

Readfield Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2023 – Approved

Select Board Members Present: Dennis Price (Chair), Kathryn Woodsum, Sean Keegan, Steve DeAngelis, Carol Doorenbos (arrived late)

Excused Absent:

Others Attending: Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Ralph Eno, Virginia Parker, Allen Curtis, Doug Riley, Christine Poulin, Joel Parker, Dave Linton, Per Gardner, Eric Winter, Roland Cote, Travis Landry, Don Ettinger, Joan Wiebe, Jennifer Wiebe, Rick Wilson, Darcy Whittemore, Henry Whittemore, Fran Zambella, Greg Durgin, Grace Keene, Penny Eno, James Bourne, Wil & Amy, Jason Foster, Mike, Jill, Noel Madore, Jeanne, Bruce Bourgoine, Bruce Hunter,

Pledge of Allegiance

Regular Meeting Items – 5 min.

23-113 – Minutes: Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2023.

- **Motion** made by Kathryn to approve as amended with two corrections, **seconded** by Sean, **vote 4-0** in favor

23-114 – Warrants #43-44

- **Motion** made by Sean to approve warrants #43 & #44 in the amount of \$54,386.99, **seconded** by Steve, **vote 4-0** in favor

Communications – 15 min.

Select Board Communications – 5 min.

- Sean thanked everyone who assisted with field clean up day at Church Road Fairgrounds ballfields. Sean also thanked the Library for putting on the Star Wars event.
- Steve and Hannah met with the School Board; bathrooms at the track will be opened for soccer, etc. As well, they also will open all the gyms at all the schools to adults in groups less than twenty for public use.
- Dennis shared that the next Heritage Days planning committee meeting will be Sunday May 21st at 1pm at Giles Hall. Heritage Days will be August 11 & 12 of 2023.

Staff Communication – 5 min.

- Town Manager Report – Eric gave the Town Managers Report for May and will provide the Treasurer's Report at the next meeting. Thanks to John Cushing and Scott Horne for their work patching up damage from the big rain storm the week prior.

Public Communication – members of the public may address the Select Board – 5 min.

- Ralph Eno – Would like the Select Board to publicly define the right of way on Church Road so the abutters know where their property lines are and where the town line is to help inform the vote.

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- Eric Winter – Asked if the Senior Citizen hours were cancelled or not, to which Kathryn responded that yes, those had been cancelled as the hours either need to be open to everyone or no one due to it being a government operation.
- Virginia Parker – Asked if the boundaries suggested by Ralph be painted and visible so that other residents who don't live on Church Road can see as well. Virginia also asked if there were any loop holes regarding the Senior Citizen hours at the Transfer Station. The Solid Waste and Recycling Committee will be looking into it a bit more at their next meeting and summer hours are about to open up as well.
- Allen Curtis – Also discussed the Transfer Station hours and urged the Board to open the Transfer Station to open on Thursdays or find a way to make the parking area more handicap friendly.

Old Business – 10 min.

23-077 – Approval and signing of official Town Meeting Warrant, and review of the mailer – 10 min.

- Eric did mention that the numbers in Article 38 were not correct previously but have been corrected to \$217,303.
- **Motion** made by Kathryn to approve Warrant Article 38 with the corrected numbers, **seconded** by Sean, **vote 5-0** in favor.
- **Motion** made by Kathryn that the Select Board sign the Town Warrant for June 13, 2023 as written, **seconded** by Steve, **5-0 vote** in favor.

Public Hearing – 60 min.

The Select Board will hold Public Hearing to discuss the Church Road sidewalk proposal following a presentation by Gorrill-Palmer Engineers.

- The Church Road project has been in the works for a few years and is beginning the design work as of this last winter. Don and Travis from Gorrill-Palmer attended to give a presentation on the two preliminary options they came up with thus far including graphics; each option provided a look at how the sidewalk could look on either side of the road and the pros and cons for each option to include drainage, lighting, tree removal, esplanades and more. Many residents attended to discuss their support or opposition as well as ideas and knowledge regarding the sidewalk placement and details. There was concern about speeding on the road and how to use the sidewalks to manage that current issue. There was also discussion as to where the midblock crossing should be; the possibility of a split road sidewalk, and maintenance upkeep of the sidewalk such as mowing and snow removal. No hard and fast cost has been determined yet for ongoing maintenance associated with the sidewalk. Utility poles were also part of the discussion and it was determined that if there were any need to move the poles, the utility company would be required to pay for that, however they would need to be relocated inside of the right of way.
- Residents who added to the discussion included Doug Riley, Rick Wilson, Christine Poulin, Ralph Eno, Eric Winter, Noel Madore, Virginia Parker, Joel Parker, Joan Wiebe, Jennifer Wiebe, Allen Curtis, Dave Linton, and Per Gardner as well as a letter from Bill Drake summarized by Carol. For further detail, please refer to the video posted on the Town website.

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Motion made by Kathryn to extend the meeting effective at 7:30PM for a period of one hour, **seconded** by Steve, **4-0 vote** in favor

Public Hearing – 15 min.

The Select Board will hold a Public Hearing to discuss a new liquor license application for the Readfield Emporium.

- Ralph Eno – Asked if the Emporium has the operating and health certificates to move forward with the Liquor License as the restaurant has not been functioning in quite some time, curious if it may be too soon for the Liquor License. Eric responded that the licensure happens separately for the state and town, and the town does not question the restaurant licensure in this situation.
- Eric Winter – Misses the Emporium and would love to see it come back.
- Virginia Parker – Stated the Select Board has been pro small business and she thinks the Emporium would be a good addition.
- Dennis closed the Hearing.

New Business – 10 min.

23-115 – Consider a new liquor license application for the Readfield Emporium – 5 min.

- Bob Bittar and the Board discussed his application for a liquor license with a compliance concern to the parking lot under the towns Land Use Ordinance. Spaces needed may not be fully available as some were given to Moon Glow when it opened, and the parking lot that is behind the building would need added gravel to eliminate grass and mud. There was also concern about the doorway between Moon Glow and the Emporium. It was determined that the Select Board would like to have the Planning Board weigh in on the parking lot and connecting doorway issues.
- **Motion** made by Kathryn to table the application until the Select Board can ask the Planning Board to review the parking for the business establishments at 1146 Main Street and determine the required parking spaces for each establishment located there and have that information back in time for our meeting June 5th. **Seconded** by Sean, **vote 5-0** in favor.
- **Motion** made by Sean to extend the meeting 15 minutes, **seconded** by Kathryn, **vote 5-0** in favor.

23-116 – Consider a revised AFSCME 93 Local 2011-00 Collective Bargaining Agreement – 5 min.

- **Motion** made by Sean to accept the Union Contract and Authorize Dennis and Eric to sign it, **seconded** by Kathryn, **vote 5-0** in favor.

Other Business, Upcoming Meetings, and Future Agenda Items – 5 min.

- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:41PM made by Sean, **seconded** by Steve, **vote 5-0** in favor.

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary