

Readfield Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2023 – Approved

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

Excused Absent:

Others Attending: Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Chip Stephens (CEO), Ken Edgecomb, Mark Edgecomb, Joel Parker, James Bourne, Howard Lake, Aryan Rai, Readfield Library, Bruce, Grace Keene, Dennis Price, Elaine Katz, Jim, Kathleen Landrum

Pledge of Allegiance

Regular Meeting Items – 5 min.

- 24-038 - Minutes: Select Board meeting minutes of August 21 (revised) and September 18, 2023
 - **Motion** to approve made by Sean **seconded** by Steve **vote 5-0** in favor
- 24-039 - Warrants: #15-18
 - **Motion** to approve made by Carol for warrants 15 & 16 in the amount of \$178,040.56 **seconded** by Steve **vote 5-0** in favor
 - **Motion** to approve made by Sean for warrants 17 & 18 in the amount of \$777,132.73 **seconded** by Carol **vote 5-0** in favor

Communications – 20 min.

- Select Board Communications - Members of the Board may present general information- 5 min.
 - Sean discussed the upcoming Readfield Spooktacular taking place October 28, 2023 at the Readfield Fairgrounds on Church Road, which entails:
 - Trunk or Treat from 4:30pm-6:00pm
 - Pumpkins Aglow from 4:30pm-6:00pm, presented by the Readfield Union Meeting House and the Readfield Community Library
 - Movie Night from 6:00pm-8:00pm with a showing of E.T.
 - Sean also mentioned that the new middle school score board had been unveiled and was nice to see.
- Staff communication - 15 min.
 - Town Manager's Report – presented by Eric and attached to the agenda
 - Treasurer's Report – September – presented by Eric and attached to the agenda
 - CEO Report - July-September – presented by Chip and attached to the agenda
- Boards, Committees, Commissions & Departments - 5 min.
 - Board and Committee Minutes (listed separately)
- Public Communication - Members of the public may address the Select Board - 10 min.
 - Bruce Bourgoine – Spoke in remembrance of Ralph Eno, Ralph was a great friend to Bruce and he was a wonderful participant in our community. Ralph's expertise and volunteerism was a real gift to our town. Ralph left Readfield a better place and he will be missed.
 - Dennis Price – Entered into the official record a statement of remembrance and appreciation for Ralph. Dennis mentioned the many ways that Ralph contributed to our community including his time on the Select Board, his effort in ensuring Library and Fire Department renovations were done as well as his work with the Maranacook Food Pantry, especially in getting residents to

Readfield Select Board Regular Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2023 – Approved

vote to donate \$1000 to the pantry. Ralph's legacy is one of giving, kindness, and generosity. Ralph will be missed and remembered by family and friends.

Appointments, Reappointments, and Resignations – 5 min.

- 24-040 - Consider the appointment of Kathy Landrum and Howard Lake to the Fairgrounds Working Group
 - **Motion** to approve the appointment of Kathy Landrum and Howard Lake to the Fairgrounds Working Group beginning tonight through June 30, 2024 made by Steve **seconded** by Sean **vote 5-0** in favor
- 24-041 - Consider the appointment of Bruce Bourgoine to the Board of Appeals
 - **Motion** to approve the appointment of Bruce Bourgoine to the Board of Appeals beginning tonight through June 30, 2025 made by Sean **seconded** by Dave **vote 5-0** in favor
- 24-042 - Consider the appointment of a Warden and Ballot Clerks for the State referendum in November
 - **Motion** to approve Marilyn Palmer as warden for the November election and also approve the slate of election clerks, made by Sean **seconded** by Carol **vote 5-0** in favor

Old Business – 10 min.

- 24-043 - Hear and consider an update on the Fairgrounds Project - 10 min.
 - First meeting and site reviewed six sites, two were of interest. Possibly discussing with the Superintendent at the next School Board meeting. Still in the research and review phase of locating a place to build the basketball court.
- 24-044 - Hear and consider an update on the Church Rd. Sidewalk Project - 10 min.
 - Planning phase going well, information resources available on the town website. Following most recent public hearing the engineers are confident moving forward and effort has been made by all to listen and respond to comments. Next plan will be approximately 50% complete, and then move ahead with a final Public Hearing and feedback, will be submitted to DOT, formal minutes etc. Should take place in January or February, and will include cost estimate with cost and scope of project and town's share of that ready for the Town Meeting in June 2024.
- 24-045 - Review the Select Board Meeting Calendar - 5 min.
 - Board members discussed the meeting dates and agreed to the calendar as proposed

New Business – 25 min.

- 24-046 - Consider Automobile Graveyard Approvals - 10 min.
 - Presented by Chip - **Motion** to approve all three permits (Lucas Auto & Salvage, Ken's Drag In, & Antique Auto) made by Sean **seconded** by Dave **vote 5-0** in favor
- 24-047 - Discuss the Select Board Retreat and Minutes - 10 min.
 - **Motion** to approve made by Sean **seconded** by Steve **vote 5-0** in favor
 - Carol – possibly add a business profile in the messenger to help advertise local businesses
 - Steve – would like to see an increase in areas where there is open land improvement for wildlife
 - Kathryn – will ask for a 1 minute report out from each member at each Select Board meeting.
- 24-048 - Consider Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Goals - 20 min.

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2023 – Approved

- Kathryn would like to ensure employees are taken care of, especially with minimum wage increasing, need to be cognizant of adjusting to deter employee turnover. Eric will get a synopsis ready for the next meeting in October
- Carol would like to see less spending on professional organizations and utilize more residents with similar backgrounds, maybe ask the public first. Post board openings at the Post Office also to get information out.
- Sean would like to see all line items at a finale point (i.e., the salt shed) especially facilities.
- Dave discussed town responsibilities versus personal responsibilities and where to draw that line between the role and scope of services being provided.
- The board collectively discussed affordable housing
- **Motion** to extend for five minutes made by Sean **seconded** by Steve **vote 5-0** in favor
- Carol asked if there are any ARPA funds remaining, Eric responded yes, and that would be a good thing to look at as part of the Budget Goals
- Fiscally conservative while continuing to offer and provide services

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

- **Motion** to adjourn made by Sean at 8:35pm **seconded** by Dave **vote 5-0** in favor

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary