

**Readfield Select Board**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 15, 2022 – Approved March 14, 2022**

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**Select Board Members Present:** Carol Doorenbos, Ralph Eno, Sean Keegan, Dennis Price and Kathryn Woodsum

**Others Attending:** William Starrett (Channel 7), Sarah Miller (Channel 7), Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Hannah Flannery

**Executive Session (6:00 pm):**

Dennis called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:35 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

**Regular Meeting Items:**

- **22-098 - Minutes: Select Board Meeting minutes of January 31, 2022**
  - **Motion** made by Dennis to approve the Select Board meeting minutes of January 31, 2022 as presented, **second** by Kathryn. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
  
- **22-099 – Warrants: #33-35 (FY22)**
  - Carol reviewed Warrants #33-35
  - **Motion** made by Kathryn to approve warrants #34 & 35 in the amount of \$75,145, **second** by Dennis. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.
  - **Motion** made by Kathryn to approve warrants #33 in the amount of \$32,000.50, **second** by Dennis. **Vote** 5-0 in favor.

**Communications (30 min)**

- **Select Board Communications (5 min)**

Kathryn: Presented a Brown Tail Moth Brochure from Waterville with information regarding mitigation and minimization of BTM, suggested we make the brochure available for Readfield residents as well.

Sean: Reported a great winter fun day had by all who attended. Maranacook Ice Fishing Derby coming up March 5, 2022, tickets are available to purchase, ticket holders not required to fish.

Ralph: Pleased with pothole work in town that was completed by maintenance

Kathryn: mentioned a great job with snow removal on sidewalks from last snow storm

Dennis: Reminded the public that sand buckets are available to those in need
- **Town Staff Reports (10 min)**
  - **Treasurers Report – February 2022**

Finances in balance, working on accounts for John Hancock, representative scheduled to visit the Town Office February 17, 2022 and the budget is underway and the full draft is available.
  - **Town Manager’s Report**

Email is up and running. Many town vacancies filled, welcome Stephen Kingston, Transportation and Maintenance and Sarah Miller, AV Assistant. Town office closed for President’s Day Monday February 21, 2022, also Eric will be out February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 2022. Comprehensive plan has been pushed out 7 months from November 2022 to June 2023. Ralph suggested comprehensive plan be sent out as a mailed survey. CMP is working on the groundwork for the 5 new streetlights. Fire department sprinkler system on hold until there is more information regarding costs and specific system requirements. Road posting signs going up a couple weeks earlier than usual due to weather. Town cleaning services proving successful. Transfer station staffing stabilized, new employees being trained and the electronic payment

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system is installed and training for that will be done by the end of February. Watershed management discussion in the beginning phases, however Winthrop not interested in interlocal approach. Katherine suggested a 15-20 minute slot be added into future meetings to discuss ongoing projects.

- **Board, Committees, Commissions & Departments (10 min)**
  - Fairgrounds Recreation Improvements Update  
Hannah Flannery attended to provide an update, stated wants & needs completed by all 3 committees, next step is a group review of original plan and revision, seeking public input once working group in agreeance, permits are in work, everyone is getting prepared and a placeholder is in the budget if approved by June.
  - Budget Committee Minutes of January 27, 2022
  - Planning Board minutes of September 28 and November 3, 2021
  - Library Board minutes of January 5, 2022
  - Broadband Internet Committee of November 10, 2021
  
- **Public Communications - *Members of the public may address the Select Board (5 min)***
  - none

**Appointments, Reappointments & Resignations:**

- **22-100 – Consider the appointment of Megan Lachapelle to the Trails Committee**
  - **Motion** made by Katherine to appoint Megan Lachapelle to the Trails Committee, Ralph **seconded**, 5-0 **vote** in favor.

**Old Business – 30 min**

- **21-068 – Consider next steps for investigating broadband internet – 10 min**
  - Wayne, Mt. Vernon and Readfield have cable, may work together to provide broadband, committee awaiting next scheduled meeting on February 16, 2022 for an update with more information.
  
- **22-089 – Discuss Fiscal year 2023 Budget – 20 min**
  - Budget is complex in part due to the pandemic. Capital and labor costs are raising, much investment going into the community, property values are increasing quickly. The budget is considering large projects such as the new Ballfield at the Fairgrounds, a new firetruck and broadband. School budget increased 6-10% but because of the last budget process, there is a reserve account for RSU that is being used to offset increases in the school budget. Mil rate increase could help offset capital costs. Budget workshop is March 3, 2022; information will be given as it becomes available.

**New Business – 15 min**

- **22-101 - Consider pending real estate foreclosures – 5 min**
  - Had 8, now 7 possible foreclosures, which are 3 years past due, however, this is the smallest number of foreclosures in 6 years, and we are seeing an increase in monthly payments. Two

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weeks remain to reach out to homeowners and rectify their accounts, once foreclosed owners will begin 30 day redemption period.

- **22-102 – Consider the financial warrant policy - 5 min**  
Kathryn **motioned** to extend meeting by 5 minutes to handle regular business and finish executive session, and invite Eric to attend, **seconded** by Sean, 5-0 **vote**.
  - Same day warrants are difficult due to available time for review, Eric proposed an entire overhaul/review of the disbursement and municipal warrants to allow extra time for board members to sign for warrants between Monday and Wednesday and report thereafter, the warrants would be publically available at the Town Hall. Kathryn motioned in favor of Eric reviewing and revising the warrant policy by July 2022, Carol seconded, 5-0 vote.
  
- **22-103 – Consider a revised Town Manager Contract – 5 min**
  - Done in Executive Session
  
- **Other Business, Upcoming meetings, and Future Agenda Items – 5 mins**
  - none

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:03pm; **Vote:** Unanimous

*Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary*