



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes – December 13, 2018

Chairman Nathan Mason called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present were: Selectmen Jo Cooper, Nathan Mason, Bob Christie, Kathleen Rybarz, Gary McFarland; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Appeals Board member Michael Jordan, Conservation Commission Chair Larissa Thomas, and residents Paul and Allison Howaniec

Agenda Review – Stu introduced the Howaniecs who are new to town and interested in volunteering. After a brief discussion, Jo moved to appoint Allison Howaniec as an alternate member of the Recreation Committee, and Paul Howaniec as an alternate member of the Budget Committee. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 3-0.**

Minutes – November 29, 2018 – Jo moved to approve the minutes as presented. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 13 – Selectmen signed warrant 13 in the amount of \$109,595.54. Stu remarked that approximately \$84,000 was for the school department.

Expenditure Warrant 14 – Stu said a warrant will need to be approved before the end of the calendar year and said it would be ready to sign on December 27.

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

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

Property Tax Foreclosures – Stu reported that he prepared the required 30-to-45 day foreclosure notices earlier in the day for the unpaid 2016/17 property tax liens. Bob asked what percent pay once notice is received. Stu said it's usually 100%, but there may be one or two this year that foreclose.

Stu reported that the occupant of the property foreclosed for the unpaid 2015/16 property tax has made the payments on time thus far.

Recreation Committee Follow Up – Stu reported the committee has reportedly come up with a budget but he's not received it yet. He said the committee will have it ready for the Budget Committee next Monday. He said the committee has recommended that current alternate member Andrea Smith be appointed as a full committee member, and that Heather Alley be appointed as an alternate member. A brief discussion followed.

Conservation Commission – The chair of the Conservation Commission, Larissa Thomas, said she was aware there are more developments in a reported violation off Coley Cove Road. Nathan said the Selectmen talked about imposing a fine. Stu said the latest was that according to a licensed forester hired by the property owners there

has been no violation. Mrs. Thomas reviewed the memorandum from the forester and said it did not address the percentage of the trees that were cut.

Bob said state law is standard and the Code Enforcement Officer upholds it. He said cutting in the Shoreland Zone is based on a points system. Michael Jordan, who is a former town code enforcement officer, said that's why one would hire a forester to determine what to cut. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the licensed forester's role.

Bob said the Selectmen want to be well advised according to state rules. Mr. Jordan asked if the forester was state certified. Stu answered that he was. A discussion followed regarding surveys.

Mrs. Thomas said she was not sure what the basis was for the forester's conclusion. Stu said when the Code Enforcement Officer comes in on Tuesday, she can send out the detailed report. Bob said he wants to be clear on this and wants to protect the town. He said he wants to be cautious and to avoid having to do consent agreements. Stu said he would invite the Code Enforcement Officer to the next meeting in January.

Solar Energy – Mrs. Thomas said the Conservation Commission was considering options for solar energy projects. She said they had hoped to utilize the school, but that didn't seem to be feasible as the roof needs repairs. She said the current salt/sand shed appears to be the best option. She said the Conservation Commission is recommending soliciting proposals for competitive bids to supply all the town's electricity from a solar project in order to get the best possible option for the town. She said those options might include purchase of the panels at some point.

Jo said it sounded like a good idea then asked what if the panels could be placed on a re-design of the transfer station. There was a discussion about a possible solar array at the transfer station. Kathleen noted that if a compactor or two were added to the transfer station, electric use would increase. It was agreed the discussion could come at the time of designing improvements to the transfer station.

Community Service Program – Selectmen reviewed an E-mailed message from the City of Lewiston regarding January 5, 2019 being a day of service. Jo said it would be an opportunity for the town to get the word out to the school, to committees and let them know about it. She said the short notice would make something substantial difficult to pull off quickly.

Among the ideas discussed were identifying and delivering buckets of sand to elderly residents to help with mobility during icy conditions. Stu said the Frenchman Bay Conservancy is looking to have a skating day on Blunt's Pond and he would be happy to contact Iris Simon about a project to shovel off a skating area if the weather is appropriate.

Community Center – Stu reported the proposed meeting date of January 17 will not work at the school due to a scheduling conflict. Kathleen asked about using the Grange.

Jo said maybe a Monday in January might work. Stu said January 21 is Martin Luther King Day and that might work as there is no school that day.

Stu said he challenged the board to come up with a name from the community to invite to the meeting. He said he would like to invite Kimberly Martens. Kathleen explained the community center effort to the audience members.

Budget – Stu reported the Budget Committee proposed increasing the fire department budget by \$1,000 more than proposed by the fire chief. He explained that the chief has reached an agreement with the Ellsworth Fire Department to purchase used air packs for \$3,000 each which is less than half the cost of a new airpack. He said the fire department corporation was willing to share the cost with the town 50/50. He said the current year budget has \$8,000 for airpack purchases, and the proposed budget for next fiscal year is now \$7,000, which would total \$15,000, which is half the purchase price.

Stu said the final meeting is Monday. He said the Recreation Committee budget is on the agenda and he would send that budget out once it's received. There was a brief discussion about the Parks Commission Budget which includes new road maintenance items. The new items cover the entire proposed budget increase for parks.

Returnables – Jo moved to award the returnable bottle proceeds for March 2019 to the Conservation Commission. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Stray Animal Contract – Jo moved to sign a contract with the Small Animal Clinic for sheltering stray animals. Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the contract.**

Appointments – Jo moved to appoint Jennifer Kovacs as Registrar of Voters and Stuart Marckoon as Deputy Registrar of Voters for two year terms that will expire on December 31, 2020. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Nathan moved to appoint Andrea Smith as a regular member of the Recreation Committee and Heather Alley as an alternate member of the Recreation Committee with terms to expire in June of 2020. Bob 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Lamoine Quarterly – Stu said he would e-mail the Lamoine Quarterly for approval once it is ready.

Town Hall Roof – Stu reported the town hall roof has a bad leak during some storms. He said Facilities Maintenance director Rick Gallegos has contacted a roofing person and hopes to have an estimated cost of repair. He said he has not budgeted anything in the current or upcoming budget for such a project but if it's reasonable, the current year budget should be able to handle the job. He said he would keep the board informed.

Get Well Soon.... – Selectmen prepared cards for Ken Smith and Chris Meyer who are both recovering from recent health matters.

Lamoine 150 – Jo asked what part the Board of Selectmen wished to play in the upcoming 150th town anniversary celebration. She said they hope to have some sort of reenactment of when the town split from Trenton. Nate asked to give the Board some options. Kathleen said the Board could prepare a float for the parade.

Jo said the 150th Committee meets on January 17, 2019. She said the celebration starts in May with a logo contest, but the big celebration will be in August 2020.

Next Meetings – The Board of Selectmen will meet on January 10 & 24, 2019, February 7 & 21, 2019 and on March 21, 2019 (the day after town meeting) for an organizational meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.