



Lamoine Select Board

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

Minutes – February 17, 2022

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

Present were: Selectboard members Robert Christie, Nathan Mason, S. Josephine Cooper, Kathleen Rybarz; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon and Conservation Commission Chair Larissa Thomas. Selectboard chair Gary McFarland had phoned prior to the meeting that he was unable to attend.

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

Minutes – February 3, 2022 – Bob moved to approve the minutes. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 19 – The board signed the warrant in the amount of \$130,391.96.

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

Tax Lien Foreclosures – Stu reported that the 2019/20 liens for three properties had not been paid by the end of business today which is the automatic foreclosure day. He said one property owner had been in touch and wishes to enter an installment agreement. He said he's had no communication from the other two property owners, but did have the green cards indicating that the foreclosure notices had been delivered.

Stu said the next step is to offer back the properties to the assessed owners for payment of all back taxes, fees and interest plus next year's estimated tax if the closing were to take place after April 1, 2022. He said he would prepare letters from the Board for the next meeting.

Fire Truck Bond – Kathleen move to sign the bond document prepared by attorney Dan Pittman. Jo 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.** Board members present signed the bond – Stu said he would obtain Gary's signature tomorrow.

Nathan moved to approve a resolution regarding the bond issuance as prepared by attorney Pittman. Jo 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Nathan moved to approve an Arbitrage policy as prepared by attorney Pittman. Jo 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Technology Committee – Broadband Expansion - Stu reported the Hancock County Commissioners approved matching the town funding for broadband expansion of \$110,000, provided the Spectrum/Charter agreement meets the requirements of ARPA funding. He said the technology committee met earlier this evening and recommended approving the contract, contingent on it meeting the ARPA requirements. He said he would recommend that the board approve the contract, provided the county's consultant confirm that it will meet the ARPA funding requirements. Bob so moved, Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Website – Stu reported that the Ellsworth American/REACH is currently working on a mockup of the town's new website.

Town Hall Network – Stu reported that no work has yet been done on improving the computer network at the town hall.

Remote Recording Equipment – Stu reported the Technology Committee did not yet have a recommendation for purchasing new cameras and recorders.

Community Resilience Grant – Larissa Thomas reported a workshop was held on Tuesday and she thanked Brett Jones and Stu for helping with the proposal for installing heat pumps in town buildings, including the school. She said it was a productive discussion and 15 people attended. She said she got consensus on the proposal for heat pumps for the public buildings. She said if there was anything left over after that, she would like to add an amount for a solar energy power purchase agreement in order to lock in a lower rate.

Mrs. Thomas walked the board through the documents needed to submit an application for the grant, including a resolve. She said the deadline is March 22, 2022. She said the self-evaluation document needs approval as well, and she said the agenda for the workshop, the sign in sheet and the priority listing are included in the grant submissions which are submitted through an on-line portal.

After discussion on what to include in the resolve, Bob moved to support that resolution and the self-evaluation. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 3-0 (Mason abstained)**. After a brief pause to cut and past the resolve language, the Board signed it.

Anticipated Appeals Board Vacancy – Mrs. Thomas said that presuming she is elected to the Selectboard, she would resign from the Board of Appeals. She said she contacted former Appeals Board member Melody Havey who would be willing to serve on the board. Kathleen noted there is also an alternate vacancy on the Appeals Board. Stu said that when the opening is created, the Selectboard would ask for applicants, but it's great to know that Ms. Havey is willing to serve again.

Animal control / Code Enforcement – County Government – Stu reported that the County Commissioners are gauging interest in possibly employing an Animal Control Officer to serve communities who might desire to contract for such a position. He said he responded to a survey the County Administrator sent out. He said the survey also included Code Enforcement Officers. Nathan asked if that meant the County would be taking over CEO duties. Stu said no, he would not recommend contracting for that service as our CEO already works for several other communities.

Maine DOT Work Plan – The board reviewed the 3-year work plan from the Maine DOT which included some drainage work on both state highways.

Candidate's Night – It was noted that the Grange plans to hold a candidate's night on March 2nd at 6PM at the school.

Other Business/Comments – Kathleen noted that a barge belonging to Pemaquid Mussel had overturned during a 'noreaster in Lamoine waters. She said the Maine DEP has been notified because there is apparently fuel on the vessel which remained partially submerged. She said the MDEP is monitoring.

Kathleen reported the Joint Municipal Board met this afternoon and reviewed potential clam flats closures.

Kathleen reported she attended the Maine Municipal Association Legislative Policy Committee meeting today which discussed the Governor's proposed budget, including a \$500 rebate to taxpayers.

Bob said this is one of his last meetings on the Selectboard. He read moving tributes to each board member and Stu for their work for the Town of Lamoine.

Stu thanked Larissa for organizing Tuesday's workshop. He also reported that the town has received the Boston Post Cane back from the family of Betty Adams. There was a very brief discussion on how and when to award the cane to the town's oldest resident.

Next Meetings – The next meeting is March 3, 2022. Election Day is March 8, 2022, Open Town Meeting is March 16, 2022 and the organizational meeting is March 17, 2022. Nathan said Thursdays may be problematic for him in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectboard