

## **Readfield Select Board**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, April 13, 2020 – *Approved***

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**Select Board Members Present:** Bruce Bourgoine, Ralph Eno, Dennis Price, Christine Sammons and Kathryn Woodsum

**Others Attending:** Eric Dyer (Town Manager), William Starrett (Channel 7), Kristin Parks (Board Secretary), Grace Keene

**Notes:** All votes by Select Board are done by roll call.

Mr. Bourgoine called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Reminder that the Town of Readfield is still operating under State of Emergency by the Governor.

- **20-099 – Minutes: Select Board meeting minutes of March 16, 2020 & March 30, 2020**
  - **Motion** made by Mrs. Woodsum to approve the Select Board meeting minutes of March 16, 2020 as presented with amendments by Mrs. Woodsum and Mr. Eno, **second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
  - **Motion** made by Mrs. Woodsum to approve the Select Board meeting minutes of March 30, 2020 as presented, **second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
- **20-105 – Minutes: Select Board meeting minutes of April 6, 2020**
  - **Motion** made by Mrs. Woodsum to approve the Select Board meeting minutes of April 6, 2020 as presented, **second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
- **20-106 – Warrants: #43-44**
  - Warrants #43 & 44 reviewed by Mrs. Sammons. Total amount of warrant \$74,935.45. No motion to approve need be done.

### **Communications**

- **Select Board Communications**
  - Mr. Eno asked if construction start dates are still on schedule. Mr. Dyer replied that most are on schedule, just a few setbacks due to a Planning Board meeting reschedule and the weather/ground conditions. Mr. Eno also inquired if Mr. Dyer had received an answer back yet regarding his auditor report question on custodial risk, Mr. Dyer to get back to him with answer.
  - Mr. Price would like to oversee the roadside cleanup efforts this year to honor John Parent. Keep entirely volunteer basis, update town website and Facebook with progress of people helping clean up around their residential street and sending in feedback.
  - Mrs. Woodsum had questions on the following: Update if backhoe arrived (see notes in staff reports), appointing Health Officer (Mr. Dyer: Do not have health officer at this time, still have to reach out and find one). Town Office ADA Doors installation start date (Mr. Dyer: Around end of April but may be a week or so later than planned). Signing of the EOP (Select Board to come in when signing the warrant). Elections for June (Mr. Bourgoine added to tonight's agenda). Where are we at with the solar project (kind of on the back burner at this time).
  - Mr. Bourgoine has email from MMA regarding the Executive Committee; information on their website if interested.
- **Staff Reports**
  - Transfer Station: Backhoe did arrive, working out well and staff all trained. Finishing up final draft guidelines for the use of the backhoe. Senior hours still on Thursday from 10:00-2:00,

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suggested 65 and older or those high risk. Transfer station still continuing to take returnable cans & bottles just a different way. No longer taking plastic film at this time. Household Hazard Waste Day cancelled for May but will hold one this summer for the three transfer station towns. RX/Drugs Take Back on that day as well. More information to come.

- Treasurers Report: Revenue stream has seen a small impact due to the coronavirus especially with registrations. Everything else seems to be on track.

- **Public Communications** - *Members of the public may address the Select Board on any topic*

- None

#### **Old Business:**

- **20-095 – Consider the FY21 Budget and Warrant**

- Mr. Bourgoine spoke regarding key points taken from the Budget Committee meeting and concerns they have and why they will not approve Article 36. A few of those concerns are as follows: Not a trust thing against the Select Board but uncomfortable with the question. The language is ambiguous. Define what the 25% is or the amount of money. The Budget Committee feels that there would be plenty of time to plan a special town meeting if needed. Vote recommended against Article 36 and removing but considers upping the amount up to \$50,000 in Article 34.
- Mr. Eno feels that if needed, the town and committees would be able to act in a timely manner.
- Mr. Bourgoine suggested amending Article 36 to clarify % and a dollar amount and add not to exceed wording.
- Mrs. Woodsum doesn't really feel like we need Article 36 since it is a policy but is happy with increasing Article 34 to \$50,000 and striking Article 36. If there is an emergency sees no reason why not to hold a special town meeting.
- Mrs. Sammons feels if there was a special town meeting held we would not have the town representation like a normal June vote.
- Mr. Bourgoine would like to keep as much as possible available for the voters to see.
- Mr. Price would like to see the voters decide on Article 36.
- Mr. Eno agrees with Mrs. Sammons on voter outcome if a special town meeting is held. Favors keeping Article 36 and either define a dollar amount or reduce the %.
- **Motion** made by Mrs. Woodsum to strike Article 36 from the warrant, **second** by Mr. Eno. **Discussion:** Mrs. Woodsum feels that having this much conflict and confusing discussion between 10 knowledgeable people that are unable to agree doesn't really see the public supporting this Article. Mr. Eno doesn't believe the policy is desirable but able to see the importance of it. **Vote** 1-4 motion fails (Mrs. Woodsum yes, Mrs. Sammons, Mr. Eno, Mr. Price and Mr. Bourgoine all no votes).

**Motion** made by Mrs. Woodsum to extending meeting by 20 minutes, **second** by Mr. Eno. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

- **Motion** made by Mr. Eno to amend Article 36 to add 25% and not to exceed \$200,000, **second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Discussion:** Mrs. Sammons read back the motion to read as follows: Shall the town vote to authorize the Select Board to make emergency expenditures reductions and if necessary transfers from the Unassigned Fund Balance (General Fund) up to 25% and not to exceed \$200,000 in total pursuant as necessary to meeting projected revenue shortfalls due to

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coronavirus emergency to the extent authorized by state law during the ensuing fiscal year **Vote** 1-4 motion fails (Mrs. Woodsum yes, Mrs. Sammons, Mr. Eno, Mr. Price and Mr. Bourgoine all no votes).

- All motions verbally withdrawn.
- **Motion** made by Mr. Bourgoine to change Article 36 to read as follows and place on warrant: Shall the town vote to authorize the Select Board to make emergency expenditures reductions and if necessary transfers from the Unassigned Fund Balance (General Fund) up to \$200,000 in total pursuant as necessary to meeting projected revenue shortfalls due to coronavirus emergency to the extent authorized by state law during the ensuing fiscal year, **second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Discussion:** Mr. Eno spoke that this gives flexibility if needed. Mr. Bourgoine said it will avoid a special town meeting. **Vote** 4-1 in favor, Mrs. Woodsum opposed.

**New Business:**

- **20-107 – Broadband project discussion**
  - Mr. Bourgoine reported that they are ready to move on to Phase 3. Was under the impression that there was only Phase 1 & 2. Phase 3 consists of reaching out to internet companies. Mr. Bourgoine is uncomfortable with Phase 3 and wants to get the information gathered so far out to the public and receive feedback from them on their needs and wants before moving forward.
  - Mrs. Woodsum agrees with Mr. Bourgoine to hold off and present information to residents.
  - Census of the Select Board to have public presentations (when able) and then look at moving forward.
- **20-108 – Town Election Date (added to agenda as extra item)**
  - General Election date moved to July 14, 2020 by the state/Governor.
  - Deborah Nichols, Town Clerk feels that the date for Readfield Town Meeting should be on July 14, 2020 as well.
  - **Motion** made by Mr. Price to move the official Town Meeting/Secret Town Ballot from June 9, 2020 to July 14, 2020, **second** by Mrs. Woodsum. **Discussion:** Moving voting date but all other deadlines will stay the same. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

**Motion** made by Mrs. Sammons to adjourn meeting at 7:54 pm, **second** by Mrs. Woodsum, **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

*Minutes submitted by Kristin Parks, Board Secretary*