

Town of Livermore
Board of Selectpersons
May 2, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Megan Dion, Tim Kachnovich, Mark Chretien, Tom Gould, Peter Castonguay

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – 6 PM

1. Approval of the minutes of April 19, 2016, meeting
Tim Kachnovich made a motion to accept the minutes; Second by Megan Dion. Vote: unanimous
2. Reports
 - a. Highway Foreman Report – Gerald Whitney
 - i. The Highway Department has been busy with potholes. They have spread 10 tons of patch. Six roads have been permitted for Digsafe. On Friday, they got equipment out and serviced; greased loader, and switched buckets. They have removed boulders on Turkey Lane, filled and compacted holes. Gerry recommends UPM. They have also done some ditching and changed a culvert on Turkey Lane. Gerry asked about buying brushes (\$450) for broom. Tim concerned about dust. Gerry would only sweep on damp days to lessen wear and tear on vehicles. He was hoping to save the \$780/week it would cost to rent a sweeper. He felt the sweeping could be done in a week if the weather cooperated. He asked about subbing out the parking lots. No decision was made. Gerry will check on prices. Gerry would like to purchase reflective jackets - \$48 each. The Selectmen felt this was a good idea. Gerry asked about working 4 – 10 hour days: 6 AM – 4 PM. The Selectmen felt we should wait until June 1st.
 - b. Treasurer Report - A. Byron
 - i. Amy reported the Excise Tax collected for the month of April was \$45,033.48 which is \$2,689.61 more than April 2015. At this point in time, the Town is \$4,425.96 shy of the total Fiscal Year Budget for Excise Tax Collections. Rapid Renewal and Online Real Estate Tax Payment continue to be utilized and are gaining in popularity. We currently have 47 2015 Real Estate Tax accounts in Lien. (This is down 1 account since the last meeting.) Amy feels collections are going well.
 - c. Administrative Report – A. Byron
 - i. Amy reported that the Town Office continues to be busy. Renda and Jean have scheduled time off which Amy will cover. The Bid Advertisement for the Sand/Salt Shed is out on the Town Website, the Town Facebook page, MMA, Sun-Journal and Franklin Journal. Juanita asked Amy to let the Board know about an Oxford County Regional Recycling meeting she will be attending on Wednesday, May 11th. There are rumors floating that there will be a vote to dissolve the corporation. The Town Report is due at the printers by Friday, May 13.

3. Old business

a. Sand/Salt Shed – UPDATE

- i. The Selectmen agreed that Amy should order a Bidder's Plan at the cost of \$100. This would allow local contractors to view here at the office. Peter made a motion to purchase the Plan; Second by Tim. Vote: unanimous

b. Discontinuance of winter maintenance on private and easement roads

- i. Tom reported there are six Town Reports left to review. He is double checking against recorded Town Meeting votes. Progress is slow but steady. There are two roads of particular concern that will require some extra caution. Any action will most likely cost the Town some money. Tom would like to talk to the Road Committee and to owners on those roads. He may also need to talk to the Town Attorney. He wants to make sure we're doing this right. He has spoken with Kurt Schaub and got some good information. He has also spoken with previous Selectpersons, etc. He does not feel we will be ready for Town Meeting. There are four easements in rough shape. He feels we will need to ask the owner (s) to bring them up to snuff in order to continue winter maintenance. We will provide plenty of notice. He has several questions regarding road standards; some were accepted when dirt. We need to research the procedure for asking the owners to bring up to code. Easements are not necessarily recorded at Registry, but with Town. Tom stated the Historical maps have been helpful. Resident Brenda Merrill asked, "What is your goal?" "What is your recommendation?" Tom replied, "The goal is to stop the Town from doing anything illegal; to review easements and tighten up the maintenance...especially if the easement is dangerous to plow; and finally safety for all concerned. He also stated that most of our easements are geared toward Winter Maintenance.

4. New business

- a. Complaints: Another complaint was passed to the Selectpersons. The Highway Department went back and trimmed/picked up the mess on several roads. They have also patched Bear Mountain Rd. since complaint. (Gerry stated they don't use hotbox in summer, but they do pack down the patch.) Resident Warren Forbes stated he thinks the roadsides look horrible and feels the quality of the work is terrible. Highway Foremen Gerry Whitney feels we need to keep up the progress. (The roadside trimming fell behind in previous years and now we are getting caught up.) Mr. Forbes asked about gashes in trees. He asked if there was an alternative. The Highway Crew felt that different machinery would do a better job, but we need to work with what we have. Now that the trimming is caught up, a chainsaw can be used. Tim Kachnovich stated the Town would look into the purchase of a protective screen to avoid flying brush and that the Highway Department is on a learning curve and expects things will even out/improve as their experience with the equipment increases.

b. Personnel Policy/Job Description(Administrative Assistant)

- i. AA Job Description: tabled until next meeting.
- ii. Personnel Policy: There have been at least two updates in recent months. Amy stated that each employee should review the updates and return a signed acknowledgement. If they are unwilling to sign, a note will be placed in their file.

5. Public Comment

- a. Resident Brenda Merrill: Ms. Merrill had several concerns including the lack of Livermore's Meetings on the Agenda published in the Sun-Journal. She provided an email address for Meeting notices. She asked why the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes aren't being published on the Town website. Amy stated it is a matter of forwarding the minutes to the Webmaster. Ms. Merrill has circulated two Petitions. She would like them given to the Clerk for verification. Amy stated that they need to be verified by Renda. Ms. Merrill reminded the Board that a Special Town Meeting would be required within 60 days if not on the Town Warrant. When asked about her reason for bringing this up again, she responded that she felt no one should have to run every 2 years and she feels this would provide more accountability.
- b. Resident Dwight Hines: Mr. Hines had several concerns including the accuracy of the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes. Mr. Hines maintains that the Minutes must include more detail – especially in regard to the Public Comment section of the Minutes. He pointed out a recent fraud case in the Town of Falmouth. He updated the Board on the status of his case. It is currently at the Supreme Court level and will be decided within 2 months. He referenced the Maine Human Rights Commission in regard to the discussion of sensitive topics and the dissemination of false information. He is concerned about low voter turnout and feels the Town should look into changing the fiscal year so that voting on the RSU 73 Budget could be combined with Town Budget. He feels it would also save on borrowing. He reminded the Selectmen and Town Employees in attendance to get written opinion from MMA to avoid a he said/she said situation. He is excited to see that people are exercising their right to petition. He would also like to see some accurate measures on local business people in regard to personal property and real estate taxes.
- c. Resident Warren Forbes: Mr. Forbes is concerned about the potential overage in Administration. Amy stated she feels we will come in under budget due to that fact that she is covering 3 positions. She also stated the potential overage was due to the unexpected, extended absence of the Deputy Clerk for most of the Summer. It is not something we had any control over. Mr. Forbes read a letter to those in attendance. (copy included)
- d. Resident Joanna Said: Ms. Said would love to see Bear Mountain paved. She stated she had been promised by a previous Administrator that it would be done. The road is in very bad condition. She also was concerned about the trimming and the mess it left behind. She understands the need to do it, but wishes it was done differently. She is running for Register of Probate and distributed business cards.

6. Executive Session – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)A – Personnel Matter

In: 7:50 – Motion was made by Megan; Second by Peter. Vote: unanimous

Out: 8:05 -- Motion was made by Peter; Second by Megan. Vote: unanimous

Peter made a motion to terminate Gerald Whitney; Second by Tim. Vote: unanimous

Collected Debit Card; Gerry will bring other keys & cell phone tomorrow and collect his personal items. Peter will meet him at the garage at 9:15.

7. Executive Session – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)A – Personnel Matter

In: 8:15 – Motion was made by Megan; Second by Peter. Vote: unanimous

Out: 8:56 – Motion was made by Megan; Second by Tom. Vote: unanimous

No decision.

8. Adjourn 9:15