



Lamoine Select Board

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

Minutes – March 7, 2024

Deputy Town Clerk Stuart Marckoon called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

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

Oaths of Office – Newly re-elected members Gary McFarland and Jo Cooper signed their oaths of office.

Selection of Chair – Gary nominated Nathan as chair. Jo 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0 (Mason abstained).** Nate assumed control of the meeting.

Vice Chair – Jo nominated Gary as vice-chair. Nathan 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

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

Minutes – February 26, 2024 (Special Meeting) – Larissa said she sent some edits to Stu clarifying discussion on the AARP grant. She moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Expenditure Warrant 21 – The Board signed the warrant in the amount of \$494,556.31. Stu reported \$300,000 was going to investment accounts, and about \$160,000 to the school department.

Cash & Budget Reports – There were no questions regarding the printed reports. Nathan noted excise tax remains strong.

Checking Account Reconciliation – The board signed the statement expressing satisfaction with review of the checking account reconciliation for February which was e-mailed prior to the meeting.

Policies – Gary moved and Kathleen 2nd to adopt the following policies:

- [Disbursement Policy](#)
- [Fee Schedule](#)
- [Mileage Policy](#)
- [Select Board Procedures](#)

It was asked if there were any significant changes. Stu said the only major change was the mileage rate as both the state and IRS rates increased. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Hodgkins Scholarship – After a brief discussion, the board agreed the entire board would act as the scholarship committee and process the applications prior to the regular meeting on June 6, 2024.

Waste Management Report – Stu reported the state required report was in the board packets. There were no questions. Stu noted the report has become very easy to fill out.

Goals for 2024/25 – Larissa said she would like to see the Facilities & Infrastructure Committee move forward as the town has a piece of land to work with. Nathan noted the committee has been dragging along and the next meeting is March 19th. There was a brief discussion and general agreement that this is a top goal.

Jo said she would like to hear from the various boards in towns what their needs and desires are, and what their goals might be. Larissa noted that boards often have to cooperate with each other to accomplish goals.

Stu said the TV system needs to be upgraded, and that will likely be proposed shortly as he met with an engineer earlier today. There was a brief discussion about the TV system and the system at the school and how to improve things.

There was discussion about the town land on Map 3 Lot 2; how much is available for town use; restoration of the gravel pit; and possible use as a solar array or a community garden.

Other

Browntail Moth – Stu noted the Conservation Commission discussed a letter from the state about moth infestation. Larissa said the commission took no immediate further action as they had formed a committee several years ago and found that while the moths are annoying to humans, they are not a huge threat to the forest at this time. She said the Conservation Commission is available to assist with nests.

Town Hall Heating – Gary asked if the town hall has been looked at for fans. Stu said the electrician was in on Tuesday.

Conservation Commission Program – Larissa noted the Conservation Commission will be having a program on April 10, 2024 at the school regarding pollinators. She said she would like to have it recorded for TV. Stu said he's out of town that day on vacation. Jo said the topic is interesting to the beekeeping community.

AARP Grant – Jo said she's submitted a grant application to AARP for the safe walking program and they should hear about that in May.

Returned letters – Stu reported that the town hall started getting phone calls last week about letters that were returned to taxpayers claiming the town hall was vacant. He showed the board five envelopes with the yellow return labels. He said he's called the post office but has not heard back on why it occurred.

Town Meeting PowerPoint – Stu said he'd finished the power point presentation for the open town meeting and a copy was in the board materials tonight.

School Budget – Nathan noted a summary of the probably school budget was in the materials.

Next Meetings – The following meetings are scheduled:

- Open Town Meeting – March 13, 2024
- March 21, 2024
- April 4 & 18, 2024
- May 2 & 16, 2024, sign warrant May 30, 2024
- June 6 & 20, 2024
- July 11 (sign warrants on July 1 & 25)
- August 14 (sign warrants on August 7 & 28)

Executive Session – Jo moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(a) to conduct the annual performance review and contract negotiation with the Administrative Assistant. Kathleen 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0 at 7:38 PM. Out at 7:57 PM.**

Life Insurance Participation – Gary moved to have the town participate in the Dependent Life Plan through Maine Municipal Association. Larissa 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Select Board