

**Town of Livermore  
Board of Selectpersons  
December 16, 2013 Meeting  
Minutes**

**Present:** Megan Dion, *Chair*, Rodney Newman, John Wakefield

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Minutes of the December 2, 2013 meeting were accepted as presented.
3. Highway Foreman Roger Ferland reported the new utility trailer has been received. He also reported the wiring problems with the 2008 GMC were getting worse. He said he had the truck at Murray's where the diagnostic computer indicates that it needs two glow plugs, but that it appears only half of the diagnostic system is functioning so there may or may not be a glow plug problem. Mr. Newman said the actual factory/dealer computer may be able to read more. Mr. Ferland said he's had the truck to O'Connor where wiring harness issues were previously diagnosed and repaired. He said the truck has two harnesses, each of which cost \$1,200, and appear to be known problems for this type of vehicle. He said he's no entirely sure just what to do with the truck at this point. Mr. Newman said that without the problem repaired, we don't have an operating truck which would make it tough to sell or trade. Mr. Newman asked if the truck is running now. Mr. Ferland said that, while running, warning lights and buzzers come on and the truck shuts down. Once stopped, it will start right back up without any indication of a problem. Mr. Newman said it sounds like a ground wire problem. Mr. Ferland was instructed to have the truck repaired. Mr. Ferland also reported that his budget contains an allowance for four new tires on the GMC and two steering tires on the Ford F-550. One dealer suggested increasing the size of the tires on the GMC from 245's to 265's, as the larger tires will handle weight better. That would mean putting six tires on the GMC, however. It was agreed to replace the steering tires on the Ford now and see how the GMC fares with its other problems before putting tires on it. Administrator Kurt Schaub said he'd had a question from Mr. Ferland about the level of care being provided to the town's roads during the winter. He said Mr. Ferland has been getting complaints which prompted him to look into statutory requirements. Maine's statutes require that town roads be made passable. The standard for state roads maintained by the town is greater, but not by much and a check with the Department of Transportation revealed no complaints by them about Livermore's practices. Mr. Ferland's goal is to have some tar showing, where possible, but not to use excessive amounts of salt in order to have all paved areas clear. Mr. Schaub added that a mid-year change of the standard to one that involves a heavier use of materials is probably not in the town's best financial interest. In general, it was agreed the roads are being adequately cared for during the winter months.
4. Mr. Newman offered a motion to move Agenda item 7 (Dwight Hines – Americans with Disabilities Act) to the bottom of the agenda. There was no second. Mr. Wakefield suggested holding item 9 (public questions guidelines) to the December 30 meeting. Mrs. Dion agreed to do so.
5. Mr. Schaub presented his Treasurer and Administrator reports. He apologized for not having a written Administrator Report but said he was held up by an unannounced inspection by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Standards. He said the inspection concentrated on the Fire Department that day, and would continue at the Transfer Station and Highway Department the following day. He anticipates findings involving primarily paperwork issues (written policies, plans and procedures), but little in the way of actual workplace safety violations. He said the plan had been to work on safety programs following the completion of the Human Resources Policy, which is nearly done, and the inspection brings the need for that effort to happen more quickly. He also reported on the recent service interruption by Oxford County Regional Recycling when its truck broke down for an extended period. He said the organization has a "Plan B" for such occurrences and was surprised and disappointed it was not implemented as our Transfer Station had to add staff to assist with bagging and storing recyclables during the outage. He hopes to have answers following a meeting the following afternoon, and complimented

Livermore's staff for their additional efforts. Mrs. Dion asked if this means the town can break its contract with Oxford. Mr. Schaub explained that the town does not have a contract – that the town is a part owner via inter-local agreement. Towns that leave the organization walk away from their equity investment in it. He also said the organization is working toward a single-sort recycling option for its member towns and more news on that will come in January. He is participating in an effort to expedite that process. Mr. Schaub also reported that he had sent letters to property owners along two of the roads that service a single residence each advising them to remove items from the roadway and turnaround areas that obstruct plowing efforts. Both have complied. He said he had researched the replacement of the town's heating oil supplier. Given the time of year, he said he asked each what their pricing program would be and, given that each appeared to be using different "rack" prices, then asked the specific price the town would pay on December 9. Of the four suppliers contacted, the responses were as follows:

Blanchard – 25 cents over rack. On 12/9, that would be \$3.42  
C.N. Brown – No return call (two calls made to Jay location)  
Fabian – 20 cents over rack. On 12/9, that would be \$3.509  
Murray – 23 cents over rack. On 12/9, that would be \$3.40

Mrs. Dion said she contacted C.N. Brown independently and provided a December 9 price of \$3.2871, which represents a "fixed adder" over the Irving Buckeye rack. Mr. Schaub said he wasn't clear as to what an "adder" is, that the term is unfamiliar to him. Discussion ensued as to which supplier should be selected. On a motion by Mr. Wakefield, seconded by Mrs. Dion, it was unanimously agreed to have Mr. Schaub contract for oil with the lowest of the bidders, following clarification of C.N. Brown's offer.

6. Correspondence included several emails from Dwight Hines regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act and Freedom of Access requests. Mr. Schaub's replies were also included.

7. Mr. Newman left the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

8. Mr. Hines said he felt a comment made during the December 2 meeting about the use of Ritalin was inappropriate, in that it has tremendous benefits for the many people that use it.

9. Mr. Hines asked if Mr. Ferland has contacted General Motors about the ongoing issues with the 2008 GMC. Mr. Ferland said he has worked primarily with the dealer, O'Connor Motors, which has made several post-warranty repairs at no cost or a reduced rate. He is hopeful they will continue this practice given the service history of the vehicle.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt E. Schaub