



## Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

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### Report for Meeting of April 7, 2022

Spring weather is struggling to show itself in its full glory. As I write on March 29<sup>th</sup>, it's only about 32-degrees and the wind is whipping out of the northwest; or simply put, BRRR!

It will be 3-weeks between regular meetings, and there is a lot on your agenda. Part of the meeting will be with the attorney for Protecting Maine's Fishing Heritage Foundation. He will talk about the proposed moratorium on aquaculture projects that you asked be on the agenda following the last meeting. The zoom link will be provided on the on-line agenda in case others wish to participate remotely.

**Minutes – March 17, 2022** – Please review the minutes for any errors. Written corrections are the easiest for me to process if possible.

**Expenditure Warrant 22** – If all goes well, you will have signed that warrant on March 31<sup>st</sup> or April 1<sup>st</sup>. It's not that high at the moment. I will have e-mailed you when that's ready, and the school warrants will likely be on here.

**Expenditure Warrant 23** – There will be a town payroll on this warrant and any bills in the week between preparing warrant 22 and the meeting. All warrants are posted and updated on the town's website.

**Cash & Budget Reports** – A printed report will be in your packets with warrant 22 and a new one printed for warrant 23. This is updated periodically on the website as well. I have no particular concerns at this time.

**Tax Acquired Property Update** – The lone piece of foreclosed property awaits a response from the previous owner. I've placed the letter you sent in your packets giving them until April 15<sup>th</sup> to make a down payment in order to enter an installment agreement.

**Quarterly Excise Tax Report** – The quarter ends on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. A printed report will be in your materials for meeting night.

**Checking Account Reconciliation** – The month also end this coming Thursday. When the bank statement is ready, I will reconcile the account and e-mail the reconciliation files ahead of the meeting.

**Meeting with Harbor Master & Deputy** - David Herrick and Kevin Murphy have been invited to meet with you. It has been many years, and as you know, David had a tough year last year, but he's out and about now. Concern was expressed about the waiting list at the last meeting. The 2022 stickers came in last weekend, and available mooring permits (there were 4) have been offered to 4 people on the waiting list as of March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Aquaculture – Meeting with Protect Maine's Fishing Heritage** – Bring your questions for the attorney for this group in regard to an ordinance to impose an aquaculture

moratorium. I would note that the town's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (SZO) only has 3 areas designed as commercial fisheries and maritime activities district (CFMA). Two are owned by the State of Maine (Lamoine State Park and Lamoine Beach), and the other is on Seal Point. I believe the gist of the effort is to amend the SZO to limit access to large scale aquaculture projects from the shore, which the town can regulate. There was an effort to change one parcel to CMFA from Limited Residential at the 2021 town meeting which was not passed.

Intervenor Status – American Aquafarms – What's the town's next step on the vote by town meeting to seek such status? I would contend it would be to contact our town attorney to see if he wishes to take this on, or recommend an attorney to work on this. I have placed a boundary map in your packets. Lamoine does not border Gouldsboro. Also in the packet is the portion of state law that says municipalities have automatic intervenor status, but I am not sure if the municipality needs to be an adjacent town to the project. I can't imagine that, say, Freeport would automatically be granted intervenor status on a project in Lamoine, but wiser people would have an answer to that.

Request for funding – Maine Lobsterman's Association – This lobbying group sent a big packet of information and a letter requesting funding. We have not funding allocated for them, and their request would not qualify for the recently held town meeting. The letter is in the packet.

**Catering Application** – An application for permission to serve alcohol at a wedding in town in July is in your packet. I believe we've had a similar request in the past, and will try to research what action can be taken.

Conservation Commission Grant – Larissa has done an amazing job on the application for a solar power purchase and heat pump for municipal buildings. She sent that around yesterday for comment. A printed copy is in your packet.

**Draft Ordinance – Fire Department Restitution** – I have drafted up the language for the ordinance that would allow the fire department to bill insurers for covered losses to which the department responded. I met with the chief officers last week and got strong support. I ran it by the company we're contemplating using for cost recovery and implemented the lone change they suggested to the initial draft. This would have to go to town meeting for approval. In addition to the ordinance, a fee schedule is attached, along with a spreadsheet of fees that similar sized communities (none in Hancock County are using this service) are charging.

Transfer Station Repair List – Chris Meyer has a list of items that need repair at the facility. I look to you for guidance on how to make that happen.

**Cell Tower Easement Status** – Last fall you signed lots of documents granting a permanent easement to the land the cell tower sits on. So far that has not been filed at the Registry of Deeds, and we've not started receiving the higher monthly payments. I've asked Dan Pileggi to get in touch with the folks from American Tower to see what's going on – so far, silence. A copy of the e-mail exchange with Dan is in your packets.

**Water Testing – PFAS** – We have been contacted by Maine DEP to say they want to test the residential wells and the landfill wells this year for “forever chemicals” when we do the water testing in April or May. I responded quickly to their e-mail saying we’ll be happy to cooperate and coordinate the testing with them.

**Recycling Transport Contract Amendment** – As mentioned last meeting, DM&J wants an addendum to the contract, as ecomaine is now charging for the roll off containers. It’ll cost \$3,000/year to supply two containers (which is required in the previous contract). DM&J uses 4 such containers to serve us. I think the budget for 2022/23 can handle this.

**Appointments – [Board of Appeals](#)** – Brett Jones has indicated that he would like to be appointed as a full BOA member. I have put ads on the website and the school newsletter (as well as the quarterly) for alternate members. We have Melody Havey’s information and I would strongly recommend that she be appointed as an alternate.

**[Lamoine Quarterly](#)** – A draft of the quarterly was e-mailed and is printed in your packet. Your editing is most welcomed.

**Marlboro Beach Road Speed Limit** – There was an inquiry from the gentleman who requested the lower speed limit last year. We’ve had little communication from MDOT since last fall. He apparently left a message with MDOT and we got an e-mail this week saying they would contact us soon. The e-mail is in your packet.

**Next Meeting Dates** – I have question marks on May 19<sup>th</sup> as one of you might not be available on that date. I don’t know when the school budget is going to be ready for a town meeting (I’ve not received an answer from the school department). You might be able to combine a meeting with the town meeting date.

That’s all for the agenda – see you on April 7<sup>th</sup>!

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