



## Lamoine Select Board

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### Minutes – February 2, 2023

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

Present were: Select Board Members Larissa Thomas, S. Josephine Cooper, Nathan Mason, Gary McFarland, Kathleen Rybarz; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon

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

**Minutes – January 19, 2023** – Stu noted one minor correction was suggested by Larissa which is incorporated. Kathleen moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Expenditure Warrant 17** – The board signed the warrant in the amount of \$373,201.21. Stu noted the largest component is the new portable classroom that arrived at the school earlier in the day. He noted that he also purchased pre-stamped envelopes prior to a price increase.

**Cash and Budget Report** – Nathan inquired whether the cost of setup is included in the portable classroom price. Stu said he's not sure.

**Checking Account Reconciliation** – The Board signed a statement expressing satisfaction with the review of the checking account reconciliation for January 2023 which was e-mailed earlier in the day.

**FY 2022 Audit** – Stu reported the audit is not yet ready.

**Town Meeting Warrant** – Nathan moved to sign the warrant. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** A brief discussion followed about the soon to rapidly drop temperature and posting the town meeting warrant.

**Town Report** – Jo said she would like to take the weekend to go through the draft.

**Community Resilience Grant Update** – Stu reported that several heat pump bidders have taken a look at the town hall, fire station and school. Larissa reported the solar portion of the grant is trickier. She said there is no money involved in the solar end of the grant. She said the Conservation Commission agreed to put up \$2,000 toward a system. She said at the time the grant application was conceived the Inflation Reduction Act had not passed. She said now municipalities apparently can get direct payments instead of tax credits for solar projects. She said SolarLogix said that directly paying for a solar project instead of going through a power purchase agreement would lower the cost for the town overall. She said the town would have to put up money instead of having an investor do so. She said over time it's clear that there are benefits to solar power. She said it's not clear if the town has the funds to buy a system.

Larissa noted that Revision Energy is the only company doing PPAs and they had a lot of questions. She said they were unsure how much electricity the heat pumps would

draw, and the RFP asks bidders to make an estimate. She said they were not sure if there is enough roof space for a system, and they could not guarantee Versant interconnectivity.

Stu said the bids are due on February 16, 2023 and the Select Board could reject the solar bids if they are not practical. Larissa said the grant coordinator likely won't get tied up in knots if there is no solar included. She asked how to go about responding to the solar questions. Jo said perhaps saying that the town doesn't know and needs a lot of information. Gary said there are interconnectivity issues with Versant. A discussion followed on options and costs. Nathan suggested getting the heat pump bids and see what those costs might be. A brief discussion followed regarding siting a solar system on the landfill. Larissa was tasked with responding to the solar bidders based on what we can respond to.

**Bloomfield Park Tree Removal** – Stu said he was still awaiting estimates.

**Marlboro Beach** – Stu said the Parks Commission is concerned about needing DEP permits to replace the rocks on the beach road area. He said he is meeting with Jeff Cosulich next week about that.

**Facilities & Infrastructure Committee** – Stu said the committee meets a week from tonight at the school. Nathan said they're starting to get a picture from each member about their visions and they're going to look at what's existing now.

**Lamoine Committee on Aging** – Jo said she received an e-mail from Amy Morley who is interested in serving on a committee, and she's waiting to hear more. Kathleen said Ms. Morley could attend meetings, and may take minutes. There was a discussion about committee size, and further discussion about the facilities committee.

Jo said she has e-mailed minutes and agendas to Stu and the committee is interested in having more people serve. She said a committee size of 7 would be great. She said the Grange is holding a cribbage event on Sunday, and there is interest in utilizing the Grange for more activities. She said they heard from the Sullivan aging director and found that with a leader who wants to make things happen, a community will rally around it.

Jo said they will meet with Healthy Acadia to talk about resources as well as with Lamoine's Little Children group. She said they'd like to talk with the fire department about public safety. She said they've discussed programs such as sand buckets, fall prevention, and they would like to do a survey. She said an effort takes a lot of people.

**Regional Animal Control** – Stu said there have been no applicants for the job at this point. He said the county administrator has asked for ideas about advertising. Several possibilities were discussed, including spreading the word at vet clinics and animal shelters, and possibly on Indeed.com. There was a suggestion it might take a benefits package to attract an applicant.

**Other Matters – Internet** – Nathan noted that fiber optics apparently are being installed on Eagle Point Road by Consolidated Communications. He said he wonders if having Spectrum expand broadband might have been a premature act.

[Planning Board](#) – Kathleen said the Planning Board meeting might be quite busy on Monday with the hearing on the Shoreland Zone Map change and the “Glampground”. Nathan asked if the Conservation Commission has taken up the glampground matter. A discussion followed on the potential impacts if approved.

**Next Meetings** – The Board will meet on February 16, and March 2. The municipal election is on March 7, the open town meeting on March 15, and the organizational meeting is March 16.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Select Board