

**Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes September 8, 2015**

Select Board members present: Valarie Pomerleau, Chair; Thomas Dunham, Vice Chair; Allen Curtis; Christine Sammons and Bruce Bourgoine.

Others attending: Teresa Shaw (Interim Town Manager), William Starrett (PEG TV), Mark Birtwell (Maintenance), Shawn Roderick, Sandra Rourke, Linwood Reay II, Roland Cote, Greg Liembach, John Perry, Laurence Perkins, Wendy Dennis, Shelly Gerstien, William Buck, John Parent, Ann Keilty, Gary Keilty, Robert Peale, Milton Wright and Bonnie Wilder.

Ms. Pomerleau called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#10 DAR Proclamation:

- The Select Board received the annual request from the Koussinoc Chapter (Augusta) of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to do a Proclamation for Constitution Week. With the Chair of the Select Board, Valarie Pomerleau, wearing the traditional hat, she rang the liberty bell and shouted HUZDAH which is tradition of the DAR in celebration of the 228th Constitution Birthday event.

#01 Minutes: Select Board meeting minutes of August 20, 24 26 & 31, 2015:

- **Motion** by Mrs. Sammons to approve the minutes of August 24, 2015 as amended, **second** by Ms. Pomerleau. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
- **Motion** by Mr. Dunham to approve the minutes of August 20, 2015 as amended, **second** by Mr. Curtis. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
- **Motion** by Mrs. Sammons to approve the minutes of August 26, 2015 as amended, **second** by Mr. Dunham. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
- **Motion** by Mrs. Sammons to accept the minutes of August 31, 2015 as amended, **second** by Mr. Dunham. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

#02 Warrant: Warrants 10 & 11:

- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to approve Warrant #10 & 11 in the amount of \$315,940.03, **second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

#03 Select Board Communications:

- Mr. Curtis apologized for a statement he made at a previous meeting. He stated that the Select Board does not have to put a petition on a warrant if they decide not to. Mr. Curtis has done some research and said that the Select Board does have to put a petition article on a warrant for vote.
- Mr. Curtis was concerned about the Transfer Station changes and initiating a project plan. Mr. Bourgoine said that his motion, made at a previous meeting, was to order the signs and implement the recommendations of the SWRC. Ms. Pomerleau is waiting on detail information on the bin covers for the transfer station. Mr. Curtis is going to visit the Town of Harrington who just installed scales at its Transfer Station and to see how using scales has helped their town collect the appropriate fees.
- Mrs. Sammons said she would like to see the board give the public their three minutes of speaking time during the public session. The board should not be interrupting or debating them while they are speaking.

- Ms. Pomerleau announced that the board has hired a town manager pending a background check. The new Town Manager will be starting work on October 1st if all goes well.
- Mr. Curtis thanked the citizens, boards, committees, Select Board and town employees for their hard work on the town budget. He announced that the tax bills will be going out with a reduction in the mil rate from 18.50 to 18.08.

#04 Town Manager:

- Mrs. Shaw, Interim Town Manager, said Mr. Curtis already covered the tax billing information so she had nothing more to report.

#05 Boards, Committees, Commissions & Departments:

- Readfield Library submitted their minutes in the packet.
- Gary Keilty, Chair of the Trails Committee, reported that Mr. Durgin has put the committee in contact with someone at Maranacook School who will be coordinating some man hours from the Maranacook students. The students will come back and volunteer more time in the spring.

#06 Appointment: No appointments.

#07 Resignations: The Board received a resignation letter from John Blouin from the RSU #38 Board.

- **Motion** by Mr. Bourgoine that Readfield communicate, post and advertise notice of the RSU 38 vacancy on its web site and publications of record and to invite letters of interest by September 23rd, the Select Board will appoint a replacement for that position until the next Annual Municipal Election.
- **Motion** by Mr. Curtis to regrettably accept the resignation of John Blouin from the RSU 38 Board of Directors. **Second** by Mrs. Sammons. **Vote** 5-1 in favor.
- **Second** by Mr. Dunham on Mr. Bourgoine's motion to advertise notice of the RSU 38 vacancy.
Discussion: Mr. Bourgoine stated that his intent of the letters of interest being submitted by September 23rd was so that they could be included in the October 5th Select Board packet and the appointee would be able to attend the October 7th RSU Board meeting. **Vote** 5-1 in favor.

#08 Trails:

- The Select Board toured the Mill Stream trail. Ms. Pomerleau said it was a beautiful trail. Ms. Pomerleau also stated that part of the Dam needs to be shored up to make it safe. Mr. Bittar an abutter is working on his place and said he would be willing to pick up the cost of the Dam repairs that need to be done in order to make it safe. Mr. Bittar will have to go through DEP and Planning Board to get that work done.
- Mr. Keilty talked about the old landfill and the proposed trail. He said moving the gate back would allow for parking without doing much work. They would use the old road that just needs some weed wacking done. Mr. Dunham said he was concerned about getting a DEP letter in writing saying the Landfill is safe to walk around. He was also concerned about the road being used for an exit. The new transfer station road was put in because of exiting safety on to the North Road. Mr. Keilty said the amount of traffic is nowhere near the amount of traffic exiting when it was being used as a transfer station road. Ms. Pomerleau asked if the town can get the landfill inspected one more time. Mr. Peale said DEP said they would inspect and write a letter for the town.
- Mr. Curtis thanked Mr. Reay for the volunteer work he did on the beach driveway.
- The Interim Town Manager will write a request to John James of DEP for an inspection of the old landfill and a follow-up letter with their findings, along with their approval of a walking trail on the property.

- Mr. Dunham said he received a complaint from an abutter of the Mill Stream property about some brush being cut in resource protection. Mrs. Keilty, Chair of the Trails Committee said they have not cut brush there. Mr. Keilty explained the plans of the Trails Committee and how Mr. Bittar has offered his help with material and financial fund raising for the project. Mr. Keilty said the Trails Committee had not cut any brush and could not be responsible for other neighbors and what they were doing or might do.

#09 Phone Systems:

- Mr. Curtis received some information today but did not have a chance to forward it to the board. Mr. Curtis said after the numbers were run on several phone companies, OTT still has the best deal. Mr. Curtis said the current phone bill is about \$350 per month and the new one would be lowered to around \$312 per month. Mr. Curtis explained that the current hard wire fax line would be replaced by OTT with an e-fax line and that would save the Town about \$38 per month.

Motion by Mr. Bourgoine to authorize the Interim Town Manager to proceed with this contract based on the numbers that Mr. Curtis quoted in the due diligence he has done. **Second** by Mr. Curtis.

Discussion: Mr. Curtis will get the Town Manager the proposals and contact names and numbers. Ms. Pomerleau asked that the information that the Town Manager receives from Mr. Curtis be shared with the board first. Mr. Dunham said he would like to see the proposal before he gives his approval.

Vote 3-2 in favor with Ms. Pomerleau and Mr. Dunham voting in the negative. Ms. Pomerleau and Mr. Dunham both expressed their vote was because they did not have the information in front of them.

#11 Town Farm Forest:

- Mr. Bourgoine will contact Mr. Hunter, Chair of the Conservation Commission, to set up a date that is mutual for Commission and the new Select Board Members to walk and tour the Town Farm Forest.

#12 Emergency Operations planning:

- Mrs. Shaw, Interim Town Manager, spoke with Lee Mank, the Fire Chief, and Mr. Mank requested that the board put off the Emergency Operations discussion until January of 2016. In 2016 the Town would have a new Town Manager and Kennebec Valley Emergency Management will have a new leader in place.

#13 Luce Road:

- Mr. Roderick from the Luce Road has wild parsnip growing in the ditch in front of his home which he says is a safety issue for his family. Mr. Roderick wanted the Town to dig out the ditch to destroy the parsnip. The Road Committee said they would not be back to ditch the area unless there is a problem with water flow. Mr. Roderick will contact his attorney to come up with an agreement between him and the Town to protect himself should he decide to have the ditching done himself.
- Luce Road drainage recommended fixes from the Road Committee: After a meeting was held tonight by the Road Committee Mr. Leimbach, Chair of the Road Committee, reported that the Road Committee decided on three things.

1. Out cropping of ledge (the lower one) be removed and an 18" cross culvert be installed to accommodate the low ditch on the east side of the Luce Road north of the Route 17 intersection.

Also the out cropping that comes out into the road be removed. The Road Committee believes that can be done with a thumb and will not have to be blasted. The Road Committee estimate the cost to be approximately \$10,000 and the funds would be available from the Summer Road budget line. The Road Committee recommends that the work be done this year before winter.

2. The Town should get an easement from the abutter who has currently given a verbal agreement to put that cross culvert in.
3. The Town's Road Commissioner should notify the Road Committee any time road work is being done so that the Road Committee would have the opportunity to look at the work.

- **Motion** by Mr. Bourgoine to proceed with RFP's as out lined by the Road Committee.

Discussion: Mr. Dunham stated that he was concerned as to where the Summer Road budget was stood now. Mr. Leimbach said that he was told during the meeting that some road projects have come in under budget and that the \$10,000 could be accommodated. The Road Committee will review the RFP drawn up by the Interim Town Manager next week at their meeting. The Interim Town Manager will work on getting an easement drawn up to be signed before work is started.

Second by Mr. Dunham. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

More Discussion: Mr. Perkins said the project could be done in two stages. First by hiring someone with a whole ram for a day for about \$2,500. Second, a simple RFP for the culvert work.

#15 Maranacook Dam:

- Wendy Dennis from the Maranacook Dam Committee was present and thanked the Select Board for the opportunity to vote on the Maranacook Dam articles again. Ms. Dennis said after receiving the results of the vote the Committee met the next day. The Dam Committee received five proposals and is unwavering and unanimous that GEI Consultants be chosen for the Dam Renovation Preliminary Study.

Motion by Mr. Curtis to accept the GEI Consultants proposal for the Maranacook Dam Renovation Preliminary Study and to have the Interim Town Manager, Teresa Shaw, sign the contract. **Second** by Ms. Sammons. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

#14 Interlocal Agreement- in Wayne:

- A lengthy discussion on the cost to Readfield for the Interlocal Agreement and if all expenses are being charged out to Wayne.
- The board decided that they had time to have another discussion at the next meeting before they would meet with Wayne to discuss all interlocal agreements and the cost to Readfield.

#17 Members of the public may address the Select Board on any topic:

- Mrs. Rourke said that she could not reach Mr. Bourgoine and Mrs. Sammons by phone. Mrs. Rourke said she had tried their numbers and got no answer. Mr. Bourgoine asked her to let the phone ring long enough for his answering machine to come on and he would return her call. Mrs. Sammons said she does not have a land line and offered up work cell phone numbers that she could be reached at.

#16 Other:

- **Retreat:** Great Results for \$900 is the best option to officiate the meeting. October 9th was the date set for the retreat and Mr. Dunham will check with the church to make sure the room is available. The Board decided on who will bring food and necessities for the retreat.
- **New Town Manager Contract:** Mr. Curtis will get the updated Town Manager contract to the Interim Town Manager so she can forward a copy to legal to look it over.

Motion by Ms. Sammons to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm, **second** by Mr. Dunham. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
Minutes by Robin Lint, Town Clerk from recorded tape.