

**Town of Livermore
Board of Selectpersons
November 4, 2013 Meeting
Minutes**

Present: Megan Dion, *Chair*, Peter Castonguay, Mark Chretien, Rodney Newman, John Wakefield

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Minutes of the October 21, 2013 meeting were accepted as presented.
3. Highway Foreman Roger Ferland reported that he had obtained three prices for the department's new utility trailer. They were: Scott's Recreation - \$2,800 (Sure Track, complete to desired specs); Howie's Welding - \$3,240 (PJ Trailers, will need to modify ramp); and Michaud's Trailers (Auburn) - \$2,999 (Sure Track, not complete to specs). Mr. Wakefield said he would recuse himself from the discussion and vote as his son works for Scott's Recreation. On a motion by Mr. Newman, seconded by Mr. Castonguay, it was voted four in favor, one recused (Wakefield) to purchase the utility trailer from Scott's Recreation in Turner. Mr. Ferland also reported he is looking at prices for steering tires for the 2007 International, and that the R.S. Pidacks has completed work on the sand pile. He and his crew are now setting up the trucks for plowing and finishing up pothole patching. He said he had two crews patching the week prior. He also anticipated this would be Dan Boothby's last 40-hour week with the department.
4. Mr. Schaub presented his Treasurer and Administrator reports. He said tax revenue is picking up in anticipation of the November 15 installment due date, and noted that excise tax revenues to date are running ahead of the past five years. He shared an email from Judy Meyer of the *Sun-Journal* and Maine Freedom of Information Coalition regarding suggested changes to the town's newly adopted Freedom of Access Policy. It was agreed to amend the policy to accommodate Ms. Meyer's suggestions. He also reported on a required change to General Assistance food maximums, the certification for which was signed. He said more information has been added to the town's website, namely meeting minutes, tax maps, commitment books, Code Enforcement information, etc., and more will be added as time permits. He said the Cemetery Committee will be meeting to discuss a newly-enacted law concerning maintenance requirements for veterans' graves, and that the committee is now advertising for contractors to remove approximately 12 pine trees at Lakeside Cemetery. Mr. Schaub said that field work for the annual audit is complete and that the auditors were generally pleased with their findings. Most of last year's recommendations have been accomplished and, of the few that were not, substantial progress has been made. He also discussed a letter written to the auditors by resident Dwight Hines stating that the town has been put on notice that litigation is pending, and that the town is not insured for the cost of legal services in matters that don't seek financial damages. The letter suggests the impact could have a "material negative impact" on the town's financial position as legal fees could be substantial. Mr. Schaub said matters of that magnitude are generally handled through the traditional budgeting process, as was the case with the Poland Hill Road matter some years back. Lastly, Mr. Schaub said Fairpoint has offered to reduce the town's phone costs by \$11.00 per month, per line, and include no charge long distance with the flat rate. He said the term would be for three years, with a \$200 cancellation fee per line after one year, and \$100 per line after two. On a motion by Mr. Castonguay, seconded by Mr. Newman, it was unanimously agreed to enter into the Fairpoint contract for a period of three years.
7. Resident Dwight Hines asked about the Poland Hill Road matter. Mr. Schaub said it referred to several years of litigation concerning whether or not the town was responsible for maintaining a road that had been closed many years prior. Resident Rene Grondin, representing the ATV Club, asked if Clerk Fees collected on ATV registrations could be donated to the club, which he said is the case in Canton. He said he thought it might require a vote at Town Meeting. Mr. Schaub agreed that it would have to be voted on, as all Clerk Fees are presently counted as revenue to be used to reduce the commitment. Mrs. Dion agreed, saying it could be considered for next year's Town Meeting warrant. Mr. Grondin also asked why the town wants to dispose of the Community Building. He said the ATV Club presently uses

it for its monthly meetings and believes, with some work, it could be a useful place once again. Mrs. Dion said no decisions have been made regarding the future of the building. Mr. Newman asked Mr. Grondin if he would like to organize a committee to preserve the Community Building, adding that residents often offer good ideas but stop short of participating in an effort to accomplish them.

8. The Selectpersons reviewed the draft Human Resources Policy. Work will continue through the next several meetings and changes will be incorporated into the final draft.

9. On a motion by Mr. Wakefield, seconded by Mrs. Dion, it was unanimously agreed to go into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m., pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) to discuss candidates for Animal Control Officer. The session ended at 7:40 p.m. with no decisions made.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt E. Schaub