



# Lamoine Select Board

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

## Minutes – April 24, 2023

Chair Larissa Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Present were: Select Board members. S. Josephine Cooper, Nathan Mason, Larissa Thomas, Gary McFarland, Kathleen Rybarz; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, School Superintendent Rob Liebow and School Committee Chair Brett Jones.

**Agenda Review/Addendum** – The board agreed to move up the school items as the Superintendent of Schools and School Board chair were present.

**Minutes – April 6, 2023** – Nathan moved to approve the minutes with minor corrections that Larissa had sent along. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Expenditure Warrant 23** – The Board signed the warrant in the amount of \$154,355.47.

**Cash & Budget Reports** – Stu reported expenditures are about where they should be, and excise tax collection is picking up, with more than \$3,500 collected earlier in the day. Larissa inquired about Efficiency Maine's rebates. Stu said they had contacted him and all seems in order, though he wasn't sure when a check would arrive.

**School Matters – Budget** – School Board Chair Brett Jones said the Budget Committee had recommended passage of the school articles as drafted. Superintendent Rob Liebow said the overall budget is down 5.07% thanks to a major reduction in capital outlay, but the amount to be raised from property taxes is up 5.39%. He said there are two distinct articles at the end of the proposed warrant to move a total of \$100,000 into designated education funds. He explained the reasons for increasing the special education and general education (tuition) funds, as well as the fund balance level. He said the teachers and ed techs have reached an agreement on a 3-year contract.

Nathan inquired about capital improvements at MDI High School and whether tuition would increase there. Mr. Liebow said tuition is set by the state. He said MDI is interested in potential projects, but they've not gotten off the ground. He said MDI would like to have Lamoine pay a 10% surcharge in tuition in the future. A lengthy discussion followed regarding that and fund balances.

**Cistern-Sprinklers** – Mr. Liebow reported the new portable classroom is required to be sprinkled. He said the school department and fire department are working collaboratively on the endeavor, as the portable is on site, but it cannot yet be occupied.

Larissa asked if the Board would be signing a town meeting warrant at their next meeting. Stu said that's the plan.

**Fuel Bid** – Stu said he got numbers from the school department this evening and bids for heating fuel are due on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Fire Department Matters – Flooring** – Stu said the department is looking to have epoxy placed on the cement floor where the apparatus and offices sit. He said the cost is just over \$31,000. He said the plan was to use \$5,000 that was encumbered for floors, walls and ceiling, \$21,500 from fund balance and the fire department would contribute roughly \$5,000 to the project. The matter is on the draft town meeting warrant. A brief discussion followed on how long the project would take.

**Ceiling Repairs** – Stu said there was an estimate to repair the ceiling and add insulation to prevent the roof dam problem in the future for \$8,000. He said the town meeting article proposes using the fire department emergency repair fund for that.

**Truck Update** – Stu reported the latest estimate of the truck chassis delivery is now August (of this year!), maybe. He said if that happens, the truck may be finished by January 2024.

**Paving RFP** – Gary moved to put a request for proposal for paving Needles Eye, Marlboro Beach, Maxwell Avenue and Lorimer Roads out to bid. Stu noted the RFP requests bids by June 12, 2023. Kathleen 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Returnables** – Jo moved to award the returnable proceeds for February 2023 to the Conservation Commission. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Kathleen moved to award the returnable proceeds for March 2023 to the Skills USA team at the Lamoine Consolidated School. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Kathleen moved to award the returnable proceeds for April 2023 to Lamoine Community Arts. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Inquiry from Terry Towne** – Stu reported an error in the draft letter was corrected. Gary moved to sign the letter to Mr. Towne in regard to his inquiry following up a complaint on a lot near his home. Kathleen 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Solar Projects** – Stu reported Revision Energy was in town last week to take pictures and take measurements at the salt/sand shed and the school.

**Heat Pumps** – Stu reported the heat pump installations at the town hall and fire station will take place in May, and the school installation will begin after classes are done for the summer. Larissa asked if Dave's World is coordinating with the school in regard to the cistern project. Stu said the two projects should not intersect.

**Land Options** – Stu reported that the town attorney contacted him and reported the realtor listing Map 3 Lot 2 says the family is interested in selling to the town. He said the Select Board can allocate funds from the Community Center fund to fund an option to buy, and perhaps get this on the warrant for the May 24, 2023 special town meeting. Kathleen moved to utilize community center funds for a purchase option. Jo 2<sup>nd</sup>. Nathan said the option should be refundable. Gary asked if the town would deal directly with the

family or with the real estate agent. Stu said it would be with the agent. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Facilities & Infrastructure Committee** – Nathan said there have not been any meetings recently – they're waiting for figures from Oak Point Associates on a school project.

**Committee on Aging** – Jo said the Select Board has the minutes of the previous meeting. She said she intended to request that Nancy Pochan be appointed to the committee and will submit that for the next meeting. She said the committee has a lot of positive ideas.

**Animal Control Officer** – Stu said the new Regional ACO dropped by a few days ago and should be on board soon with Hancock County.

**Comprehensive Plan Status** – Kathleen said she didn't get to that yet. Larissa said it probably would be better to wait until after the land purchase matter is dealt with.

**Personnel Reviews** – Stu said he would set up a schedule. Nathan asked if the board could take care of a couple each evening prior to the regular board meeting.

**Maine Housing Authority Program** – Stu reported that to participate in the housing assistance program the town has to have vendor status. He suggested that with board approval, he could set that up. Nathan moved to do so, Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Lawn Mowing** – Stu reported the prices for 2023 are in the material distributed tonight and are up about \$5.00 per property. Gary moved to accept the prices from McMullen Landscaping. Kathleen 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Town Hall Projects** – **Sink** – Stu reported the bathroom sink is held up by pegs that are falling off the wall and mostly supported by the drain pipe. He said he'd like to replace the sink with a sink/cabinet combination. Jo moved to approve. Kathleen 2<sup>nd</sup>. A brief discussion followed about ADA Compliance. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Steps** – Stu requested permission to have American Concrete put together an estimate to replace the front steps that are starting to crumble. He said the funding would come from the town hall foundation/steps fund established several years ago. He said the railing is very loose, and the present concrete steps are well over 30-years old. There was no objection.

**Code Enforcement** – Stu reported the Code Enforcement Officer has issued a notice of violation for a failing septic system on Periwinkle Alley.

He also pointed out a report on a dilapidated building located nearby, and the CEO has asked how they wish to have her proceed on that. Kathleen moved to have the CEO start the dangerous building process. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Spirit of America Award** – The Board signed a certificate awarding the Spirit of America Award to Lamoine’s Citizen of the Year, Amy Duym.

**Transfer Station Operator** – Stu reported that Chris Meyer is not available to work this weekend and Brandon Robitaille is not available to fill in. There was a brief discussion on how to advertise for a backup for this weekend.

**Other Business** – No Mow May – Larissa reported there will be a series of posts on the town’s Facebook page promoting holding off mowing during May to help protect pollinators. She said that would start later this week.

**Next Meetings** – The Board will hold regular meetings on Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>, and June 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Larissa said she would not be in town on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There was a very brief discussion about goings on in nearby towns.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Select Board.