

Lamoine Town Meeting Minutes June 24, 2020

Deputy Town Clerk Stuart Marckoon called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM at the Lamoine Consolidated School Gym.

Approximately 42 people were in attendance, seated 6-feet apart as per Executive Order by the Governor of the State of Maine

1. To choose a moderator to preside over said meeting. **It was moved and 2nd to nominate Harvey Kelley as the moderator. There were no other nominations. As the aforementioned executive order allowed for hand voting in place of written balloting, Mr. Kelley was elected on a hand count.**
2. To see if the town will vote to set the date that property taxes will be due in two equal payments on August 31, 2020 and February 28, 2021, and to fix the rate of interest at 9.00% to be charged on the unpaid amounts beginning September 1, 2020 and March 1, 2021 respectively, and to fix the rate of interest paid for overpayments at 5.00% per annum. **It was moved to approve the article as written. Town Treasurer Stuart Marckoon moved to amend the interest rate to 8% as the State had adjusted the maximum interest rate just after the town meeting warrant had been approved. The motion to amend was 2nd, and the amendment was approved on a hand vote. The motion as amended was approved on a hand vote.**
3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to offer to sell any property automatically acquired by tax liens to the previous owner(s) for payment of all back taxes, fees and interest; should the previous owner decline to redeem the property after 30-days' notice, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to advertise for sealed bids on same, and stating the lowest bid acceptable, and to execute, upon specific town meeting approval, a quit claim deed to the highest responsible bidder; and further to allow the Selectmen to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town. If sale is to anyone other than the former owner, the Board of Selectmen shall follow the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S.A. §943-C for qualifying homestead property. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
4. Shall the town authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute a quitclaim deed to Benjamin Morren for property acquired by the Town of Lamoine through the automatic lien foreclosure process identified as Map 4 Lot 52? **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell and/or dispose of any property or fixtures deemed to be surplus and unusable to the Town and worth less than \$1,000 fair market value, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable after advertising such items publicly. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all funds from the money received from the State of Maine for registration of snowmobiles to the Frenchman Bay Riders Snowmobile Club for the purpose of maintaining snowmobile trails. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept pre-payments of 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 taxes not yet committed and set the rate of interest at 0% for overpayments pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

8. To see if the town will vote to adopt the Revised Lamoine Comprehensive Plan as proposed following a public hearing on January 20, 2020 by the Comprehensive Planning Committee. A copy of the proposed plan is on file at the Lamoine Town Clerk's Office. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

9. To see if the town will vote to amend the Lamoine Shoreland Zoning Ordinance dated March 18, 2020. A copy of the proposed amendment is on file with the Lamoine Town Clerk's Office. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. After a lengthy discussion, it was moved and seconded to amend the article to read "To see if the town will vote to approve amendments dated March 18, 2020 to the existing Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. The motion to amend was accepted by Moderator Kelley and passed. Discussion followed about the Steam Protection District. The vote to approve the motion as amended passed on a hand vote, but it was not unanimous.**

10. To see if the town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute a property line agreement with Marion McDevitt regarding the town owned land depicted as tax map 1 lot 52 and land owned by Mrs. McDevitt on tax map 1 Lot 14. . **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

11. To see if the town will vote to appropriate \$11,850 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 for the purposes of repairing the cupola at the Lamoine Town Hall. . **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as written. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for its share of costs for enforcement and administration of the Frenchman's Bay Regional Shellfish Conservation Ordinance. (*The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000.00*). **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Administration and to set the salaries of the following elected officers whose salaries will be paid from the Administration Account of the General Fund, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to establish the rate of compensation for appointed officials.

Position	Recommended Salary (Budget Committee & Selectmen)
Selectman (Chair)	\$1,600.00
Selectman (non-chair, 4 positions)	\$1,000.00
Assessor (Chair)	\$1,600.00
Assessor (non-chair, 2 positions)	\$1,500.00

(*The Budget Committee & Selectmen recommend \$247,647.78 and the salaries as outlined above.*) **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

14. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for capital projects and debt service payments. (*The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend a total of \$81,000 for the following projects*):
 - *Land Conservation Fund, \$1,000*
 - *Town Office Foundation/Steps Fund, \$20,000*
 - *Lamoine Sesquicentennial Celebration, \$5,000*

- Transfer Station Redesign \$50,000
- Internet/Cable TV Line Extension \$5,000

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. There was discussion regarding the amount for Land Conservation. The motion passed on a hand vote.

15. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Code Enforcement, including operations of the Planning and Appeals Boards, and to authorize expenditure of the state share of local plumbing fees to the Maine Department of Human Services. *(The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$37,100.00.)* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
16. To see what sum the Town of Lamoine will vote to raise and appropriate for the support of social service organizations listed below, which made written requests for funding from the Selectmen, and met the criteria of the Town Meeting Donation Requests Ordinance adopted November 7, 2000 as amended.

Requesting Agency	Requested	Recommended
American Red Cross	\$600.00	\$600.00
Health Equity Alliance (DE AIDS Network)	\$700.00	\$700.00
Downeast Community Partners	\$700.00	*\$700.00
Downeast Horizons	\$700.00	\$700.00
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	\$700.00	\$700.00
Families First Community Center	\$700.00	\$700.00
Friends In Action – Community Connection	\$700.00	\$700.00
VNA-Home Health Hospice	\$579.00	\$579.00
Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County	\$700.00	\$700.00
Lamoine Historical Society	\$700.00	\$700.00
Lifelight Foundation	\$700.00	\$700.00
Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry	\$700.00	\$700.00
Women's Infants & Children	\$700.00	\$700.00
Yesterday's Children	\$300.00	\$300.00
Total	\$9,179.00	\$9,179.00

(The Selectmen recommend \$9,179.00 as outlined above. The donation requests ordinance requires the Board of Selectmen to recommend no more than 5% of one mill, which is \$13,163.14. *The request from Downeast Community Partners was not received by the Budget Committee due to a mailing issue. The Board of Selectmen has recommended the funding as the town has long supported this organization at this funding level.) **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

17. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Parks, Recreation and Cemetery Maintenance. *(The Parks Commission, Recreation Committee, Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$22,840.00).* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for library services. *(The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$8,010.00. The Ellsworth Public Library has requested funding of \$8,010.00).* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Safety Expenditures. *(The Budget Committee, Selectmen and Fire Department recommend \$89,606.06)* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

20. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Road Maintenance. *(The Budget Committee and Selectmen recommend \$190,450.00.)* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
21. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for major road projects including re-pavement of a section of Shore Road and a section of Mill Road. *(The Budget Committee and Selectmen recommend \$147,000.00).* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
22. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for waste disposal including operation of the Lamoine Transfer Station, shipment to the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company, recycling contractor, monitoring of wells around the former landfill, and to authorize the Selectmen to continue the contract of disposal of septic sludge. *(The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$153,475.00)* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**
23. To see which revenues the Town will vote to appropriate for inclusion in the non-education portion of the budget to offset local property taxes.

Revenue Fund	Amount	Fund Total
General Fund		
Interest on Real Estate Taxes	\$12,000.00	
Automobile Excise Taxes	\$375,000.00	
Watercraft Excise Taxes	\$3,000.00	
Administration Fees	\$250.00	
Tax Lien Charges	\$4,500.00	
Agent Fees	\$5,700.00	
General Assistance Reimbursement	\$1,750.00	
Interest on Investments	\$16,000.00	
Rental Income – Cell Phone Tower	\$15,870.00	
Undesignated Fund Balance (Surplus)	\$120,000.00	
		\$554,070.00
Road Fund		
Road Fund	\$10,000.00	
URIP Program (State Funding)	\$22,000.00	\$32,000.00
Code Enforcement Fund		
Code Enforcement Fees	\$10,000.00	
Transfer from Code Enforcement Fund	\$5,000.00	
Plumbing Permit Fees	\$4,000.00	\$19,000.00
Recreation Fund		
Recreation Fees	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
Other Funds		
Local Animal Control Fees		\$1,500.00
Transfer Station Capital Fund		\$50,000.00
Total Offsets to Local Property Tax		\$659,370.00

(NOTE): Municipal Revenue Sharing will also reduce the tax commitment and is not included in the above figure. *(The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend the revenue figures listed above.)* **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

24. To see if the Town will vote to continue and establish the following funds:

Fund Balance Account	Balance as of 6/30/19*
Code Enforcement Fund	\$41,027.60
Fire Truck Reserve Fund	\$16,730.17
Road Assistance Fund	\$39,802.66
Education Capital Fund	\$10,124.96
Animal Control Fund	\$4,065.71
Revaluation Reserve Fund	\$109,840.17
Insurance Deductible Fund	\$8,663.31
Harbor Fund	\$28,194.23
Cable TV Channel Fund	\$44,278.27
Parks Fund	\$5,458.54
Capital Improvements Fund	\$52,696.58
Land Conservation Fund	\$1,605.16
Veterans Memorial Fund	\$5,572.54
Conservation Commission Fund	\$1,518.04
Flag Display Maintenance Fund	\$1,676.77
Allen & Leurene Hodgkins Fund	\$39,909.55
Recreation Fund	\$23,852.40
Town Hall Renovation Fund	\$61,568.00
Heating Assistance Fund	\$15,037.99
Sesquicentennial Celebration Fund	\$29,050.43
Transfer Station Capital Fund	\$115,577.29
Education Fund (from operations)	\$571,136.23
Education Special Ed Reserve	\$150,000.00
Education Secondary Tuition Reserve	\$35,000.00
Education – Facilities Maintenance Reserve	\$127,884.00
Cemetery Care Fund	\$5,992.84

(NOTE) Most funds are part of continuing operations, so the balance of 6/30/19 does not reflect any appropriations, expenditures or revenues for the current fiscal year.
(The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend continuing and establishing the above funds)
It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

It was requested to move forward to the school budget articles out of order so that principal Dawn McPhail and her husband could celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

Education Budget 2020-21

29. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$1,556,408.57**

- K- 2 Regular Elementary Instructional Services
- 3-8 Regular Elementary Instructional Services
- 9-12 Regular Secondary Program
- Gifted and Talented Program

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

30. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$715,248.07**

- K-12 Special Education Services

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

31. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$29,696.10**

- Elementary Co-Curricular
- Elementary Athletics

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

32. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$128,398.73**

- Guidance
- Health Services
- Curriculum
- Instructional Staff Training
- Library
- Instructional Technology
- Student Assessment

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

33. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$134,134.56**

- School Board
- Office of the Superintendent
- Business Services

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

34. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for School Administration. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$161,944.29**

- Office of the Principal

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

35. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$158,067.75**

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

36. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$183,224.57**

- Operations and Maintenance
- Capital Renewal

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

37. To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$41,968.33**

- School Nutrition Program

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

38. To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$2,066,689.20**) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688. **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$1,840,451.49.**

Explanation: The school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

***Must be a recorded vote**

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a recorded hand vote of 28-0

39. Shall the Town of Lamoine raise and appropriate **\$825,433.44** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$825,433.44** as required to fund the budget recommended by the school committee?

The school committee and budget committee recommend **\$825,433.44** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$825,433.44**

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the (municipality/district) budget for educational programs.

***Must be a recorded vote**

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a recorded hand vote of 28-0

40. Shall the Town of Lamoine raise and appropriate **\$41,968.33** for local nutrition allocation purposes (the school lunch program)? **The School Committee & Budget Committee recommend \$41,968.33**

41. To see what sum the municipality will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools. The School Committee and Budget Committee **Recommend: \$3,109,090.97**

***Must be a recorded vote**

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a recorded hand vote of 28-0

42. Shall the Lamoine School Committee be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2020-2021 fiscal year?

It was moved and 2nd to approve the article as recommended. The motion passed on a hand vote.

25. To see if the Town will authorize expenditure of funds from the Harbor Fund for improvements at the Harbor area as suggested to and approved by the Board of Selectmen, and to authorize the Selectmen to set the compensation of the Harbor Master and Deputy Harbor Master to be paid from the Harbor Fund. Expenditures are not to exceed available amounts in said fund. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

26. To see if the Town will authorize expenditure of funds from the Cable TV Fund for operation of Lamoine's Cable TV channel as suggested to and approved by the Board of Selectmen, and to authorize the Selectmen to set the compensation of the Cable TV Operations Manager. Expenditures are to be deducted from and Revenues are to be added to the Cable TV fund. Expenditure amounts are not to exceed available amounts in said fund. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

27. To see if the Town will authorize expenditure of funds from the Veterans' Memorial Fund as recommended to and approved by the Board of Selectmen for the purposes of maintaining the memorial, not to exceed the available amount of the fund. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

28. To see if the Town will authorize expenditure of funds in the Conservation Commission Fund as recommended to and approved by the Chair of the Conservation Commission for commission projects, said funds not to exceed the available amount of the fund. **It was moved and 2nd to approve the article. The motion passed on a hand vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Kovacs, Town Clerk

Attest: A true copy:

Jennifer M. Kovacs, Town Clerk