

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes March 17, 2015 – approved 3-23-15

Select Board members present: Valarie Pomerleau, Greg Durgin, Thomas Dunham and Allen Curtis.

Others attending: Teresa Shaw (Interim Town Manager), Ann Keilty, Grace Keene, John Parent, Gary Keilty, Milt Wright, John Perry, Marion Dunham and Debora Doten.

Ms. Pomerleau called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

Secret ballot article review:

- Article – SALARIES: There was a discussion. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to reopen current Article 3 for discussion, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 4-0. The Board gave unanimous consent to keep the “and or wages” in the article.
- Article – BOARDS & COMISSIONS: The funding for the cutter will be left in the Conservation Commission but will be for contract services and not for the cutter. John Parent commented a private resident will donate the use of a cutter. Milt Wright commented the brush cutter will be used in various ways for other town services. Liability of the sexton versus a volunteer using the cutter was discussed. **Motion** by Durgin to accept current Article 11 as written except take out ‘tabled’, with the Select Board recommendation of yes, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0.
- Article – BUILDINGS OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE: Kathryn Woodsum said the Budget Committee recommended ‘no’ because of the security cameras. John Parent said the Budget Committee feels security cameras should be installed at the town office as well as the transfer station for monetary safety reasons. There was a discussion about security cameras and the development of a policy. Deb Doten said in regard to employee safety, \$2,000 is not a lot of money.
- Article – CEMETERY MAINTENANCE: Ms. Pomerleau said the wording was recommended by an attorney. **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to reopen current Article 14, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0. Ms. Pomerleau read the new article. **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to recommend a ‘yes’ vote on the cemetery maintenance budget as updated, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0.
- Article – HERITAGE DAYS: This has been updated as per legal counsel. **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to reopen current Article 16, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0. **Motion** by Ms. Pomerleau to accept the Article as updated, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0.
- Article – TRAILS COMMITTEE: **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to approve the trails committee Article to read ‘Shall the Town vote to accept and appropriate an anticipated donation in the amount \$2,700 for the Trails Committee projects? Select Board recommends yes’, **second** by Ms. Pomerleau; *discussion*: John Parent talked about the donation from the resident and the possibility of the Town not receiving the donation. He requested this be remembered for next year so tax dollars can still be appropriated for the Trails Committee. Mrs. Shaw said the potential donor has requested an escrow account be established for the donation. She will check with MMA. Grace Keene suggested asking Sam Tippet. **Vote** 3-1 (Curtis opposed).
- Article – ROADS & DRAINAGE: There was a discussion about vehicle maintenance and associated quotes. The total dollar amount specified is correct for the Budget Committee but they have not met to vote since that amount was updated. The Select Board agrees on the dollar amount as well. There will be additional vehicle maintenance quotes available for the next Select Board meeting. Action **tabled** pending additional quotes.
- Article - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (1): Changes were discussed. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to reopen the current Article 21, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 4-0. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to accept current Article 21 as re-written, to read ‘Capital Improvements for Fairgrounds and Transfer Station – Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$46,645 for the Capital Improvements for Fairgrounds and Transfer Station

budget category for the following budget lines with all accounts to be carried forward? Fairgrounds Athletic Fields \$8,645; Transfer Station \$38,000. Select Board recommends yes, Budget Committee recommends yes'. **Second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0.

- Article – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2): Changes are similar to the above Article. **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to reopen the current Article 22, **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote** 4-0. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to accept the current Article 22 as re-written, to read 'Capital Improvements for Equipment and Maranacook Dam – Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$39,200 for the Capital Improvements for Equipment and Maranacook Dam budget category for the following budget lines with all accounts to be carried forward? Equipment \$11,200, Maranacook Lake Dam \$28,000. Select Board recommends yes, Budget Committee recommends no'. **Second** by Mr. Durgin. Mr. Curtis withdrew his motion. Action **tabled** pending additional quotes and information on the truck. John Parent noted the holder is included in this Article and will need to be removed.
- Article – OVERDRAFTS: The Board is unable to determine a dollar figure at this point. There was a discussion. Ms. Pomerleau noted this is a pending question with MMA Legal and there is a plan to discuss this at the next Select Board meeting. Kathryn Woodsum suggested checking with the Town of Jay. Milt Wright suggested a change in wording. There was a discussion about legal counsel. The Board directed Mrs. Shaw to contact legal/Bernstein Shur regarding the dollar amount and the phrasing 'not to exceed'. John Perry suggested a dollar amount based on historical figures. Action **tabled** until the next Select Board meeting. Mr. Durgin will work on a historical 5-year figure.
- Article - PLAYGROUND: Updates were noted. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to reopen the playground Article, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to accept the current Article 38 to read 'Shall the Town vote to close the Playground account in the amount of \$1,095 and donate said money to the RSU #38 for the purpose of maintenance of the Readfield Elementary School Playground? Select Board recommends yes, Budget Committee recommends yes'. **Second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 4-0.
- Article – REVENUES: There was a discussion. Action **tabled** until the next Select Board meeting.
- Article – INCREASE LINE ITEM BY 5%: Legal has advised the Town this is not needed as the Town Manager is able to do this within the budget categories. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to reopen current Article 43 - increase line item by 5%, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 4-0. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to not include any Article in the official warrant to increase line item by 5%, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 4-0.
- Article – LAND USE ORDINANCE: Changes were discussed. John Parent suggested listing the appropriate sections of each Land Use Ordinance change. Milt Wright commented on the vague wording in the informational handout. Mrs. Shaw will follow up with Paula Clark. Action **tabled** until further information is known.
- Article – TRAILS AGREEMENTS/EASEMENTS: There was a discussion. Mr. Durgin said he does not want the Select Board to appear 'anti-trail' with the use of no tax dollars in the wording. Gary Keilty explained his opinion on easements. There was a continued discussion. **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to accept the following for trail agreements/easements as the Board deems necessary: 'Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into trail easements and agreements based on criteria established by the Select Board, with private property owners as negotiated by the Trails Committee for trails/pathways on private property', **second** Mr. Curtis; **motion** to amend by Mr. Dunham to change to 'as the Board deems appropriate', **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote** on amendment 4-0; *discussion* – Mr. Curtis said he would vote in agreement even though it was against his personal belief. He said the trails are a positive feature for the Town. **Vote** on original motion as amended 4-0.
- Article – TRAIL AGREEMENT: **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to include in this year's warrant a Community Pathway Trail Agreement to include a corrected spelling of 'previous' to 'previously' signed trail agreement between the Town of Readfield and the Union Meeting House for a pathway, **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote** 4-0.
- Article – ACCEPTANCE OF NEW TOWN ROADS: The proposed rewording was discussed. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to reopen current Article 49 - Acceptance of New Town Roads, **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote**

4-0. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis for the Acceptance of New Town Roads Article to read ‘Shall ordinances entitled Acceptance of New Town Roads’ adopted in 1986 and in 1990 be repealed because new Road Standards were adopted as part of the Land Use Ordinance adopted June 12, 2014, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; there was discussion on the word ‘adoption’. Grammatical corrections were noted. **Vote** 4-0.

- Article – TAX LEVY: Action **tabled** based on total dollar amount is unknown.
- Article – REDUCE THE TOTAL TAX COMMITMENT: Action **tabled** until further discussion at the next Select Board meeting.
- Article – ORDINANCE ENTITLED TOWN OF READFIELD ADMINISTRATION ORDINANCE: **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to address the ordinance entitled Town of Readfield Administration Ordinance, **second** by Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 4-0. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham that the Article Ordinance Entitled Town of Readfield Administration Ordinance read “(Mr. Dunham read the Article as it appeared in the draft handout, except to drop the bullet that was crossed out)”, **second** Mr. Curtis; there was a discussion on grammatical corrections. **Vote** 4-0.
- Article – TOWN MEETING VOTE: **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to reopen the Article entitled Town Meeting Vote, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 3-1 (Dunham opposed). **Motion** by Mr. Curtis for the Article on the warrant for a Town Meeting Vote should read ‘do you advise the Town to vote by secret ballot on warrant articles at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting?’, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; *discussion* – Mr. Dunham said he wants it to read like it did previously. **Vote** 0-4. The language ‘should the Town continue to use the secret ballot process for the 2016 annual Town Meeting’ was so **moved** by Mr. Curtis, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 3-1 (Dunham opposed).

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Recorded by Deborah Nichols