

**Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes May 4, 2015**

Select Board members present: Valarie Pomerleau, Sue Reay, Greg Durgin, Allen Curtis, Thomas Dunham
Others attending: Shannon Gould, William Starrett, Kristie Hutchinson (PEG TV), Teresa Shaw (Interim Town Manager), Robin Lint (Town Clerk), Christine Sammons, John Parent, Milton Wright, Grace Keene, Sandra Rourke, Pamela Osborn, Gene Carbona, Francis Zambella, Lorraine Wagner and Debora Doten.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Sue Reay, Chair. The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

(1) Minutes:

- **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to accept the minutes of 4/16/15 as written, **second** by Mr. Dunham; **vote** 5-0 in favor.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to accept the minutes of 4/21/15 as written, **second** by Mr. Dunham; **vote** 4-0-1 in favor with Mr. Durgin abstaining because he was not present at the 4/21/15 meeting.
Mr. Dunham said that the last line in section 5A was wrong and that he asked what the speed limit was on the Church Rd.
Motion by Ms. Pomerleau to reopen the last vote, **second** by Mr. Dunham; **vote** 5-0 in favor.
Motion by Mr. Curtis to accept the minutes of 4/21/15 as amended, **second** by Mrs. Pomerleau; **vote** 4-0-1 in favor with Mr. Durgin abstaining because he was not present at the 4/21/15 meeting.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to accept the minutes of 4/27/15 as written, **second** by Mr. Dunham; **vote** 5-0 in favor.

(2) Warrant: The warrant was reviewed by Mr. Durgin. **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to accept warrant #22 in the amount of \$330,550.22, **second** Mr. Curtis; **vote** 5-0 in favor.

- The Board discussed the damage to a cemetery fence on the Plains Road and whether the snow plow contractor should be held responsible for the damage before his last check is released.
- It was the consensus of the Board that the contractor should not be held responsible because the fence is in the town's right of way and the amount of snow this year was extraordinary.
- The Interim Town Manager will let the contractor know of the damage to the fence so he will be aware of it next year.

(3) Select Board communications and goals update:

- **7. Select Board E-mails:** Mrs. Reay reported that she has received a legal ruling on the board members wanting to have their Select Board e-mail accounts shut off. Legal services said there is no State law requiring towns to assign town email addresses or requiring board members to use town-provided email addresses. Legal also recommends that the board take a vote to that effect and then instruct the town manager to arrange to eliminate town email addresses for the board members who decline them.
- Mr. Durgin said that he was not at the last Select Board meeting in which the minutes of the April 7, 2015 meeting minutes were changed and approved. Mr. Durgin said if he was there he would not have voted to change the minutes.
- Mr. Curtis explained that while the board was in negotiations with the Union that the Select Board and the employees could not talk about contract negotiations. Mr. Curtis said that the board needed to appoint a Chief Negotiator to sign any tentative contracts. It was the consensus of the board that they needed more information on that before they would appoint someone.
- Mr. Dunham asked for the board's direction to finish up the informational description sheet that Ms. Pomerleau and he had been working on. The board said it looked good and that the last sentence should

read: Presently the Town of Readfield has a mil rate of 18.5%. It should also say “This information is being provided by the Readfield Select Board.

- Mr. Durgin asked that the Appointment Policy Adhoc committee directives be put on the next meeting agenda for a second reading.
- RFP’s for roadwork: Mr. Dunham asked if the Road committee could work on the RFPs for the summer roadwork. Mr. Parent said the Road Committee has never done the RFPs in the past and didn’t feel that it was the responsibility of the volunteers of the Road Committee to do the RFP’s. It has always been the Road Commissioner/Town Manager who did the RFP’s to make sure that all the legal wording was added to protect the town.

Motion by Mr. Dunham to reopen his motion of April 21st concerning the directives to the Road Committee, seconded by Mr. Curtis. Vote 4-0-1 in favor with Mr. Durgin abstaining because he was not present at the 4/21/15 meeting.

Motion by Mr. Dunham to amend his motion to include the Road Committee in collaboration with the Road Commissioner to work on the three directives and have the RFP’s ready for the first week of June’s Select Board meeting, second by Mr. Curtis. Vote 5-0 in favor.

- Mrs. Reay reported that they do not have a moderator for Candidate’s night. If one is not found the Interim Town Manager offered to do it. There are moderators set up for the two public hearings on May 27th and 28th.

(11) Emporium Liquor License Public Hearing:

- **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to take agenda item #11 out of order, second by Ms. Pomerleau. Vote 5-0 in favor. Mrs. Reay opened the Public Hearing on the Emporium’s Liquor License renewal at 7:30 pm. Seeing no questions from the public or the board, Mrs. Reay closed the public hearing at 7:39 pm.
- **Motion** by Mrs. Reay to approve the liquor license for the Emporium from 6-10-2015 thru 6-9-2016, second by Mr. Durgin. Vote 5-0 in favor.

(6) Municipal Resources Inc:

- Mr. Durgin gave his observation of the process. Mr. Durgin said that Mr. Jutton never asked him a question but Mr. Durgin did get to ask Mr. Jutton two questions. Mr. Durgin went on to say that Mr. Jutton seemed to be pushing his business and resume.
- Mr. Curtis said he wasn’t 100% satisfied. Mr. Curtis said he had higher expectations but realized that Mr. Jutton only had 8 hours or so here in town. Mr. Curtis would have liked to see a road map of what direction the town should be going in.
- Mrs. Reay also expressed her disappointment in the process and results. Mrs. Reay will send Mr. Jutton a letter in response to the report and express the board’s disappointment.
- Mr. Parent expressed his disappointment with the board in going around their own Purchasing Policy. The original proposal from MRI was for \$1,000 which would have required the board to go out to bid. Mrs. Reay explained that the companies that do this kind of work are very rare so it would have been hard to find other business to bid on it. MRI was willing to do it for \$999.00 which kept it under the bid requirement amount.

(8) Town Manager’s Job Description:

- Added: Required to live within 30 minutes of driving time under normal weather conditions. Several other amendments were added and deleted. No vote was taken but there was a consensus of the board.

(9) Town Manager's Job Ad:

- The Board amended the ad by adding some of the same language as in the job description. No e-mails or fax applications will be accepted. No vote was taken but there was a consensus of the board.

(10) Church Road Signs:

- Discussion on what signs would say to slow traffic in the Fairgrounds property area in the Church Road. Baseball games are now being held on the new ballfield but parking is lacking and it was reported that cars are parking on both sides of the road.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to purchase and install two signs on the Church Road in the area of the trails and recreation area and should read "Recreation Area Use Caution", second by Mr. Durgin. Vote 4-1 in favor with Mr. Dunham voting in the negative.
- Mr. Durgin will talk with Mrs. Dupont of the Recreation Committee about no parking signs for the road side.

(18) Public Communication:

- Mr. Parent announced that the Readfield Citizens Unite Group is doing a roadside clean-up on May 9, 2015. Mrs. Reay said that the trash from the State owned roads could not be brought to the Transfer Station. Mrs. Reay said that the previous town manager had said that last year when some high school kids cleaned-up the sides of Route 17. The State DOT came out and picked it up. Mr. Parent said that DOT only plans on cleaning up Route 202 and asked the board to think about it and maybe bring it back up at tomorrow night's meeting.

(14) Legal RFP's:

- 6 Legal firms sent in proposals. O'Donnell, Lee, Mccown & Phillips, LLC; PretiFlaherty; Shelton Taintor & Abbott; Linnell, Choate & Webber; Eaton Peabody & Bernstein Shur. The Interim Town Manager included a spreadsheet with the breakdown for each firm and their charges.
- **Motion** by Mr. Durgin to extend the meeting to 9:30pm, second by Mr. Curtis. Vote 4-1 in favor with Ms. Pomerleau voting in the negative.
- Mr. Dunham said he would recuse himself from voting or discussing this item if the board agreed he should. Mr. Dunham said he had a personal relationship with PretiFlaherty and has hired them and used them during the charter debate.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to request the usage of the firm Linnell, Choate & Webber to be the town lawyers and request they be our lawyer with no contract, second by Mr. Durgin. Vote 0-5 motion fails.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to invite a representative from Linnell, Choate & Webber and PretiFlaherty to attend a Select Board meeting for the purpose of communicating their firm's ability to perform legal services for the Town of Readfield, second by Mrs. Reay. Vote 5-0 in favor.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to extend the meeting to 9:45 pm, second by Mr. Dunham. Vote 3-2 in favor with Mr. Durgin and Ms. Pomerleau voting in the negative.
- It was the consensus of the board that the Interim Town Manager contact both firms to see if they could meet with the board on May 12th, one firm at 4:30 pm and the other at 5:30 pm.

(15) Library Painting RFP's:

- **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to award the painting contract to Frank D's Painting for \$4,500 for the West and North side of the building, second by Mr. Curtis. Vote 5-0 in favor.

(13) Job Application:

- It was the consensus of the board to make a couple of small changes and okay the application to be used as the town's official job application.
- **Motion** by Mrs. Reay to extend the meeting for 7 more minutes, second by Mr. Dunham. Vote 3-2 in favor with Mr. Durgin and Ms. Pomerleau voting in the negative.

(17) Other: Readfield Citizens Unite:

- Mrs. Reay said she would like to see the disclaimer on the web site state that the **statements** and views expressed by the Readfield Citizens Unite and Voice of the Voter groups are not the views of the Select Board or the Town of Readfield.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to add to the web site disclaimer "that the views expressed by Readfield Citizens Unite and Voice of the Voter do not reflect the views of the Select Board or the Town of Readfield, second by Ms. Pomerleau. Vote 4-1 in favor with Mr. Dunham voting in the negative.

Mrs. Reay adjourned the meeting at 9:56 pm.

Recorded by Robin Lint