

**Readfield Select Board**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – Monday, August 29, 2022 – *Approved***

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**Select Board Members Present:** Dennis Price, Kathryn Woodsum, Sean Keegan, Steve DeAngelis, Carol Doorenbos

**Excused Absent:**

**Others Attending:** Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Sandra Rourke, Marty Soule, Bruce Bourgoine, Henry Whittemore, Ed Sims, Harry Grimmeritz, Bob Marvinney, Greg Durgin, John Tyler, Grace Keene, Marty Hanish and Elaine Katz, Isaiah Stephans, Robert Harris, Ralph Eno, Ben Rodriguez, Christine Sammons, Doug Riley (Road Committee Secretary)

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Executive Session - 30 min**

The Select Board will hold an Executive Session meeting to discuss a legal matter related to a citizens' petition pursuant to 1 MRSA, Section 405, subsection 6(E).

- **Motion** made at 6:04pm by Kathryn Woodsum to enter into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter related to a citizens' petition pursuant to 1 MRSA, Section 405, subsection 6(E) and to invite the Town Attorney and Town Manager to participate. Motion **seconded** by Sean Keegan. **Unanimous**.

Executive Session ended at 6:25pm

**Regular Meeting Items - 5 min**

- 23-015 - Minutes: Select Board meeting minutes of July 18 and 26, and August 3 and 22, 2022.
  - July 18, 2022 – Sean **motioned** to approve as presented, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
  - July 26, 2022 - Sean **motioned** to approve as presented, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
  - August 3, 2022 - Sean **motioned** to approve as presented, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
  - August 22, 2022 - Sean **motioned** to approve as presented, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
- 22-016 - Warrants: #3-8
  - Warrants # 3 & 4 – Kathryn **motioned** to approve, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
  - Warrants # 5 & 6 – Kathryn **motioned** to approve, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
  - Warrants # 7 & 8 – Kathryn **motioned** to approve, Carol **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor

**Communications - 30 min**

- Select Board communications. - 5 min.
  - Kathryn thanked Dennis for a successful Heritage Days celebration
- Staff Reports - 10 min

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- Town Manager Report
  - The beach is closed for the season and will reopen Memorial Day weekend 2023, Thank you to Noah Ward-Rubin and Seth Dunphy for their help this summer. Water quality tests at the beach were excellent due to the cleanliness of the beach.
  - The harboring and mooring public hearing and the residents meeting were successful and Eric thanked those who attended.
  - Crack sealing is complete for the year on Chase Road, Thundercastle Road, Old Kents Hill Road, and Lane Road.
  - Transfer station summer hours have come to an end until next summer.
  - Eric thanked the town and Select Board for their support during trying times for him and his family brought on by another resident.
- Treasurer’s Report – End of 2022, June, & July
  - June
    - Check reconciliation complete
    - Accounts balanced
    - One bounced check from a resident that has been resolved
    - Close of fiscal year went well
  - FY 2021-2022
    - Fewer journal entries than last FY
    - Revenues and expenditures at 100%
    - Maintenance department went slightly over budget which will be accounted for and corrected
    - Checking account balance higher than ever before, town is in a great spot financially
  - July
    - Check reconciliation complete, no unusual activity
    - Beginning the engagement paperwork for the audit, very pleased with R.H. Smith & Company
    - Expenditures up 8% compared to this time last year
- 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.
  - Marty Soul – Shared a quote “true wisdom is knowing when to employ the compassion of understanding and when to employ the fierce compassion of good boundaries” and expressed that now is the time for Readfield residents to speak up. Marty shared her support and

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appreciation of all Eric & his family do for the town, believes Readfield should be a safe town for all.

- Bruce Bourgoine – Hired Eric and appreciates his work and believes Eric and his family should not endure harassment.
- Henry Whittemore – supports community and feels confident in Eric and town staff. He also thanked Eric and the Select Board.
- Ed Sims – Appreciates Eric’s guidance and service to Readfield.
- Harry Grimmitz – Eric has done a marvelous job as Town Manager and is also an excellent neighbor. Greatly sorrowed to hear of the recent events including harassment brought on by another Readfield resident.
- Bob Marvinney – Offers his support to the Town Manager, Eric has always been courteous and respectful. Bob thanked Eric for all he does.
- Greg Durgin – Thanked the Select Board and Eric and offered his support, he believes the people and citizens of this town should treat each other with respect.
- Isaiah Stephans – extends his support to Eric as Town Manager and his neighbor, he hopes the town also supports Eric.
- Bob Harris – stated he is ashamed of what is going on, Eric is a fine and decent man and hardworking and is 100% on Eric’s side.
- Ralph Eno – Supports Eric, unfortunate what Eric and his family have had to go through. Reprehensible behavior diminishes our town, we need to get back on track, stand up for the community. He also thanked the Select Board for standing up for Eric.
- Ben Rodriguez – Thankful and grateful to have Eric as a neighbor and Town Manager and has had only positive interactions with him and fully supports Eric and his family.
- Christine Sammons – Hates to see Eric and his family go through any harassment. She stands behind Eric and his family.
- Bruce Bourgoine stood up again to suggest the Select Board look into creating a spending transparency bill to protect towns from larger corporations advertising against town articles for their own benefit. For instance, during the last Town Meeting vote, Charter through Spectrum influenced Readfield residents to vote against the Broadband article using advertising on social media platforms as well as television commercials.

**Old Business 30 min**

- 22-119 - Discuss the recent Heritage Days celebration - 5 min.
  - Dennis reported that the annual Readfield Heritage Days celebration went really well and operated smoothly. Parking at the beach was beneficial. The open house at Carol’s was popular;

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the Historical Society's Wine and Cheese social event was great. Dennis thanked those who volunteered and helped out to make Heritage Days a success.

- 23-009 - Discuss harbor and mooring considerations in the Town of Readfield - 10 min.
  - The public hearing regarding harbor and moorings on Readfield's lakes went very well and there was much discussion from the community. There are many ways the lakes could be impacted by regulating mooring, anchorage, and boating. The town manager received great advice from the Cobbossee Watershed District. Focused discussion from lake associations and possibly a light ordinance to protect waterfront residents as well as set limits and access to folks who do not own waterfront could be the next step.
  - Dennis felt the two major discussions at the public hearing were mooring and responsible boating.
  - Kathryn cautioned that if mooring regulations are the responsibility of the Select Board and Town Manager that they be careful not to set any ordinances that could not be enforced, especially due to the fact that the lakes are owned by the state not the town.
  - Kathryn noted that the two main issues she saw at the Public Hearing were that people are worried about what's happening in Winthrop, and waterfront owners do not like the way their waterfront views are being obstructed.
- 23-010 - Consider a second reading of the Public Ways, Traffic, and Parking Ordinance - 10 min.
  - Update and clarification of the ordinance include but are not limited to adding control over public spaces, functional changes, and allowing for smaller culvert sizes from 15" minimum to 12" minimum. 12" culvert was chosen as the minimum because it should clog less, and it is less expensive, whereas the current standard of 15" can allow animals and small children possibly through the culvert, and when the culvert is too larger than needed, frost heaving can result. Doug Riley from the Road Committee also mentioned that they would not be increasing penalty fees as previously discussed. However, Doug did request that even with the penalties not being increased, there should be a timeframe established for those penalties, the Select Board agreed upon a 12 month timeframe beginning twelve months from the time of the offense. As such, Section 12F under Enforcement & Penalties will read as "*Penalties under this ordinance may include the removal of personal property or vehicles from the public way at the owner's expense, as well as monetary penalties per 12 month period from the first offense*". As for the parking changes, only the parking in front of the Post Office will be removed, all other parking will stay as it is. There will also be a map in the Appendices of the ordinance to clearly show allowable parking. Kathryn had some concern regarding road opening permits not being issued for public ways paved within two years; however Doug reassured that there are exceptions in emergent or necessary situations.

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- Kathryn **motioned** to approve as amended, Steve **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
- Kathryn **motioned** to extend the meeting, Sean **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
- 23-012 - Consider a new date and time for the Select Board Retreat - 5 min.
  - The board agreed to set the Select Board Retreat date to September 26, 2022 from 5:30PM to 9PM with a working dinner break

**New Business - 25 min**

- 22-017 - Consider taking any required action as a result of Executive Session discussion - 5 min.
  - The board agreed to take the advice of the legal counsel for the town and refused acceptance of the petition
  - Steve **motioned** to approve, Kathryn **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
- 23-018 - Consider a Select Board Resolution on Pig Scrambles - 5 min.

A resolution was created to address some of the concerns and grievances of residents and nonresidents with regard to the health and safety of the pigs used in the Pig Scramble event at the Readfield Heritage Days. The resolution recognizes concern brought on by both residents and non-residents regarding the safety and health of the pigs used in the scramble. The resolution also encourages people with ideas for other activities to please participate in event planning. The final paragraph stated the Select Board would no longer hold Pig Scrambles as a Heritage Days event, however, it was decided to strike the final paragraph from the resolution.

- Kathryn **motion** to approve as amended, striking the final statement from the resolution, Steve **seconded, 4-0 vote** in favor with Carol abstaining from the vote
- 23-019 - Consider a meeting with Matrix Design Group to discuss “infill” broadband service options in Readfield - 5 min.
  - Chris Lynch from Matrix emailed Eric to offer broadband services in Readfield to those residents currently without internet access. Matrix is working with Mount Vernon and possibly Fayette in the near future and extended an invite to Readfield as well. The broadband would be free to install in town and would only cost the subscriber a monthly fee.
- 23-020 - Consider the award of Road Striping Services - 5 min.
  - Eric recommended the bid be awarded to Steve Lucas of Lucas Striping as he is a local contractor and has been doing the towns paving for 10-12 years already.

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- Kathryn **motion** to approve Lucas Striping for the bid of pavement painting, Sean **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor
  
- 23-021 - Consider the award of Paving and Road Maintenance Services for Church Rd. - 5 min.
  - Two bids, one from Pike Industries that was lower cost wise, but did not include a quote for the tree work that needs to be accomplished, and one from Littlefield's which includes the tree work estimate and paving but was the higher of the two quotes. After discussion over what could be afforded this fiscal year and what projects could potentially wait, the board and Eric chose Pike Industries be awarded the bid.
  
- Kathryn **motion** to approve the bid from Pike Industries and include funds for tree and brush work on Church Road, Sean **seconded, 5-0 vote** in favor

**Other Business, Upcoming Meetings, and Future Agenda Items**

- **Motion** to adjourn the meeting made by Sean, **seconded** by Steve, **vote 5-0** in favor

**Adjournment**

*Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary*