

TOWN OF LIVERMORE

Board of Selectpersons

MEETING MINUTES

March 2, 2021
6:30 PM

BOARD: SCOTT RICHMOND, TRACEY MARTIN, MARK CHRETIEN

DEPT HEADS: AARON MILLER

RESIDENTS/GUESTS: JIM MANTER

PRESS: PAM HARNDEN

Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes - February 16, 2021
Scott motioned to approve the minutes, Tracey seconded, 3-0.

4. Reports:

Highway Foreman Report

Roger reported the new truck is back at Fairfield's because there were a couple issues they need to address before we use it. After that the town can turn the GMC in.

Overall everything has been going good in the Highway Department. We had to replace two front slides on the wing post for 2009 and 2010.

Scott asked how is the town's sand and salt supply? Roger said we should have enough sand and salt for the year. Roger added that he has a good crew this year and everyone has done a fine job. In addition, roads have been posted, he said.

Administrative Report

Aaron reported the town received an adjusted amount due from the IRS in the amount of \$3,615.16. This represents what they say is owed for the first quarter of 2020. He said the Jan. 16 payment was applied to quarter one of 2019 instead of 2020. Because of that, it threw off the town's tax deposits for 2020. Mary spoke with the IRS Friday and was told that they put a hold on our account for six weeks while we work to straighten it all out.

As of now the IRS hasn't received quarter two and three 941s for 2020. We send the 941 to the IRS saying that this is what taxes are owed. We are unclear at this point whether we will see

further penalties and interest. Penalties and interest for 2019 and 2020 years is \$4,919.17. The treasurer during this time was Amy Byron.

Auditor Ron Smith continues to look into the town's finances and hopes to have an update by the end of this month.

Foreclosures

The town foreclosed on two properties today. Aaron suggested the board consider a Tax Acquired Policy. It helps guide the board through the process that include: determining whether the property should be retained for municipal use or disposed; obtaining necessary insurance; payback arrangements; who may bid on the project and any special circumstances; eviction process; directions for the Treasurer to provide the municipal officers a list of foreclosed properties; when to sell; where to advertise and any fees the board wishes to recuperate.

5. Old business

Marijuana Business Application

Aaron presented an updated proposed Marijuana Business Application. The planning board reviewed proposed changes to the application submitted by Brett. Jim said that he believes the planning board was able to come to a reasonable compromise on either adding or removing language in the application. Mark motioned to accept the application, seconded by Scott, 3-0.

Community Facilities Technical Assistance & Training Grant Application

Aaron asked if the board would be interested in applying for up to \$150,000 in funds from the federal Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training Grant that is now available from the USDA.

These funds are available for towns less than 20,000 residents and may be used to assist communities in identifying and planning for community facility needs; identifying resources to finance community facility needs from private and public sources; and prepare reports and surveys necessary to request financial assistance.

Economic Development Committee

At the last selectboard meeting Aaron proposed adopting an Economic Development Committee (EDC). At that meeting the board asked for a mission statement. The proposed statement reads "...to make recommendations to the Administrative Assistant and/or selectboard on strategies for stimulating economic development in Livermore. This includes developing recommendations for strategies to attract new business, to encourage business expansion and retain existing businesses with a goal of increasing Livermore's commercial and industrial base, redeveloping underutilized and vacant properties, creating jobs and an environment conducive to business development." Scott said he is fine with the idea, but doesn't like the idea of having people who serve on EDC and Planning board.

Jim said that is a valid concern but sees the potential for conflict of interest as minor. He said that he believes he can manage conflict of interest easier than managing time to look at bringing business to Livermore.

Mark said that we should go for it and see how it works. Tracey asked what the difference is between the Planning Board and EDC. Aaron responded that the Planning Board is the governing body who approves applications, upholding ordinances. The EDC is a group who can look at generating business and creating a vision for the community. Scott motioned to investigate the interest of developing an economic development committee, seconded by Tracey, 3-0.

Old Salt Building

Following up from last meeting's discussion, the board asked that Aaron contact MMA and ask what repairs must be completed for the building to be insured.

Mowing Bids

The board agreed to advertise mowing bids for town properties, with bids due by March 30, 2021.

Church St.

The board spoke with Peter Coughlan, Director of the Community Services Division at the state's Department of Transportation, regarding his Feb. 1 letter about the state's intentions to change the classification of Church St. to "minor level arterial." This means the town would be responsible for winter maintenance and DOT would retain all other duties. (The original letter stated it is likely that the proper classification for this road is a minor collector/state aid road, but Coughlan said that letter contained an error and said it's a minor level arterial).

Mark said that the town doesn't have the resources to take on an additional .4 miles of winter maintenance for the state.

Scott asked about reimbursement from the state. Coughlan confirmed the town receives \$1,200 credit per mile – or \$300 for that additional road. He added that he is seeking information that is "relative to the criteria" and will be also requesting information from the MaineDOT Region 3 Office in Wilton. At the board's request, Coughlan said that the state can do a traffic count on Norlands Rd. as well. He asked that the selectboard get back to him by the end of the month.

6. New Business

State Salt Bid

Aaron reported that the town must contact the state if interested in taking advantage of the statewide bid for salt by Friday, March 26. It's possible the town can save by changing from AVCOG to the statewide bid, he said. During this fiscal year, the town paid \$61.62 through AVCOG purchasing an estimated 500 tons of salt. According to the state bids, Fryeburg, who also purchased 500 tons, received a locked-in price of \$51.10. The board asked Aaron to check with AVCOG to see if we are any binding agreements to purchase salt through them.

Foreclosures

The town foreclosed on two properties on March 2, 2021 for taxes not paid dating back to 2019 tax year. Both were land-only properties:

- Map U26, Lot 006 – Federal Rd. -.33 acres - \$3,019 valuation - \$291.54 in taxes owed
- Map R08, Lot 056 – 2.06 acres - \$3,090 valuation - \$281.57 in taxes owed

The board agreed to put the parcels out to bid, with the requirement of minimum bid of taxes owed. In addition, the board requires a bank check of 10% of the bid price and will advertise in the local newspaper. All bids are due April 13, 2021.

7. The board signed warrants
8. Other – none
9. Adjournment

Scott motioned to adjourn, seconded by Tracey, 3-0, 8:30 p.m.