

Town of Searsport, Maine
Select Board Meeting

April 2, 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, Steve Tanguay and Sandra Otis-Anderson are all present. Chair Doug Norman and Linda Payson are absent.
4. Announcements: None
5. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to accept the minutes for the March 19, 2024 select board meeting as presented. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
6. Acceptance of the agenda: Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of 3 11th hour items. Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote: 3-0-0
7. Public Comment: The following people expressed their opposition to the State's decision to locate the Wind Port Facility on Sears Island: Jim Bishop and Harlan McLaughlin.
8. Old Business:
 - a. Update on the information Center. James reached out to the Maine Municipal inspector who is requiring that an engineer looks at the project. He asked if that requirement could be eliminated in order to give the town the opportunity to have a contractor with great experience give their opinion on what it will take to bring the building up to fair safety standards. Mark Bradstreet has been contacted by the property owner asking if William Dakin can please be considered. Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to authorize the town manager to seek out three quotes from reputable builders or building supply companies within a 10-15 mile radius for not only renovating the old cottage but also their opinion if it's worth saving. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
9. New Business:
 - a. Liquor License Renewal for Homeport Tavern LLC: Owners Allison and Arnaud Lessard attended the meeting. Arnaud gave a brief overview of their business and request for the renewal. Town Manager James Gillway reported that there are no reports or issues with their current license. Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to renew the license. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
10. 11th Hour:
 - a. Yearly appointments – see attached list. Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to approve the annual appointments as listed. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
 - b. Appointment of Election Clerks -Motion by Steve Tanguay to Table to the next meeting on April 16, 2024. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
 - c. Fire Works: There are a lot of logistical issues with having fire works on the 4th of July this year including no barges available. Motion: Steve Tanguay made a motion to postpone the 4th of July Fireworks to a date to be determined. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0
 - d. There has been a request to shut the town office down early on Monday so employees can view the eclipse. The request was denied. Employees will be allowed to take a late lunch/ leave early if they desire. Lynn Roberts and James Gillway will keep the office open.

11. Correspondence:

A letter from MRC regarding the reopening of the Fiber Right facility and asking for the town's consideration of a contract with them.

New Hope Midcoast sent a letter outlining their recent restructuring.

Charter Communications sent a letter announcing their upcoming launch of the Game Show Network.

DHHS letter stating the General Assistance inspection was conducted last week. The program was found to be in compliance with 3 areas of concern that will need to be addressed.

The current Ambulance Billing Account Reconciliation Report was presented.

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 Mark Bradstreet Vote: 3-0-0

13. Town Manager's Report was read into the record

14. Select Board Reports: Steve Tanguay shared his recent work looking into hiring Ned Lightner to stream town and committee meetings. Wes Norton also has a recommendation for another program. The town clean up is scheduled.

15. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comments: Janet Flint commented on all the trees that have been lost recently and is wondering if anyone is thinking about replanting. James Gillway stated that there is a plan to replant. The following residents spoke in opposition of the State's decision to locate the wind port facility on Sears Island: Chris Bucanan and Stephen Loring.

16. Executive Session M.R.S.A. 1 405 (6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty Abatement): Mark Bradstreet made a motion at 6:54 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.

Mark Bradstreet made motion to exit Executive session at 7:09 pm and reenter regular session. Seconded by Sandra Otis-Anderson Vote: 3-0-0

17. Decisions from Executive Session: Motion: Mark Bradstreet made the following motions to be funded from the Jenny Lawrence Funds:

WP24-12 To approve up to \$800.00 for rent.

WP24-13 To approve 100 gallons of heating fuel

WP24-14 To approve up to \$400.00 for LP gas

WP24-15 To approve \$800.00 for rent

WP24-16 To not approve a request for food.

WP24-17 To approve up to \$800.00 for temporary housing.

Seconded by Steve Tanguay Vote: 3-0-0

18. Adjournment: Motion: Sandra Otis-Anderson made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Second by Steve Tanguay Vote: 3-0-0

Respectfully Submitted



Janine F. Laveway

Board Recorder

APPROVED April 16, 2024