

**Readfield Select Board**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes April 21, 2015 – approved 5-4-15**

**Select Board members present:** Sue Reay, Valarie Pomerleau, Thomas Dunham and Allen Curtis.

**Others attending:** Teresa Shaw (Interim Town Manager), Karen Peterson, David Erb, Andrews Tolman, Pamela Osborn, John Moran, Deborah Peale, Fran Zambella, Grace Keene, Debora Doten, Lenny Reay, John Parent, Rob Peale, Milt Wright, Donna Witherill and Robert Bittar.

The Board met at 6:00 pm for an executive session.

**Motion** by Mrs. Reay that the Board has negotiated the amount of \$9,487.18 with legal counsel for union representation in the executive session, **second** Mr. Curtis; there was brief discussion. **Vote** 4-0-0.

Mrs. Reay reconvened the meeting at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

**1) MINUTES:** **Motion** by Ms. Pomerleau to approve the minutes of 04/06/2015 as amended, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0-0.

There was a discussion about the minutes of 04/07/2015. Mr. Curtis and Mr. Dunham disagreed with the notes and expressed they were not an accurate representation of their intent. Mr. Curtis said he has received an email asking for his resignation due to this and he would like the minutes changed. Mr. Dunham said he would comply with the law, but acknowledged his frustration at the number of FOAA requests. Mrs. Reay said the Board does not currently have an email policy and she is waiting to hear from MMA legal to address this because two Board members did request to have their emails removed. There was a continued discussion on the wording of the minutes. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to approve the special meeting minutes of 04/07/2015 as amended, **second** Mr. Curtis; 3-0-1 (Mrs. Reay opposed).

**2) WARRANT:** Warrant #21 was reviewed by Mr. Dunham. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to approve Warrant #21 in the amount of \$42,563.55, **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote** 4-0-0.

**4) (Out of order) TOWN MANAGER:** Mrs. Shaw noted the request for fireworks to be held at the Town Beach for a KVYMCA camp event. **Motion** by Mrs. Reay to have the Town Manager sign the fireworks request to use the Town Beach for the Julia Clukey Camp, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0-0.

**3) SELECT BOARD:**

- Mrs. Reay spoke in regard to the RCUC disclaimer on the website. Some residents have brought it to her attention they do not feel it is appropriate. Mr. Dunham and Mr. Curtis would like to leave it on the website. Ms. Pomerleau expressed she does not have an opinion, but that RCUC is not part of the Town. The consensus of the Board was to leave it on the website for now.
- Mrs. Reay noted the labor union has contacted the Town to establish a date to meet. Legal counsel has suggested a different negotiator would be less expensive than attorney representation. Mr. Curtis said he would like to be part of the team because he has some experience negotiating labor contracts. Mr. Dunham said he would like to bring to the table the perspective of a self-employed business person. Ms. Pomerleau said she does not have a problem being on the committee. An executive session was scheduled for 04/27/2014 at 4:30pm for labor negotiations. Mrs. Shaw will email the health insurance premium options to the Board. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to have Ms. Pomerleau and Mr. Curtis be part of the negotiating team for the upcoming union negotiations, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; there was a discussion. **Vote** 3-0-1 (Mrs. Reay opposed).

**TOWN MANAGER (continued):**

- Mrs. Shaw said Darryl Brown is not available to serve as moderator for candidate's night or the public hearings. She has another option for moderator and will contact him.
- McGee Construction's last payment is due soon and the Dudley Plains Cemetery fence was plowed down over the winter. The Board will take a look at it before making a decision. Karen Peterson gave a description of the damage.

- Mr. Dunham talked about the Giles Road Bridge. A resident contacted him and he has looked at it. Mr. Dunham said it needs to be addressed as it is an eyesore and it is deteriorating. It is a safety issue because the snowplow cannot turn around. He mentioned consideration of a pedestrian bridge only. He suggested the Road Committee study some options for the bridge. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Road Committee to look into it. Mr. Dunham also asked if the Road Committee should be working RFPs for upcoming road work and paving. Ms. Pomerleau would like to discuss putting out RFPs for plowing, the sidewalk and mowing. She feels these should be done each year in order to determine the cost effectiveness. She mentioned turning the sidewalk plowing over to the RSU and giving them the Holder. Mrs. Shaw reminded the Board the Town made a contract with DOT to maintain the sidewalk for 20 years. Mr. Curtis noted although the RFPs can be put out it does not mean they will be accepted.
- Lenny Reay asked how the Board plans to put an RFP together for the sidewalk when the previous cost is unknown. There was a continued discussion. **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to give 3 directives to the Road Committee: (1) investigate and give the Select Board a recommendation on the Giles Road Bridge, (2) draft RFPs for any road work, and (3) draft RFPs for the paving work for 2015-16, **second** Mr. Curtis; discussion – John Parent said the Road Committee considered the Giles Road Bridge situation 6 or 7 years ago and the cost was approximately \$75-125,000 at that time. The underpinning had to be replaced even though it is historic. He said it should be looked at again, but at that time, 100% of the people who lived on that road wanted to keep it closed. Mr. Parent said he viewed it a month ago and agreed it was in bad shape. If it is decided to put in a bridge, that road would need to be reconstructed. He also said in regard to plowing, a resident on that road is in agreement to put a turnaround on his property. He said it would be nice to have a town manager/road commissioner available when this is done. DOT is not willing to pay for it. **Vote** 4-0-0.
- There was a discussion on RFPs for town plowing and mowing and cemetery mowing. Ms. Pomerleau will talk with Mrs. Shaw to research the existing information on these projects.

**5A) FIELDS COMMITTEE:** David Erb, Chair of the Ball Field Committee, spoke of safety concerns expressed at a recent fields committee meeting. It was suggested to have safety signs posted near the entrance. He distributed internet research he has done and asked who will be paying for the signage. Mrs. Shaw suggested the funding for this would be under ‘roads’. David Erb also discussed the Giles Bridge and said he works in the field of composite bridges at UMO. He would be happy to facilitate a discussion with the company and possibly negotiate a deal with the Town and/or talk with the Road Committee. He referred the Board to the UMO website for more information. Mr. Dunham mentioned asked what the speed limit on the Church Road.

## **6) APPOINTMENTS:**

- **Cemetery Committee:** There were two applicants for one opening. Both applicants, Andrews Tolman and John Moran, were interviewed by the Board. There was a lengthy discussion with many public comments. **Motion** by Ms. Pomerleau to appoint John Moran with a term to end 6/30/2015, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0-0. John Moran made comments about his general disappointment with how the Select Board has functioned.
- **Appointment Policy Ad Hoc Committee:** **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to appoint Henry Whittemore, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; there was a discussion. **Vote** 3-0-1 (Mr. Dunham opposed). **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to appoint Clif Buuck, **second** Mr. Curtis; discussion – it was noted this appointment would be as a committee member. **Vote** 4-0-0. **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to appoint Rob Peale as a committee member effective immediately until the committee has fulfilled its goals and responsibilities, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0-0. It was noted the Appointment Policy Ad Hoc Committee is now full and the ad should be taken down.
- **Library Board of Trustees:** **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to appoint Donna Witherill effective immediately for a term to end 06/30/2016, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 4-0-0.

- **Motion** by Mrs. Reay to regretfully accept the resignation of Peter Barengo from the Cobbossee Water District effective tonight, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0-0. Mrs. Shaw will advertise for this opening.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Mrs. Reay said the report from MRI will not be received until this Wednesday since Mr. Jutton is serving on jury duty.
- Mrs. Reay has not heard from MMA regarding Board email accounts.
- Mrs. Reay asked the Board to review the secret ballot informational sheet individually and respond to Mrs. Shaw if there are any changes.
- Ms. Pomerleau distributed a draft of the info sheet that she worked on with Mr. Dunham. The Board agreed to review it and suggest any changes to Mrs. Shaw.
- Mrs. Reay distributed an updated town manager job description draft for the Board for review. Mrs. Shaw will forward the updated ad from Ms. Pomerleau to the Board.

**Motion** by Mrs. Reay to take public communications out of order, **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote** 4-0-0.

**Motion** by Mrs. Reay to extend the meeting to 9:30 pm or earlier, there was no second, motion failed.

**Motion** by Mr. Curtis to give public communications the time allotted and to extend the meeting to 9:05 pm, **second** Mr. Dunham; **vote** 2-0-2 (Ms. Pomerleau, Mrs. Reay opposed).

**PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:** Mrs. Reay read the Public Communications Policy.

- Fran Zambella expressed concern about the recent communications in the *Advertiser* that were presented by a special interest group. He gave much credit to the Board to initiate the movement for a secret ballot.
- Lenny Reay asked about the truck maintenance log. He received info from Mr. Curtis and Mrs. Shaw, but felt this was incomplete. He asked for a running cost sheet for the truck. Ms. Pomerleau addressed his question about the air compressor.

**Motion** by Mr. Curtis to extend the meeting until 9:15 pm, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 3-0-1 (Mrs. Reay opposed).

- Bob Bittar said it is easy to use spreadsheets for a vehicle maintenance log. He also said he appreciates everyone here and the time they give to the Town. He thanked the Conservation Committee as well.
- Mr. Dunham commented he is of the opinion the Town has a poor system in place to track the costs of the truck and the Board should be looking into establishing a better system. Lenny Reay said he would like this too, along with the costs of other Town projects.

**8) DRAFT CRITERIA APPOINTMENT POLICY AD HOC COMMITTEE – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Mrs. Reay would like the committee to have as a directive the MMA suggestion to not have chair recommendations and to also address a possible email communications policy.

**9) LEGAL RFP:** Tabled until next meeting.

**10) LIBRARY PAINTING RFP:** There was a discussion on the quality of work and the lack of specifications from Frank D's Painting bid. Board consent was given to direct Mrs. Shaw to obtain additional information from Frank D before voting on the proposals.

**11) PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY 1<sup>ST</sup> REVIEW:** Tabled to next meeting.

**12) OTHER:** Mrs. Reay commented on a Google link in the cloud from the budget survey that has the full survey posted un-redacted. She received this link from a resident. Mr. Curtis said this is not possible because he deleted it. Mrs. Reay will copy and paste the link and send it to Mr. Curtis. There was a continued discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Recorded by Deborah Nichols