connectivity Point about the camera controller and is withholding the check until their end of the system is functional.

Memorial Day – Bob inquired about plans for any ceremony at the Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day, and said he would like to help organize it. Gary said he has most of it planned. There was a discussion about appropriateness.

Town Meeting Date – After much discussion, Selectmen picked Wednesday, May 31, 2017 at 6PM for a special town meeting to consider the school budget and a few other items. The regular Board meeting will follow.

Rabbit Roundup – Stu reported that Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers has asked for volunteers to help corral a pair of rabbits on Mill Road on Friday. He said he sent out a request of help through many channels, and some media outlets have picked up on it. The event will meet at the school at 5PM.

Trapped Cat – Stu reported that he and ACO Byers have tried to assist a Seal Point Road resident who reported a cat was trapped under her house earlier this week. He said he crawled under the building but could not find any cat, and Shannon set a trap and a game camera up.

Traffic Light Maintenance – Stu reported he had contacted King Electric about performing routine maintenance on the Route 3/204 traffic signal, and they would be glad to do so.

Meeting Dates – The Board set the following regular meeting dates:
May 31, 2017 (cancelling June 1, 2017)
June 8 & 22, 2017
July 20, 2017
August 10, 2017 (tentatively)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen