**TOWN OF LIVERMORE**

**Board of Selectpersons**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**September 14, 2021**

**6:30 PM**

**BOARD:** SCOTT RICHMOND, TRACEY MARTIN, MARK CHRETIEN, RANDY OUELLETTE, BRETT DEYLING

**DEPT HEADS:** AARON MILLER, ROGER FERLAND

**RESIDENTS/GUESTS:** NEAL GREENBERG

**PRESS:** PAM HARNDEN

**Meeting**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes
4. August 31, 2021

Tracey motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Scott; 5-0.

1. August 7, 2021

Scott motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Tracey; 5-0.

1. Road Foreman

Roger reported he has been driving the 2016 Ford F550 as much as possible and is looking at getting the extended warranty. Scott asked if this would prevent Ford from buying the vehicle back. Roger responded that Ford will not buy back the vehicle. He added that they did give the Town an option of paying two months of payments, but since we have annual payments this would not be an option. Scott said that he’d rather have an extended warranty. Roger agreed.

Roger also reported his crew has been working on Goding Rd. in an effort to prepare for paving.

1. Paul Binette – Assessor’s Agent

Paul reminded selectmen that last year’s overlay was $17,000, which only saw $3,608 in abatements. Scott motioned to take $50,000 from the undesignated fund to reduce the tax rate, seconded by Mark; 5-0.

Brett motioned to set the mil rate at $16 per assessed $1,000 valuation, seconded by Scott; 5-0.

1. Neal Goldberg – Maine Municipal Association

Aaron invited Neal to speak with the board regarding the use of nearly $224,000 the town will receive from the federal government’s American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. He said that the uses are broader than what it looks like on paper and it all comes down to justification.

He said the town could use those funds for public health response, which means anything that mitigates or controls the spread of the pandemic. This could include HVAC, replacing carpeting and expanding a building that allows for social distancing.

The money could also be used for EMS personnel, struggling families or businesses, broadband subscription rates and other economic impacts that could include supporting small business such as providing short term property tax relief.

He added the toughest criteria is for water and sewer, which wouldn’t include a bathroom facility at the transfer station or improved septic tank at a facility. In addition, the town could use those funds for administrative costs for someone to chase bigger dollars, but that catch is that person would be liable on how those funds are spent, which needs to meet federal guidelines.

Neal said that the town has until 2024 to obligate where those funds would be spent, which must be used by 2026. The town can put those funds in an interest bearing account and use that interest for whatever they wish.

1. Administrator’s Report

*Landowner Relations Day Sept. 12*

Aaron reported that the event resulted in eight tons of materials and approximately 400 tires that will be properly disposed of by the State of Maine. He noted the importance of the program that raises awareness about the program that assists property owners with illegal dumping on their properties.

*Meeting with home-schooled children*

Aaron said he met with 26 home-school children at the town office yesterday and talked about civics in society. Fire Chief Donald Castonguay also met with the children to discuss fire safety and provided a tour of the fire department and apparatus.

*American Rescue Plan Act 2021*

Aaron provided paperwork for the chairman to sign to receive almost $224,000 in federal funds.

1. Finance Report

Aaron provided a report from Treasurer Mary Castonguay who noted that the month of August was very productive, with Aaron entering budget numbers in the town’s accounting software. This will allow monthly reports to show how much of the town’s budget has been spent. She added that on July 15, the town sent out 30-day notices for real estate taxes and on August 15, filed 58 liens. In addition, $103,000 was received in excise taxes for the month of August and she and Aaron agreed to renew 10 of the town’s CDs at an interest rate of .40%, which is the highest rate the town can earn.

Aaron also provided an expense summary report and reviewed budget numbers with the board.

1. New Business
2. Boston Post Cane

Aaron reported that the town has received its Boston Post Cane back from a recipient’s family. He asked that they present the cane to Joan Lauzier, motioned by Scott, seconded by Brett; 4-0-1. Randy abstained.

1. Welcome to Livermore signs

Aaron reported he picked up a dilapidated sign from Route 108 on the Turner town line. He checked with White sign about replacement aluminum signs for $112.10. The board agreed to purchase five signs with the maintenance account.

1. Other

The board also agreed to order three signs for Brettun’s Pond Beach that say that use of the beach is for residents and taxpayers only.

1. Adjournment

Scott motioned to adjourn, seconded by Brett; 5-0 at 7:42 p.m.