



# Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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## Minutes – April 2, 2020

The meeting was held by Internet via the Zoom application. Due to the State of Emergency declared by both the State of Maine and the Board of Selectmen prior to the meeting, in person meetings have been prohibited.

Chair Kathleen Rybarz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

In attendance via remote hookup were: Selectmen S. Josephine Cooper, Kathleen Rybarz, Nathan Mason, Gary McFarland, Robert Christie (joined approximately 7:05 PM); Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, and Bayley Baldrige (joined approximately 7:20 PM).

**Minutes – March 19, 2020** – Nathan moved to approve the minutes as written. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Roll call vote in favor was 4-0 (Christie had not yet joined the meeting)**

**Expenditure Warrant 22** – Stu reported approximately \$100,000 of the total \$120,966.19 was for school department warrants that arrived earlier in the day. Kathleen moved to approve warrant 22, Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Roll call vote in favor was 4-0 (Christie joined the meeting just after the roll call was taken)**. Discussion followed about whether signatures are needed on the warrant. Stu said he was of the opinion that the roll call vote would have to suffice, given the state of emergency and stay at home order.

**Cash & Budget Reports** – Stu displayed the report during the meeting. He said that the town has enough cash to get through the end of the fiscal year and with a fair amount of cash with which to function for the start of the next fiscal year if needed. Jo remarked that it's always tempting to utilize surplus funds, and she was grateful that there had been enough set aside for an emergency function.

**Tax Acquired Property** – Stu displayed an ad he had drafted up to dispose of Map 4 Lot 52. The proposed minimum asking price is \$1,900 with bids due by May 7, 2020. Kathleen asked if that was enough time for people to submit a bid. After a brief discussion Gary moved to advertise the lot for sale through numerous outlets, including the town's website, the Newspaper, and Facebook. Nathan 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Roll Call vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Checking Account Reconciliation Review** – Stu reported he had e-mailed the reconciliation to the Board earlier in the day. **A Roll call vote in favor of accepting the reconciliation was 5-0.**

**Emergency Operations Plan** – Kathleen reports she and others are working to update the plan, but it will take longer than expected due to the COVID-19 emergency. She said Larry Libby and Jeff Cosulich are helping her. She said there might be something next meeting.

**Extension of Emergency Declaration** – Kathleen asked if any action should be taken regarding parks during the emergency. Stu said that issue was on the addendum. Nathan moved to approve the extension of the disaster declaration, Bob 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Roll call vote in favor was 5-0.** The declaration is as follows:

## *Emergency Disaster Declaration Amendment April 2, 2020*

**Whereas** on March 19, 2020 The Lamoine Board of Selectmen declared a civil emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and

**Whereas** Maine Governor Janet Mill has declared a state of civil emergency from today's date until May 1, 2020, and

**Whereas** the declaration includes a "Stay at Home" order, requiring non-essential personnel to remain in social isolation,

**Therefore,** We the duly elected Selectmen as the municipal officers of the Town of Lamoine do extend the March 19, 2020 civil emergency declaration to end coincidentally with the State of Maine civil emergency declaration;

**Further,** the Selectmen find that the following positions are essential personnel:

- Town Clerk/Tax Collector
- Treasurer, General Assistance Administrator
- Road Commissioner
- Fire Department Personnel
- Transfer Station Operator(s)
- Facilities Maintenance & Public Works (including contractors)

And shall report to work as needed. All workers under contract agreement with the Town of Lamoine shall be paid as per their contracts or on an hourly basis as documented.

Approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2020 by voice vote at an electronically held meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Kathleen Rybarz, Chair  
S. Josephine Cooper  
Gary McFarland  
Nathan Mason  
Robert Christie

**Broadband Extension** – Stu displayed an e-mail from Brian Lippold with a recommendation not to pursue a ConnectME grant involving Spectrum. Nathan asked why he was making that recommendation. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. Kathleen asked to involve Mr. Lippold to join the board for the next meeting electronically.

**Lamoine 150!** – Jo said all is on hold for now. She mentioned having a “bear hunt” which involves displaying Teddy Bears in windows during the pandemic, except that instead of teddy bears, Sardines would be displayed. Stu suggested contacting Mary Henry who had contacted the town office earlier in the week asking that a “bear hunt” be promoted.

Gary asked about parade plans. Jo said that might have to change. Stu reported the fire department has decided to cancel its auction.

**Lamoine Quarterly** – Stu said he’d e-mailed the draft and made some edits after his wife kindly reviewed it. Selectmen said they were good with sending it to the printer.

**Parks & Social Distancing** – Stu displayed a couple of written messages received expressing concern about the amount of use at Lamoine Beach Park during the pandemic. He said the town could place barricades in every other parking space to try to maintain distancing, and place signs encouraging people to maintain a physical distance from one another. Selectmen said they don’t favor barricades at this time, but would favor signs. Stu said he could print and laminate them at the town office, as having professionally made signs would take a while. Nathan said he’d like to revisit the issue next meeting. A brief discussion followed regarding the State of Maine’s decision to close parks in Southern Maine.

**Heating Fuel Bid** – Stu displayed a letter from No Frills Oil encouraging the town to seek pre-buy bids. Nate noted that the price of crude oil, while it had dropped dramatically, rose earlier in the day by about 25%. Nate moved to authorize Stu to seek bids for the next meeting. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Roll call vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Comments** – Bob asked if the chicken issue is being dealt with. Kathleen said she was looking for model nuisance ordinances but had yet to find one. Nathan said he was planning to look at something, but that’s on the back burner for now.

Stu said hello to Bayley Baldrige who had joined the Zoom meeting and introduced him to the board. He said he had no idea how to join until he found the link on the town website.

Jo noted that the Ellsworth Rotary Club has been meeting via Zoom. She asked if there was any danger about the on-line meetings getting “ugly”. It was noted that a similar meeting in Bath had issues. Stu said he can control both audio and video as the host.

Kathleen said it would be nice if people wanted to speak, the Board could invite them into the meeting. Stu said there is a chat feature and tested it out on the screen. She

said this would be useful during snow storms. She said town meeting is coming up in May. Stu said he hoped the stay at home order would be lifted.

Nathan asked if there has been an impact on General Assistance. Stu said he's had two cases since last week which qualified for help and it was granted.

Gary thanked Friends in Action for the assistance that is being given during the emergency. He noted that the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry is still operating. Jo said it has been an amazing experience, and suggested that the audience brace itself. She gave a brief update on how Friends In Action is working.

Stu asked Bayley how the distance learning was going for him. He said it seems like more work, but he has more free time.

**Next Meeting** – Kathleen said the next meeting is planned for April 16<sup>th</sup> and most likely will be another Zoom meeting.

Jo asked about the fire department. Stu noted there have been two calls since the new protocols were instituted, and the policy of having members report directly to the station has worked well. He said that there have been mask donations from Arthur Ashmore and David Scholfield and glove donations from Stewart Workman.

Gary asked if the transfer station needed gloves. Stu said he's got a box for that facility. He said he's put in a requisition to MEMA for PPE, but he's not sure if any will be delivered.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen