

## **Readfield Select Board Special Meeting Minutes May 12, 2015**

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

**Others attending:** Teresa Shaw (Interim Town Manager), Robin Lint (Town Clerk), Pamela Osborn, Robert Peale, Grace Keene, Debora Doten, John Parent, Milt Wright, Eugene Carbona, Kim Whitman, Alex Wright, Thomas Donegan, Lorraine Hall-Wagner, Marty Soule, Harry Grimmnitz, Darcy Whittemore, Henry Whittemore, William Drake, Flo Drake, Sandra Rourke, Robert Bittar and Mrs. Carbona.

Mrs. Reay called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

### **1. Legal RFP – Discussion with two law firms**

The first law firm was **PretiFlaherty** represented by Steve Langsdorf and Kevin Haskin.

- Mr. Dunham opened the conversation by disclosing his relationship with Mr. Langsdorf.
- Mr. Durgin said that he had copies of e-mails between Mr. Langsdorf and Mr. Dunham and asked Mr. Langsdorf if he had initiated the conversation between himself and Mr. Dunham. Mr. Langsdorf said he had and that he had been watching the papers and wondered if the Town would be going back out to bid this year for legal services. Mr. Durgin also asked Mr. Langsdorf if the two had met together which the e-mails had stated might happen. Mr. Langsdorf said they did not.
- Gave a background report on himself and his firm.
- Stated that he did almost 100% labor laws, which is his specialty.
- He would answer e-mails as promptly as possible.
- Would do conference call meetings.
- They would also do and currently does detail billing.

The second law firm was Linnell, Choate & Webber represented by John (Jack) Conway and Curtis Webber.

- Gave a background report on themselves and their firm.
- Their firm has experience with labor law
- Economic development
- FOAA's
- Executive session matters
- Planning Board procedures
- Solid Waste
- Works with towns so not to run up legal cost by having phone meetings.
- Tries to return e-mails the same day or the next day.
- Does detail billing

Mrs. Reay clarified that the Chair and Vice Chair are the only Select Board members that may contact legal services only with permission from the board.

### **2. Other**

Mr. Donagan, from the Recreation Board, was in attendance to discuss the issue of parking on the Church Road during ball games. Mr. Donagan said they could flatten some more of the field to make room for more cars to park. Currently there are only about 35 spaces to park. Mr. Donagan will meet with the Conservation Commission to discuss the matter with them and to get their permission to make more parking spaces. The Conservation Commission was meeting down stairs at the time and Mr. Donagan went to check with them. He reported back later in the meeting saying that the Conservation Commission gave him permission to level the field in order to make more parking space.

Mr. Curtis expressed his concern about the delay in the process of hiring a new town manager.

May 18<sup>th</sup> the board will decide the following:

- Where to advertise
- How long to advertise
- Full or part-time

On June 1<sup>st</sup> the Board will decide who will be involved.

On June 8<sup>th</sup> the Board will look at applications at an executive session workshop at 4:30 pm.

Mr. Dunham expressed his concern about the April 25<sup>th</sup> Community Advertiser article. Mr. Dunham said the information was not totally factual and if the board does nothing to respond to the lies then he felt they were condoning the article and the information in it.

- Ms. Pomerleau disagrees and said doing nothing doesn't mean they condone the information.
- Mr. Curtis said he felt the board was being pulled in two different directions and that the board should not get in the middle of it.
- Mr. Durgin expressed his desire for both groups to get together and talk.
- Mrs. Reay said that everyone needs to agree to disagree.
- Mr. Dunham asked the board take some action.

The consensus of the board was to do nothing about the articles.

The Interim Town Manager sent all the Select Board members an e-mail concerning a resident's request to respond to the disagreement between residents after Candidate's Night. There was a lengthy discussion about what happened and what was said to whom and how people responded to each other. It was the consensus of the board after hearing from everyone involved that there was no need for the board to respond further.

Mr. Parent reported that Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 18 residents met at the Fairgrounds and worked together to clean up town roads. The group picked up 30 bags of trash, 10 bags of returnables, 6-7 tires, 1 TV, a hood of a car and some grills. A big thank you goes out to Kevin Norwood who paid for the tires at the Transfer Station.

**Motion** by Mr. Curtis to enter into executive session for Labor Union negotiations under Title 1 MRSA 405-6-D, second by Mr. Dunham. Vote: 5-0

Entered into executive session at 7:37 pm

Exited executive session at 8:08 pm

Adjourned at 8:09 pm

Recorded by Robin Lint