

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

William Pullen Building Meeting Room

6:15 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Greg Grotton, Jim Justice, John Shepard, Sarah Drickey and Lyle Cramer

Others Present: Jay Feyler and John Gibbons

1. **Call Selectmen's Meeting to Order:** 6:15 p.m.
2. **Executive Session, Town Manager contract review 1 MRSA 405 (6)(A) 6:15 – 6:30:**

Motion by: Jim Justice to open executive session

2nd by: Sarah Drickey

5-0

Motion by: Jim Justice to close executive session

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

Executive session adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Public Comment:** None
5. **Approve minutes of Tuesday, October 2, 2018:**

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

6. **Approve the Town Manager Annual Review:**

Motion by: Lyle Cramer

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

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7. Vote to approve Town Managers Revised Contract:

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

8. Authorize the Town Manager to move reserve funds:

Jay would like to move reserve funds to First National Bank which has a better interest rate than the current bank. He will also be meeting with the wealth management group to better allocate the funds under Maine law.

Discussion: Sarah asked if that is the best interest rate available. Jay stated that he checked with four different banks and First National is the best at this time. Sarah asked about the term and keeping the money in a CD. Jay stated municipalities need to meet certain guidelines and the wealth management group will advise the best way to make the funds grow the most interest. Sarah inquired about short-term gains and tax. Jay stated municipalities are exempt.

Motion by: Jim Justice to authorize Town Manager to move reserve funds

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

9. Discussion and vote to approve closing on December 24:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey to close the town office on Dec. 24th as a gesture of appreciation for the staff.

2nd by: John Shepard

5-0

10. Sign Treasurer's Warrant dated Tuesday, October 16, 2018

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

11. Town Manager's Report:

The Knox County budget has been handed out. They have a public hearing Thursday, Oct. 18th at 5 p.m. at the Commissioner's office.

The Town has started grading roads. Hopefully they will be finished by November 1st unless there is more rain, which causes delay.

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Jay suggested that the Board should consider sending a letter to the School Board pertaining to their expenditures before they start their budgeting for the year. Residents are finding it difficult to afford the double-digit increases year after year.

Discussion – Lyle suggested drafting a letter. Jim suggested that if a letter is drafted, to ask other towns to do the same; to have Jay contact the other managers. Jay agreed that he can do that. John asked what drives their costs to soar? Jay stated salaries are a large factor. Sarah feels the funds they receive need to be restructured.

John Gibbons has observed the school board budget and the surrounding school budgets. He feels that the district is doing a good job at controlling costs. They have costs that cannot be helped, such as the special education program mandated by the state. An average spending per student is between \$2000.00 - \$3000.00 a year lower than in the Camden district. He is not sure how much more can be cut. It is said that the state does not meet their obligation in the share of the school funding.

12. Other Business:

Motion by: Lyle Cramer to confirm town clerk's appointment of Richard Niles as Warden and Jay Feyler as Deputy Warden for the November 6th election.

2nd by: Jim Justice

5-0

13. Selectmen's Report:

Sarah received a call from a resident inquiring about the air quality in the yoga room at the TCC. Sarah asked if we can get that room tested? Jay stated he is not sure about the results throughout the rest of the building until the full report comes in. The report should be here by the end of the month. There is also an asbestos issue that needs to be taken into consideration.

John received a call about a TCC issue. He stated that the call was pertaining to the Board Chairman harassing someone at the daycare. After further investigation by the local sheriff, Greg was only passing through with his vehicle to visit a relative in Warren. Above and beyond the complaint, John felt compelled to remind Staci, the daycare provider, that it is the Board's responsibility to make sure the children are protected considering the recent discovery of mold on the premises. Staci, the daycare provider, informed John that DHHS has deemed the daycare safe until further investigation.

John also voiced his concern about drivers passing through the stop sign on Depot Street in the center of town. He is very concerned about someone getting seriously hurt or worse. He suggested contacting DOT to see if they can do more to make the intersection safer. Jay stated it happens often, even with the Sheriff patrolling the intersection. Jay will contact the State and make a request.

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Jim inquired about repairs on the grave stones. Jay stated it may take until next year. The insurance adjuster has yet to write up an estimate.

14. Future Agenda Items: None

15. Adjourn:

Motion by: John Shepard

2nd by: Jim Justice

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Patrick
Secretary