



Lamoine Select Board

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Minutes – March 21, 2024

Chair Nathan Mason called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present were: Select Board members Larissa Thomas, Gary McFarland, Nathan Mason, S. Josephine Cooper, Kathleen Rybarz; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon and member of the public William Higgins

Agenda Review / Addendum – Nathan said he would move the matter Mr. Higgins was present for to after the Treasurer's Reports.

Minutes, March 7, 2024 – Larissa moved to approve the minutes as printed. Gary 2nd.
Vote in favor was 5-0.

Expenditure Warrant 22 – The Board signed the warrant in the amount of \$150,182.36. Stu noted the largest expenditures were for the school and for snow plowing. He noted the plow contractor hopes that the next few winters are not awful after this relatively snow free winter.

Cash & Budget Reports – Stu reported nothing remarkable shows on the report. Nathan noted that excise collections continue to be strong.

MacQuinn Road Discontinuance – Nathan said the board had received a letter from William Higgins and asked Mr. Higgins to tell the board more about the situation on MacQuinn road. Mr. Higgins said his brother is dying from cancer and he believes the trucks come down the road too fast. He said his family has found discarded needles around the gravel pit, and he believes the road should be closed.

Jo asked what kind of trucks Mr. Higgins was talking about. He confirmed it was dump trucks. Kathleen said even if the road is closed, it would not stop the dump trucks. Jo said the MacQuinn trucks would still use the road. She asked about drug use, and remarked that closing the road to through traffic might make it even more of a hiding hole for such activity. Mr. Higgins said if the town could do something to stop kids from going up there at all hours of the night, it should. A discussion followed on where needles were being found. Jo said the town could mention the issues to the Sheriff's Department. She said the Select Board was in favor of discontinuing the road, and she's not sure what the next step would be. Kathleen said there is a similar issue regarding drug use and discarded needles at Blunt's Pond. She said she sometimes calls the Sheriff's Department, but it's not a simple thing to address.

Nathan told Mr. Higgins he appreciates his bringing concerns to the Board. He said there would be more discussion. Jo said it might come before the town meeting again. She said perhaps if Mr. Higgins had addressed the town meeting, it might have changed some minds. A brief discussion followed.

Request from Paul MacQuinn/Steve Salsbury – Stu said Mr. Salsbury sent an e-mail requesting a meeting with the board, Mr. MacQuinn and their attorney in executive

session on April 18, 2024. He said he would recommend starting the meeting at 6:30 PM to accommodate that request if the board desired the meeting. There was no objection. It was asked if the town attorney should be present. It was agreed that there was nothing to review yet, so that could wait.

Sale of Portion of Map 3 Lot 2 – Stu noted an e-mail from closing attorney Alison King regarding the impact of the lease with Doug Gott & Sons on the property. He said he spoke with Tim Gott earlier in the day and Mr. Gott would like to extend the lease. He said because the lease does not specifically define the land that is being leased, that has a potential impact on the piece being sold, even though the permitted area is nowhere near the property that is being sold. He said he would recommend that the lease be specifically defined in any extension or modification.

Gary moved to sign the closing documents for the sale of the portion of Map 3 Lot 2 to Randy Scott. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** Nathan signed the various documents requiring signatures.

Stu said he would recommend authorizing him to sign any additional documents that might be needed at the closing. Kathleen so moved, Larissa 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** The Board signed an order granting that authorization.

The Board briefly discussed how to use the net proceeds from the sale which are expected to be \$139,429.87. Stu said some of the options would be to apply that to the outstanding bond, or split it between the outstanding bond and the community center fund, or whatever the board comes up with. He said the article would be on the May 21, 2024 special town meeting warrant to be signed at a later date.

Waste Disposal Options – Municipal Review Committee – The Board reviewed a letter from the Municipal Review Committee inviting the town to rejoin and providing an update on the still non-operational plant in Hampden. Stu said he wondered if the MRC might be an option for the town's recycling. Larissa said if he inquired, she would like to know how MRC is dealing with the recyclable materials. She said she has some deep misgivings about being involved in the MRC. The board had no objection to contacting MRC regarding recycling options.

Eagle Point Energy Center – Stu reported Eagle Point has now started billing the town instead of PERC. The waste is still being landfilled in Old Town and the letter from EPEC said they hope to have the Orrington incinerator operational next winter. He noted an article in the Bangor Daily News reported that the Town of Orrington is apparently a part owner of EPEC.

Recycling – It was noted that the annual town meeting opted to keep funding recycling.

Administrative Assistant Contract – Dependent Life Insurance – Stu explained that he would like to participate in the new program offered by Maine Municipal Health Trust, but the Board has to be a participant. He said that the premium would be withheld from his pay. Larissa moved to participate. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Contract – Gary moved to approve a contract with Stu to continue as the administrative assistant for the next 4-and-a-half years. Larissa 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** The Board signed the contract.

Tax Collector Settlements – Gary moved to sign the tax collector settlements for 2017 through 2021. Larissa 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** The Board signed the settlements.

Town Meeting Follow Up – Stu said the town meeting approved the amendments directly proposed for the [Donation Request Ordinance](#) and an official copy has to be signed for the town clerk. Larissa moved to sign the amended ordinance, Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Stu reported the Building and Land Use Ordinance amendments also passed, and there will likely have to be another set of amendments to comply with LD 2003. He said the Planning Board has the proposed set of amendments on the agenda for their next meeting as prepared by the Hancock County Planning Commission.

Nathan said there was a healthy discussion at the town meeting. Larissa said she'd like to see attendance improve and a discussion followed. There were also brief discussions about the recycling budget debate and the rejected discontinuance of MacQuinn Road.

School Budget – The board briefly reviewed the proposed 2024/25 school budget. Nathan explained that special education funding is up sharply and the superintendent has proposed adding to the fund to cover unexpected increases in special education costs.

Stu said the plan is to have the town meeting for the school budget on May 21, 2024. There was no objection.

Storm – March 10, 2024 – Stu said while there was some damage to the beach areas from the latest storm, the fire department did not have to respond to any 9-1-1 calls on March 10th. He said he had Jay Fowler remove debris from Marlboro Beach Road, and Richard McMullen clean up some trees along the roads. He noted that the Norris bench on Marlboro Beach has fallen and the Parks Commission is planning to re-erect it on a nicer day.

Athletic Fields Maintenance – The Board reviewed the proposal from McMullen Landscape & Construction to do maintenance on the athletic fields. It totals about \$7,100.00. Nathan moved to accept the proposal. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Cable TV System Proposal – Stu reported a proposal has come to upgrade the town hall TV system and recommended that it be sent to the [Technology Committee](#). Nathan so moved, Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** Stu reported the Technology Committee meets next week with Mr. Visser who developed the proposals.

[Facilities & Infrastructure Committee](#) – Nathan said he was not able to attend the meeting on Tuesday. Kathleen said she would watch the replay on the TV stream.

[Lamoine Quarterly](#) – Stu said he’s drafted up 5 pages thus far and would e-mail a draft before publishing. Kathleen noted the Municipal Joint Board for Shellfishing meets next week and will discuss the Lamoine Beach boat launch. Larissa said she would edit what has been printed thus far and drop off the changes.

Mowing – It was noted that the town’s mowing contractor has informed the town that they are no longer doing mowing. It was agreed to advertise for a new mowing contractor using the Ellsworth American, the town’s Facebook page and directly contacting other mowing contractors.

Sweeping – Stu reported the street sweeping agreement with TGP Enterprises has expired, and he would like permission to contact them again about continuing. Kathleen moved to grant such permission. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

[Reflective Kit Sales](#) – Larissa said Iris Simon of the [Committee on Aging](#) planned to be present at a [Conservation Commission](#) presentation on April 10th to offer up the safety kits but was concerned they might run out. Jo said the Aging Committee will be talking about that when they meet.

Next Meeting Dates – Nathan said he would not be available for the April 4th meeting. There was no desire to change the date. Kathleen reminded the Board the meeting on April 18th would start at 6:30 PM.

Regular meetings are scheduled for:

- a. May 2 & 16, 2024, sign warrant May 30, 2024
- b. June 6 & 20, 2024
- c. July 11 (sign warrants on July 1 & 25)
- d. August 14 (sign warrants on August 7 & 28)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Select Board