

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, June 13, 2022 – *Approved*

Select Board Members Present: Dennis Price, Kathryn Woodsym, Sean Keegan, Carol Doorenbos (Zoom), Ralph Eno

Others Attending: Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Eric Johnson, Karen Peterson, Pete LaChapelle (Zoom), Hannah Flannery, Scott Horne

Pledge of Allegiance

Regular Business (5 min):

- 22-129 – Minutes: Select Board meeting minutes of March 14 and May 16, 2022.
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve, Sean **seconded**, **5-0 vote** in favor
- 22-130 – Warrants: #48-51
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve warrants #48 & 49, Sean **seconded**, **5-0 vote** in favor
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve warrants #50 & 51, Sean and Ralph **seconded**, **vote 5-0** in favor

Communications (25 min):

- Select Board communications – 5 min
 - Carol discussed encouraging Board and Committee members participating in person versus Zoom, when there are not sick/travel restrictions. Dennis and Eric responded that discussion could be added to the next agenda.
 - Ralph thanked voters for voting him to Select Board; he thanked Readfield town staff, the Planning Board and his colleagues on the Select Board. He wished the best to all on his final night on Select Board and briefed some of the many important issues he was part of while he served on the board.
 - Carol inquired about a resident who is finding the Planning Board process difficult and frustrating. Dennis informed her that the resident is welcome to come to the Select Board meetings and vocalize his concerns during the public communications portion of the meeting, Eric responded that he can discuss the issue with Chip Stephens, CEO, however this is not a Select Board issue, which Ralph agreed to, and added the Select Board should have no active involvement in LUO or Planning Board processes.
 - Kathryn thanked the Select Board for her time on the board.
 - Eric thanked both Kathryn and Ralph for all their time and hard work on the Select Board.
- Town Staff Reports
 - Treasurers Report: May – No unusual activity, audit is complete, the presentation is July 27th, and the fiscal year ends June 30. This month produced fewer journal entries than usual, revenues and expenses are at 92%, receipts are up, revenues are up 40% for the month, 11% year to date. Property taxes are coming in on time, expenses for the month are up, mostly due to roads and maintenance, overall the budget is on track. Ralph added that the projections were better than he anticipated and asked where the funds go, which Eric replied they will be expended, usually after the Town Meeting.
 - Town Managers Report: ¾ time maintenance and transfer station employee has been hired; Eric is interviewing beach attendants currently. Matt and Anjelica have completed their six month probationary period. Comprehensive planning committee break is over; they will be meeting this week. Summer residents meeting and select board retreat coming up, annual town meeting secret vote is June 14, 2022 at the Kents Hill Arena, people are encouraged to come out and vote.

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, June 13, 2022 – Approved

Maintenance and infrastructure-Thank you to Lee Mank for information about the sprinkler system at the Fire Department. Cleaning services are coming back; the hired cleaners did a great job. Personnel shortages at the transfer station have slowed the mowing and maintenance and grounds work around town due to maintenance personnel being pulled away to help out at the transfer station. The Swap N Shop at the transfer station is open again; summer hours for the transfer station are Sundays from 8am to noon. New railings, safety gates, and hoppers are installed, underground electric and utilities to be completed later this summer. Sunday, July 10th will be the household waste day, preregistration is required to participate.

Operations at the Transfer Station in recent weeks have been interrupted by Bob Bittar. The Transfer Station Manager and attendants have asked him to stop obstructing through ways, jumping in front of vehicles to campaign; residents have had to call the police on multiple occasions due to disruptions. At one point the Transfer Station had to close temporarily to mitigate the issue. Bob's behavior has been disrespectful, unlawful, and shameful at the expense of residents and staff safety. The town has tried earnestly to stop him. There is a policy in place to allow freedom of speech while following safety protocol, the Town Manager asks that Bob do the same.

The beach officially opens this week, free for residents with a permit, new swim lines and buoys added this year, no swim lessons will be offered this year due to YMCA staffing shortages.

Kathryn inquired about the efficient operation of the heat pumps upstairs in Giles Hall; Eric responded that issues with the heat pumps have been corrected. Ralph asked if KVCOG is up to speed and if the survey draft is in work, Eric responded that he met with a planning professional, they are working deliberately and hiring a new executive director in the next couple of weeks, duplicate work will not be billed. We have until next June to complete. The in depth survey will be hopefully made available online, but there will be a paper version available if requested.

- Kathryn made a **motion** to move 22-138 up in the agenda, **seconded** by Sean, **Vote 5-0** in favor
- 22-138 - Consider a Winter Road Maintenance Contract with Horne Construction-10 min
 - The town conducted an RFP for winter roads contract and received zero bids. Four contractors showed up for the RFP so the town manager reached out to them and only one, Horne Construction, was interested in developing a proposal. Eric is requesting approval from the Select Board and Scott Horne would like to ensure there will be flexibility with fuel costs.
 - Ralph asked how influxes will be handled. Eric replied that items/add ons not in the contract would be covered by reserves if absolutely necessary. The operating reserve has a healthy budget and overages are manageable. Carol asked if the overall cost would be steeper than Cushing's costs, Eric responded that there was a significant escalation in price with Cushing, but the contract with Horne would be comparable to the one with Cushing last year. Ralph asked what the length of contract would be, if the town was at the point of creating and sustaining a municipal road crew yet. Eric said it has been thought of, and could be a possibility near the end of the Horne contract. Sean thanked the Road Committee for their work. Kathryn commented that it is a huge increase in cost, no one wants the contract, there are supply shortages, suggested the town pursue other alternatives in the future, such as running a department within the town. As well, Kathryn suggested funds be allocated for proposed increase in prices. Ralph suggested

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, June 13, 2022 – *Approved*

the town possibly purchase a tank for worst case scenario diesel storage on site; the tanks are easy to install and last a long time.

- Kathryn made a **motion** to approve the Horne Construction Winter Roads Maintenance contract, Ralph **seconded**, **Vote 5-0** in favor.

➤ **Boards and Committee Minutes:**

- No comments

➤ **Public Communications:**

- Eric Johnson attended, he is on the Age Friendly Committee and running for Select Board, he would like to know where the ambulance that was promised to the Fire Department, he asked if the town is paying \$52K for the ambulance service. Eric Dyer responded that the Winthrop ambulance never promised an ambulance to our Fire Department. Winthrop ambulance is understaffed but they may consider putting an ambulance back at the station and stage there soon. The price is high but there are few other options. Eric Dyer, Carol Doorenbos and Marty Hanish along with MMA are working interlocally to help solve this problem.

Appointments, Reappointments, & Resignations – 10 mins

- 22-131- Reappointments to the following groups – Age Friendly Committee, Appeals Board, Budget Committee, Cobbossee Watershed District, Conservation Commission, Enterprise Committee, Library Board, Maranacook Outlet Dam, Recreation Board, Trails Committee, and the 30 Mile River Watershed Association:
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve all reappointments, Sean **seconded**, **vote 5-0** in favor
- 22-132- Resignation of Eric Falconer from the Broadband Internet Committee
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve, Ralph **seconded**, **5-0** vote in favor
- 22-133-Reappointment of the Broadband Internet Committee as proposed (ad-hoc)
 - Broadband not an ad-hoc is a standing committee. Tabled until next meeting.
- 22-134-Consider the reappointment of the Comprehensive Plan Committee as proposed (ad-hoc)
 - Sean **motioned** to approve, Kathryn **seconded**, **5-0** vote in favor
- 22-135-Consider the appointment of Matt Magnusson to the Recreation Board
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve beginning this evening until June 2024, Sean **seconded**, **5-0** vote in favor
 - Kathryn **motioned** to waive requirement for him to be present for this appointment, Sean **seconded**, **vote in favor 5-0**
- 22-136-Consider the appointment of Greg Leimbach to the Recreation Board
 - Sean **motioned** to approve from tonight through June 2024, Kathryn **seconded**, **5-0** vote in favor
- 22-137-Consider recommending a volunteer for appointment to the MMA Legislative Policy Committee
 - Dennis would like to fill that appointment, Kathryn **nominates** Dennis Price, Sean **seconded**, **5-0** vote in favor

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, June 13, 2022 – Approved

Old Business – 5 mins

- 22-119- Discuss the upcoming Heritage Days celebration in August
 - Dennis presented that Heritage Days will be August 12 & 13 this year, Friday evening the Historical Society will be holding a Wine and Cheese Social. A 50's/60's Sock hop is being considered to add to the schedule of events. Saturday breakfast at the Mason's to benefit MCHS graduates. There will be a book sale at the Fore Department. The historical Society will lead a History Walk at 10am Saturday; there will be several activities around the Art Gallery. A kickball extravaganza is scheduled as well for Saturday and will be open to all ages. Fireworks are scheduled for Saturday at 9:30pm at the beach (the beach will close at 5pm to prepare). Heritage Days has its very own page on Facebook for residents to follow and get updates.

Kathryn **motioned** to extend the meeting until 8:45pm, Sean **seconded**, **5-0** vote in favor

- 22-139- Consider a Solid Waste Tipping and Hauling Contract renewal with Waste Management-5 mins
Pete LaChapelle of Waste Management attended the meeting via Zoom to respond to a projected 5 year contract with built in cost escalators. Ralph asked what metric rate is used for escalators; Pete replied that the first year is a 5% increase, followed by a 6% increase per year after. Kathryn inquired about the term, if a 5 year contract could be renewed for another 5 years, which Pete responded that yes, renewal would be mutually agreed on. Kathryn asked Karen Peterson how the response time was working with Waste Management pickups and Karen responded that the response time is excellent, in many cases pickup is same day, and always professional. Ralph questioned when if ever is our town subjected to minimum charges if tonnage is capped at 4 tons? Pete replied that the average tonnage in Readfield is 5.3 tons per load for demo. Dennis asked Pete if dealing with Readfield Transfer Station is enjoyable, which Pete responded that the Readfield Transfer Station is a finely oiled machine and it is a pleasure to work with Readfield, he tries to meet in person at least once per year. Dennis responded that the Transfer Station is well oiled because of Karen's hard work, and thanked Karen.
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve the contract with Waste Management, Ralph **seconded**, **vote 5-0** in favor
- 22-140- Consider the purchase of a replacement zero turn lawn mower
 - After much research, it is recommended by both Eric and the maintenance staff to purchase outright a new John Deere. Sean and Dennis inquired about using the old mower for onsite use at the ballfields or beach, Kathryn mentioned that would mean non-staff would be using town owned equipment, which could be a liability. Eric said it is possible to keep the old mower as backup; the key thing is to have two reliable pieces of equipment. The Walker would need a few thousand invested to be working, and it probably is not worth it.
 - Kathryn **motioned** to authorize the Town Manager to purchase a new John Deere zero turn, **seconded** by Ralph, **vote 5-0** in favor
- 22-141- Consider a resolve accepting the Kennebec County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2021 Update-5 mins
 - Routine update
 - Kathryn **motioned** Select Board to authorize, **seconded** by Sean, **vote 5-0** in favor

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, June 13, 2022 – Approved

- 22-142-Consider the FY21 Short Form Audit and Supplemental Audit Services-10 mins
 - Managing balances well big drop because of revenue from prior fiscal year. Reserve accounts in addendum – auditors prefer Select Board approval. Overall a good report, some things a little different than the auditor would like to see them so Eric is requesting training for general budgeting. This is not unusual with a new auditor. Full report will be complete by the 27th; cost of training is \$1000. Kathryn mentioned there were some errors in the report such as a road and zip code that need to be corrected. Ralph is unsure what the auditors are unhappy with given the line by line accounts to other accounts transfers. Ralph asked if they want more timely reconciliation, Eric responded that the auditors want Select Board approval, again.
- Kathryn **motioned** to approve the training in the amount of \$1000, address changes to road and zip code errors, Ralph **seconded**, **vote 5-0** in favor
 - Ralph **motioned** to approve the reserve balances, Sean **seconded**, **vote 5-0** in favor
- 22-143-Consider Spirit of America Award Nominations-5 mins
 - Kathryn **motioned** to approve nominations, Ralph **seconded**, **vote 5-0** in favor
 - Spirit of America Awards will be announced at Heritage Days

Other Business, Upcoming Meetings, and Future Agenda Items (5 min):

Sean **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm, **seconded** by Ralph, **5-0 vote** in favor

Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary