

Town of Searsport, Maine
Select Board Meeting

March 19, 2024

1. Call to Order: 6:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mark Bradstreet, Vice Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Mark Bradstreet, Vice Chair, Sandra Otis-Anderson and Steve Tanguay are present. Doug Norman, Chair and Linda Payson are absent.
4. Announcements: None
5. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 5, 2024 meeting as presented. Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote: 3-0-0
6. Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2024 meeting as presented Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
7. Acceptance of the agenda: Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote 3-0-0
8. Public Comment: Peter Nowell started to address the board regarding a planning board issue but was asked to not continue by James Gillway who explained it was an Ex Parte conversation about a decision that the planning board had already made. James had contacted the attorney and he does not want this situation discussed in any public meeting until he has a chance to talk to the board. James explained that the select board will not be discussing a decision made by the planning board. The attorney will be reviewing the minutes from both the Select Board meeting and the Planning Board meeting pertaining to this situation. One of the results will be some workshops to talk about decisions and enforcement. When the Victor Mazza, CEO returns from vacation he will work with Celine Kelley, Planning Board Chair, to set up some workshops. Peter thanked the town for putting up the barricades and signs regarding Union Street not being a shortcut to route one.
9. Old Business:
 - a. Fire Department Standards Operating Guidelines: Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to approve the guidelines. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
10. New Business:
 - b. Appointments to Committees: James Gillway nominated Jeana Ganskop to the events committee. Motion by Sandra Otis-Anderson Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote 3-0-0
Steve Tanguay nominated Ed Upham, David Bond and Jay Economy to the Shellfish Committee. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote 3-0-0
10. 11th Hour: None
11. Correspondence: Letter from Susan Collins with an update on the Town's \$2,000,000 application for federal funds to repair the municipal pier. A letter from the DEP regarding ARPA funding reimbursed in the amount of \$18,953.88 for a failed septic system on Pomeroy Lane. Condemnation order for a property at 73 Heritage Drive. Letter from Niclas Eriksson from Hurtigruten Expeditions thanking the town for considering their request to dock a cruise ship in our harbor this summer. Letter from Zoe LeBlanc regarding the Small Community Grant Funds remaining. There are \$71,046.12 remaining. These will need to be spent or they will go back. Letter from the Greater Bay Area Ministerium (GBAM) Food Cupboard asking for a donation. Jenny Lawrence Funds can not be used because this food cupboard does not serve exclusively Searsport Residents. They were advised to make an application through the budget process as an out of house account.

12. Treasurer's Warrant. Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's warrant pending signatures by the Select Board. Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote: 3-0-0

13. Department Head Reports: Library, Police, Ambulance and Fire Department Heads submitted reports.

14. Select Board Reports: Sandra Otis-Anderson reminded everyone that Senior Drop In Days have restarted. The next one will be on Thursday March 21, 2024 with an auction planned as the entertainment. Steve Tanguay highlighted a workshop last week that discussed community benefits agreements with members representing both the unions that are interested and many of the environmental groups. He would like to be very clear that the select board needs to look out for Searsport first and do an assessment of what the town's needs might be prior to getting involved with outside entities. He wanted to wish Linda Payson the best and thank her for all of her hard work over her term. He also welcomed Wes Norton aboard. Mark Bradstreet is happy to see Celine Kelley taking over as Chair of the Planning Board and also thanked Linda Payson for all her hard work. She will be missed at the County Commissioners meetings. He welcomed Wes who will come on board at the Town Meeting on April 6, 2024.

15. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comments: None

16. Executive Session M.R.S.A. 1 405 (6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty Abatement): Mark Bradstreet made a motion at 6:22 pm to exit regular session and enter into executive session in accordance with M.R.S.A. 1 405 (6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty Abatement). Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0

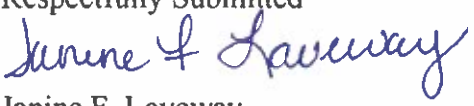
Steve Tanguay made a motion at 6:38 pm to exit executive session and return to the regular session. Second by: Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0

17. Decisions from Executive Session: Motion: Mark Bradstreet made the following motions:

- WP24-08 Approved up to \$920.00
- WP24-09 Approved up to \$1,200.00 for materials to build a handicap ramp.
- WP24-10 Approved up to \$500.00 for clean up
- WP24-11 Approved up to \$100.00 for equipment and supplies including gas to clean up eye sores.

All of the above will come from the Jenny Lawrence Funds. Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote: 3-0-0

18. Adjournment: Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to adjourn at 6:41 pm. Second by: Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0

Respectfully Submitted

Janine F. Laveway
Board Recorder

APPROVED: April 2, 2024