

Readfield Select Board Retreat Workshop Minutes – September 11, 2023 – Approved

Select Board Members Present: Kathryn Woodsum, Sean Keegan, Steve DeAngelis, Carol Doorenbos, Dave Linton

Excused Absent:

Others Attending: Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Anjelica Pittman (Boards Secretary), Bill Starrett, Jackie Drouin, Marty Hanish

Pledge of Allegiance

Special Business Item

- 24-027 – To have the Select Board execute borrowing documents for the Maine Municipal Bond Bank associated with the Fire Truck purchase approved at the 6/13/2023 Town Meeting:
 - **Motion** to proceed with the documents and authorize the Town Manager to sign the agreement made by Sean, **seconded** by Steve, **vote 5-0** in favor.

Opening thoughts on outcomes, agenda adjustments and ground rules (Board Chair)

Kathryn welcomed everyone to this year's Select Board retreat, asked for open, honest discussion of goals that members of the board would like to see this year.

Town Manager's thoughts

Eric asked board members to have a civil discourse and be mindful of disagreeing respectfully in order to keep an open dialogue. He also mentioned how small ideas are just as important as big ideas and that the end result is doing what is best for the town and its residents.

Reflections

Looking back on goals from the previous year, many things were accomplished:

- Cannabis applications – Chip and Eric worked together to get the Cannabis applications revised and also revamped the scheduling for those applications.
- Comprehensive Plan Support – The Comp. Plan was worked on extensively by the committee with many surveys completed by residents and was passed by town voters at the June 2023 Town Meeting election.
- Labor contract negotiations – Negotiations were completed; the date for future negotiations was also adjusted to December.

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- Moorings – The ‘wait and see what Winthrop does’ approach was applied here and since Winthrop has decided not to move forward at this time with a Mooring ordinance, this goal was checked off as complete.
- Beach and Weathervane parking – Completed, signs are up and the MUO is in place.

Dinner Break

Considerations

Carry over goals are:

- Town property inventory and management – Jaaron Shaw of the Conservation Commission completed much of this work already, should have it completed soon.
- Volunteer support, recognition, recruitment – During this year’s Heritage Days celebration, volunteers were honored at a potluck dinner which included the Spirit of America awards. Members of the board would like to enhance volunteer support and recognition in the coming year.
- Broadband solutions – Going forward, should change the name of this goal to “cable franchise” to continue pursuing it, and renegotiate with Charter Spectrum.
- Recreation fields and financing – started, voters approved the town moving forward with finding a solution without the use of taxes at the June 2023 Town Meeting.

Goals the Select Board would like to see Eric accomplish are:

- Transfer station review: salt and sand shed specifically.
- Winter roads options, in house or securing a new contract at the end of the current contract.

Ordinance and Policy Review (to be completed by Kathryn):

- Food sovereignty
- Term Limits for appointments
- Governance
- Real Estate
- Purchases
- Personnel
- Finance
- Franchise agreements
- Comprehensive Plan

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- ARPA

Aspirations

New goals for 2023/24 include:

- Fairgrounds – Plan due by December 2023 to be available to vote on by June 2024 Town Meeting (**Sean**)
- Church Street Sidewalk – Currently in the planning phase (2023/24), progress was made and options were presented by the engineers to residents, however they have gone back to the drawing board for various reasons and will meet again to go over new options in the coming months (**Carol**)
- RSU #38 – Made progress with the RSU this year, will continue to collaborate and build community relationship (**Steve & Sean**)
- Community Building – Grow communication, participation, ADA, and volunteer relationships (**Carol**)
- Community Programming Director – To oversee and manage the Beach, Recreation, Library and Fairgrounds as a whole (**Dave & Sean**)

Commitments

Board members will do one minute check-ins on their goals at coming meetings

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary