

Select Board Meeting
February 21, 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, Sandra Otis-Anderson, and Linda Payson all present.
4. Announcements – George Kerper gave an update regarding Fidium Fiber. The link is on the web page (searsport.maine.gov) for folks to begin the process to sign up. The link is also there to apply for assistance.
5. Acceptance of Minutes- Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to accept the minutes as written for the February 7, 2023 select board meeting, Second: Mark Bradstreet Vote 4-0-0
6. Acceptance of the agenda – James will be adding one item regarding fire truck repairs to the 11th hour and the need for an executive session. Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion to accept the agenda with the additional 11th hour items and an executive session. Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0
7. Public Comment: There were members of the public present to address the eagles nest on Water Street and the 4th of July fireworks in Mosman Park. Doug Norman made a motion that there would no longer be fireworks launched from Mosman Park and instructed the town manager and select board to find an alternative place to launch them from. Linda Payson seconded with the addition to the motion “as long as there is an eagles nest”. Doug amended his motion. Vote 4-0-0. Janet Williams thanked the board for doing what is right for wildlife.
8. Old Business:
 - a. Water District Appointment: Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to reappoint Larry Clark to the Water District. Second: Mark Bradstreet Vote 4-0-0
 - b. Open Seat on School Board: There are three applicants. Julie Paige, Dr. Sabrina DeTurk and Justin Connor. Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to table this appointment until the next meeting so the applicants can attend. Second: Sandra Otis-Anderson. Vote 4-0-0
9. New Business:
 - a. Deputy Clerk Resignation: Joanne Moulton who has worked for the town for the past 5 years has taken a position as the town clerk of Searsmont. Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to accept Joanne Moulton’s resignation and authorize the town manager to post the position. Second: Mark Bradstreet The board thanked Joanne and sent her a letter of congratulations. Vote 4-0-0
 - b. Contract for audit Services RE; Wastewater: Due to the federal grant process for the wastewater department there is the need for an enhanced audit. The books are audited each year. This request is in addition to that audit. Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to authorize the town manager to sign the contract with the audit services. Second: Sandra Otis-Anderson. Vote 4-0-0
 - c. Ballot Clerk Appointments: Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion for the following two year appointments as ballot clerks: Kathleen Garrold, Norman LaBonte and Sandra LaBonte, - Janine Laveway for a one year appointment as election warden and Eric Glidden for a one year re- appointment as registrar of voters. Second: Sandra Otis-Anderson 4-0-0.
10. 11th Hour:
 - a. The fire truck at the North Station has broken springs and needs to be repaired asap. The estimate is \$4,502.14. These funds would come from the vehicle repair reserve fund which has over \$100,000.00 in it. Fire Chief Antonio Rivera asked for the motion to be up to \$5,500.00 in case any other repairs are discovered and need repair before this truck passes inspection. Without this engine in service, North Station only has a tanker truck. Motion: Mark Bradstreet made a motion to appropriate up to \$5,500.00 dollars from the vehicle repair reserve fund for the repairs on the fire truck at the North station. Second: Doug Norman Vote 4-0-0.
11. Correspondence:
 - a. A letter from safety works regarding the December inspection. The town is in compliance. Manager Gillway thanked fire chief Antonio Rivera and his crew for getting the work done.
 - b. A letter from MMA. A potential claim was filed for work that was done on Union Street last year that resulted in the flooding of one of the local apartment complexes. It was not a town project. Therefore the claim is being denied.
 - c. Searsport Public Safety heads of department held a meeting last week to discuss staffing, radio communications, inter department communications, training, CERT team exercises and financial grants. The minutes of that meeting are included in select board packets.

12Treasurer's Warrant. Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's warrant pending signatures by the Select Board. Seconded: Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote 4-0-0.

13. Department Head Reports: Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to accept the department head reports received from the fire department, police department, and the library and looks forward to receiving the rest at the next meeting. Second: Mark Bradstreet Vote: 4-0-0

14. Select Member's Reports: Mark Bradstreet recognizes the recent press on the CERT team and congratulated the town office building passing inspection without any complaints and thanks James and his staff. The historic preservation commission is hosting a supper on the evening of the town meeting on the 11th at the Congregational Church. This is a pot luck and everyone is invited. Linda Payson is concerned about the upcoming storm and thanks the public works department for all their hard work. Sandra Otis-Anderson is also concerned about the upcoming storm and urges folks to check on their neighbors. There will be public suppers coming up at the Congregational church. The first one is a Ukraine dinner on Saturday February 25th and the chowder suppers are also returning, the first being on March 10th. Doug Norman had nothing to report. Steve Tanguay was not present.

15. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comments. None

16.Executive Session : Mark Bradstreet motioned that the select board exit regular session and enter into executive session pursuant to M.R.S.A. 1 / 405(6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty abatement requests) and M.R.S.A. 1/405 (6)(D) Confidential – (Labor Negotiations) at 6:20 pm. Motion was seconded by Doug Norman. Vote 4-0-0.

At 7:08 Mark Bradstreet made a motion to end executive session and return to the regular session. Second: Sandra Otis-Anderson. Vote 4-0-0

17. Decisions from Executive Session:

Motion: Mark Bradstreet made the following general assistance motions:

WP23-04 100 gallons of fuel oil approved from the Jenny Lawrence fund.

WP23-05 denied/no action

WP23-06 CMP assistance \$500.00 approved from the Jenny Lawrence Fund.

Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0

Motion: Mark Bradstreet made the following poverty abatement motions:

PA 23-01 Appropriate \$500.00 toward back taxes for the years 2018,2019, and 2020.

PA 23-02 Abate the property taxes for the years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0

Motion: Doug Norman made a motion to authorize the town manager to execute the contract as presented by the union.

Second: Linda Payson Vote 4-0-0

18. Adjourn: Motion: Linda Payson made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Second: Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote 4-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Janine F. Laveway
Board Recorder

APPROVED: 3.7.2023