

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 20, 2019 6:00 PM

Attendance: Chairman Ronald Frederick, Vice Chairman James Lyman, and Selectman Sallie Wilder. Town Manager Richard LaBelle and Bookkeeper Peter Lyman. Absent: Selectmen Matthew Everett and Joshua Chartrand. Also present for all or parts of the meeting were Firefighter Aaron Gordon, Fire Chief David Jones, and Fire Captain Todd Pineo.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Frederick.

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Review/Approve Minutes of February 6, 2019

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 6, 2019. Seconded by Selectman Wilder. MOTION PASSED.

4. Selectmen's Reports

Selectman Wilder said she has received several compliments on the condition of the Town's winter road maintenance, especially compared to neighboring communities.

Chairman Frederick stated that he contacted the Town Manager regarding several potholes that have opened up on Main Street in the vicinity of the train tracks. The Town Manager has contacted Maine DOT and requested the road repairs be made.

5. Town Manager's Report

See Attached

6. Discussion/Action on February 20, 2019 General Warrant #4

Selectman Wilder made a MOTION to approve General Warrant #4 in the amount of \$174,695.73. Seconded by Chairman Frederick. MOTION PASSED.

7. Discussion/Action on February 20, 2019 Airport Warrant #2

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to approve Airport Warrant #2 in the amount of \$5,615.28. Seconded by Selectman Wilder. MOTION PASSED.

8. Discussion/Action on February 20, 2019 Sewer Commitment

Selectman Wilder made a MOTION to approve and sign the February 20, 2019 Sewer Commitment in the amount of \$13,401.35. Seconded by Vice Chairman Lyman. MOTION PASSED.

9. Public Comment (Limited to 2 minutes)

None

10. Discussion Regarding Fire Department Grant Opportunities, Future Staffing

The Town Manager provided an overview of grant meetings that he has attended with Fire Captain Steve Ireland and KVCOG representative Cary Tyson in an effort to identify grant opportunities that may assist the Fire Department. At a recent meeting, an opportunity was presented to apply for a grant that could subsidize expanded personnel at the department over a period of three years. He also noted the importance of communication between the Fire Department and the Board of Selectmen as transitions come quickly; the Chief has stated that he would be resigning at the end of June 2019 and it is essential that a succession plan be worked on cooperatively.

Fire Chief David Jones provided background on the need to expand daytime coverage, as he and Jeffrey Jones are often the only two available in the daytime. As the Chief looks to retirement, which he notes is now likely one year from now as they await the arrival of the new fire truck, there will be gaps in staffing. This grant could be very important to helping the Town to bridge any gaps. Chief Jones believes that, upon his retirement, the Town will need two full-time firefighters to cover calls within the community.

Firefighter Aaron Gordon spoke about the types of grants and that grants like FEMA's SAFER grant can work for communities of all sizes and address varying needs. Gordon notes that changing demographics and employment practices have drastically changed the availability of firefighters in every community.

Discussions are had between Fire representatives and the Board regarding costs, timelines, and potential implementations. There is also discussion about one versus two potential full-time employees. Representatives from the Department agree to provide an overview presentation at Town Meeting to present such a proposal to the community. This will allow for a more democratic, decentralized decision-making process.

It is agreed that the Town will move forward with developing a grant narrative for the SAFER grant. The investment in this narrative will allow the Town to submit the grant this year, in a timely manner, or make slight revisions in anticipation of a future submission.

11. Discussion/Action on Donations

Selectman Wilder made a MOTION to accept a donation of \$3,000.00 to the Norridgewock Libraries from the Eastman Charitable Foundation. Seconded by Vice Chairman Lyman. MOTION PASSED.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C) to Discuss Economic Development Regarding Waste Management Host Benefit Agreement

Selectman Wilder made a MOTION to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C) to discuss economic development regarding Waste Management Host Benefit Agreement at 6:59 PM. Seconded by Vice Chairman Lyman. MOTION PASSED.

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to come out of Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C) to discuss economic development, regarding Waste Management Host Benefit Agreement at 7:53 PM. Seconded by Selectman Wilder. MOTION PASSED.

14. Adjournment

Vice Chairman Lyman made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 PM. Seconded by Selectman Widler. MOTION PASSED.