



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes – February 1, 2018

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

Present were: Selectmen S. Josephine Cooper, Robert Christie, Gary McFarland, Nathan Mason (arrived 7:11 pm); Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon. Just prior to the meeting Selectman Kathleen Rybarz phoned to say she was unable to attend due to a work commitment.

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

Minutes – January 18, 2018 – Bob moved to approve the minutes as presented. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 3-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 17 – Selectmen signed warrant 17 in the amount of \$90,602.03.

Cash & Budget Reports – Stu reported that he had made the annual adjustments in the various cash management accounts based on the fund balances reported by the annual audit, so there are some significant shifts in those account balances starting with this evening's reports. There were no other questions regarding the budget report.

Foreclosed Property – Stu reported that the town automatically foreclosed on one piece of property for an unpaid 2015/16 tax lien. He said there was one other tax lien from that year that has not been paid, but the town is barred from sending the foreclosure notice because the owner has filed for bankruptcy.

Stu said he had drafted a letter to the heirs of the property owner explaining the process the town follows in regard to disposal of the property. He said the goal is to try to keep the people who live in the home from having to vacate the property and resolving the tax issue. He said it is complicated by the fact that the assessed property owner is no longer alive and did not leave a will. Jo said the letter offers an opportunity for the heirs to resolve the matter with the town. Gary moved to send the letter. Jo 2nd. **Vote in favor was 3-0. Selectmen present signed the letter.**

Checking Account Reconciliation – Stu reported that while reconciling the checking account earlier in the day he discovered an automatic charge for pest control (\$55.00) that he had not received an invoice for and therefore had not included on the warrant. He said that would be included on warrant 18. Selectmen signed the statement expressing satisfaction with the review of the reconciliation.

Town Report – Selectmen received a draft of the nearly completed 2017 annual report with the materials this evening. Stu noted the school department report has not yet been received. Jo asked if they have some time to review the draft. Stu said he'd like to get this to the printer in the next week and a half or so. There was a brief discussion about getting a better photo of Marlboro Beach for the front cover.

Town Meeting Warrant – Selectman Mason arrived at the meeting. Stu reported he removed the Mud Creek Road park budget item and Hodgkins Trust Fund appropriation from the warrant on the recommendation of the Parks Commission following Nathan's suggestion at the previous meeting. Selectmen reviewed the draft warrant. Jo moved to sign it as drafted. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0. Selectmen signed several copies.**

ISO Fire Department Rating – There was a brief discussion of what the ISO rating means. Stu reported he tried to go onto the website the organization suggested but found nothing that was helpful. He said he would try to contact the organization, as the fire department rating affects homeowners' insurance premiums.

Fire Department Grant – Stu reported the fire department received a grant from the Maine Forest Service to buy nomex coveralls for forest fire fighting.

Water Filter System – Stu reported that the water filter system installed nearly 25-years ago has started to fail. He said he contacted the company that installed it several times, but they've not responded, so he contacted Norlens' Water Treatment and there is a proposal before the board tonight. He said he can find the money in the administration budget to pay for it.

Nathan moved to accept the proposal from Norlens. Bob 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Raccoon Cove Road Opening Violation – Stu reported that a driveway opening on Raccoon Cove Road had not installed a culvert as required by a permit he issued last August, and there have been at least two occasions that has caused wash out problems. He said he took pictures and prepared a memorandum for the Code Enforcement Officer who in turn issued a notice of violation to Broughman Builders. He said he received a response from Broughman at his home e-mail saying they would immediately install a temporary culvert and clean up the mess, and then the correct permanent culvert when the ground thaws. He said he inspected the driveway last week, and the temporary culvert is in place and working.

Rain Storms January 13, 23 & 24 – Stu reported that the January 13, 2018 storm caused a major washout along the shoulders of Buttermilk Road and on Asa's Lane, while a driveway culvert heaved on Walker Road. He said the McMullen crew responded rapidly to the Buttermilk Road and Asa's Lane, and Jay Fowler took care of the Walker Road situation. He thanked both contractors for their extremely swift response.

Salt/Sand Shed Repairs – Stu reported that MMA Risk Management has seen the repairs to the roof trusses at the salt/sand shed and has signed off on the property.

Proposed Snow Plowing Agreement – Selectmen said they had reviewed the proposed contract with McMullen Landscape Construction for the next 5-years and are comfortable making the offer to them.

Cable TV Franchise Agreement – Stu reported that it has been recommended to have the town attorney send the latest draft of the franchise agreement to Spectrum. Jo moved to do so. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Contract Renewal – Administrative Assistant – Jo moved to renew a contract with Stu for 3-more years beginning on July 1, 2018. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**
Selectmen present signed the contract.

Request from Maine Coast Memorial Hospital re: 2017/18 Budget Request – Selectmen reviewed a letter from the hospital requesting that they appear on the town meeting warrant despite the budget committee not receiving a timely funding request last fall. After much discussion the Selectmen concluded that a citizen could move to amend the social services funding article from the town meeting floor to include the request. Stu said he would communicate that to the hospital.

Recycling Update – Stu reported that Casella Waste had informed the town this week that Coastal Recycling has reduced operating hours to just one half day a week; Wednesday mornings. He said he spoke with a board member for Coastal who shares his concern for the organizations viability. He said that information was shared with the Conservation Commission which is reviewing the various proposals for recycling.

Letter from Governor LePage – Selectmen reviewed a letter from the Governor regarding publicly owned land. Stu said he was not sure what the Governor wanted done in regard to the letter. He said it didn't look like something that should appear as part of an annual report. No action took place.

LD 1400 – Stu reported that an e-mailed letter from a group calling itself Friends of Frenchman Bay came is via Selectman Rybarz overnight. He said in his conversation with her earlier this evening that a vote was planned for next Tuesday before a Legislative Committee.

Jo said she was not comfortable with taking a position on the matter. Nathan said he'd like to hear both sides of the matter as there is a lot of rumor and speculation around. Bob asked whether someone had already brought this matter before the board a while ago. Jo noted that Carol Korty had approached the Selectmen a few meetings ago. She said it was an extremely contentious issue. She noted that Selectman Rybarz had sent an e-mail to State Representative Brian Hubbell and signed it as a Selectman. She said that Selectmen are certainly free to communicate with state lawmakers on anything but should do so as individuals unless the entire Board has taken a position. A brief discussion followed.

Jo said she did not feel educated enough on the matter to take any sort of position. Bob said if you talk to 3-different people, you would likely get three different views. He said he is curious as to what is going on. Jo said she doesn't want to discount that there is a potential threat to natural resources our residents depend on. Nathan said it's not necessarily the Board's place to take a position on this matter. Gary said he didn't feel

he has enough information. Jo said she did not feel she could support the Friend's request on behalf of the town. No further action was taken.

David Phaneuf – Bob noted the recent passing of former school Principal David Phaneuf and recalled his impact on Lamoine. Selectmen signed a sympathy card for his family.

Next Meetings – The next regular meetings will be February 15, March 1, March 15, April 5 and April 19. The annual open town meeting in March 7.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.