

Select Board Meeting
April 18, 2023

1. Call to Order: 6:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Doug Norman, Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Doug Norman, Chair, Mark Bradstreet, Steve Tanguay and Linda Payson all present. Sandra Otis-Anderson was absent.
4. Announcements: James announced it is time for residents to be signing up for Fidium Fiber. The link is on the website. They will begin hooking up individual households in the near future. If you don't take advantage of the rates being offered it will cost considerably more to get your home connected after this initial phase.
5. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to accept the minutes as written for the April 4, 2023 select board meeting, Second: Mark Bradstreet Vote 4-0-0
6. Acceptance of the agenda: James will be adding one 11th hour item. Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion to accept the agenda with the additional 11th hour item. Second: Steve Tanguay Vote 4-0-0
7. Public Comment: None
8. Old Business:
9.
 - a. Authorization to Borrow from Bond Bank for Wastewater Project. Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion to authorize that the Town of Searsport commit to an additional borrowing of funds from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the Wastewater Treatment Plant rebuild in an amount up to, but not to exceed, three million six hundred seventy-three thousand six hundred fifty dollars, (\$3,673,650.00). This borrowing is to cover expenses relating to the construction rehabilitation, and rebuilding of the facility in anticipation of the grant/loans that have been committed to the project from the State of Maine and the Federal Government. I further authorize the Town Manager to sign all documents required to apply for these funds. Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0
 - b. Appointment to BAC: Maine Municipals' recommendation is to have a run off election between the two residents who each received two write in votes. Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to authorize a run off election in June to decide the one remaining seat on the budget advisory committee. Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0.
 - c. Fire Department SOG's. Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to table. Second: Steve Tanguay Vote: 4-0-0
10. New Business:
 - a. Transfer Station Rate Changes: Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to increase the fees for the transfer station to \$2.00 for a 30 gallon or less bag and \$4.00 for a contractor bag. Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0
 - b. Ambulance Transfer Stipends: Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to authorize a \$100.00 stipend in addition to the hourly wage for each person responding to inter facility transfers. Second: Steve Tanguay Vote 4-0-0
11. 11th Hour:
 - a. Leaf and Limb Days: Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion to set May 21st and June 4th for the two leaf and limb days at the transfer station. Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0
12. Correspondence:
 - a. MMA – workers compensation fund reimbursement will be \$8,125.00
 - b. DOT – Northeast Paving has the contract to do DOT paving in town. This should be starting soon.
 - c. Grants – James has applied for a grant through the boating facilities fund grant through the Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry. One finger on the wharf has been shut down. There will be temporary repairs made to hold it together while funding is found for the needed repairs.
 - d. Inter Cruises – request to have a vessel here on October 11th. The details need to be worked out such as security, coast guard licensing and access to the pier from their tenders. There also needs to be a community benefit agreement in place as discussed in the workshop.
 - e. MMA Risk Management/unemployment compensation letter. The rate is set at \$317.00
 - f. Charter Communications – rate changes
 - g. MMA Employee Health Trust – changes for 2023
13. Treasurer's Warrant. Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's warrant pending signatures by the Select Board. Second: Mark Bradstreet Vote 4-0-0.

14. Department Head Reports: Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion to accept the reports from the library, Town Clerk and Fire Department. Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0

11. Select Board Reports:

Mark is happy about all the work being done around town by the water district, roads and fidium fiber.

Linda mentioned the upcoming special events committee meeting on the 24th at 6:00 pm. She also mentioned the Senior Drop In tomorrow from 9 to noon. Lunch will be pulled pork and coleslaw.

Steve reminded everyone of the community clean up on Saturday April 22nd and the reseeding of the clam flats at the Sears Island Cause way on Friday and Saturday April 28th and 29th between 10 am and 2:00 pm.

Doug asked permission to post the update on the various construction projects around town written by James. His hope is that it will be well shared.

James updated the board on the recent decision by Police, Fire, EMA and Ambulance to combine into one Public Safety Face Book page. The other individual pages will be discontinued. He also commended the Fire Department for responding with the foam trailer to the recent train derailment near Jackman. Searsport received a phone call from DEP asking for a response. North of Portland, there are very few departments with the capability to respond with foam. The State and the DEP have faith in Searsport and its ability to respond with this resource. We were able to respond with the trailer and 4 members of the department.

12. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comments: None

13. Adjournment: Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 pm. Second: Steve Tanguay Vote: 4-0-0

Respectfully Submitted

Janine F. Laveway
Board Secretary

APPROVED 5-16-2023