

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2021

6:00 PM

1. Call to Order: Brain Smith called meeting to order at 6PM.

2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting: Upon review, Jeff Davis seconded motion of Mike Hinerman to accept minutes as provided. All in favor, motion carried.

3. Adjustments to Agenda: School Use of COVID Funds: Supt. Scott Porter and Principal, Sue Almendinger responded to Selectmen's request to explain use of COVID funds. Both spoke of various improvements / upgrades made to Fort O'Brien physical plant and of the restrictions on the use of such funds. Supt. Porter advised of various grant amounts, amounts spent and remaining balances. Improvements include replacing rug with tile, throughout; UV lighting purifiers, uniforms for teachers, washer and dryer, dishwasher, pre-table, touchless sanitizer, all desks installed with shield, and new computers for all students.

4. Old Business:

A. Payment for firewood: Brian inquired if there were any firewood orders left unpaid. At meeting time, clerk reported only 1 remaining unpaid.

B. Liberty Hall: David Freedberg reported on recent grant funds awarded to Liberty Hall. Presently, the rear of the building is being enclosed and Friends of Liberty Hall request the \$3500 which the Town added to reserve 2 years ago. They further asked that another \$3500 be provided at the next Annual Town Meeting. Selectmen advised the initial \$3500 was already approved and could be issued. The second would have to be added to the Warrant and voted at town meeting.

5. New Business:

A. Road Repair / Summer Issues: Brian spoke of DOT's ZOOM meeting and the benefit of purchasing a crack sealer. Mike Hinerman spoke of having reviewed road conditions and mentioned which need repair. With response to quotes for budgeting purposes, Jeff will speak with County Concrete to get last year's issues resolved and quotes for this year. Brian Smith seconded motion of Mike Hinerman to order package presented by clerk. All in favor, motion carried.

B. Set Budget Meeting Date: After brief discussion, date set for Monday, 4-5-2021.

C. Proposal memo from Don Ficker: Selectmen agreed Mr. Ficker should be invited to next meeting to discuss his proposal.

D. LaVigne Pond: Clerk advised Ms. LaVigne called to remind the Town they had installed a pump at her pond on the East Side and that it is available for use. Mike Hinerman remembered the occasion and advised the pump is inadequate to be used at that location, which is why it hasn't been used.

E. Second Amendment Cities / Towns: Brian Smith advised after consideration, they should revisit the Second Amendment Preservation Resolution and vote. Jeff Davis seconded motion of Brian Smith to support the Second Amendment Preservation Resolution. Mike Hinerman voted in the negative. Jeff Davis and Brian Smith voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

6. Public Comment: Bob Mercer asked for clarification on the town contract with DOT. Jeff Davis explained recent correspondence advising a portion of the road would be reclassified which would mean a decrease of appx. \$8000 in the plowing contract, which would have to be absorbed by the taxpayers.

Robert Arseneault spoke on the use of broadband access in Machiasport. He distributed copies of Rick Heller's article on the topic from Roque Bluffs.

Sue Almendinger inquired about the dumpster at Liberty Hall which is too close to the road. All agreed and advised it will be moved next week.

Carmine Defalco stated he thought the broadband issue should be explored. Discussion ensued.

7. Selectmen's Report: **Brian** mentioned discussion of dedication of Annual Report wherein clerk suggested Bettina Thompson. **Both Jeff and Mike agreed to the suggestion.** Annual Report will be dedicated to Tina. **Jeff** and representatives of other towns participated in a ZOOM meeting with Susan Collins. He reports they made clear to the Senator their concerns regarding "double dipping" by Washington Academy and their increasing fees. **Mike** to invite WA delegates to next Selectmen's meeting 4/26. **Brian** will attend the County Commissioners meeting which is the 2nd Thursday of the month, April 8.

8. Clerk/ Treasurer's Report: Included in binder

9. Tax Collector's Report: Included in binder.

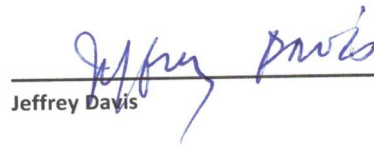
10 Executive Session: 7:26 PM Mike Hinerman seconded motion of Brian Smith to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (c) for the discussion of personnel and property issues. All in favor, motion carried.

7:46 PM Brian Smith seconded motion of Mike Hinerman to exit Executive Session. All in favor, motion carried. Jeff Davis seconded motion of Mike Hinerman to act on items discussed in Executive Session to include placing New Hickey Rd property to bid and acting on foreclosures.

11. Adjourn: Jeff Davis seconded motion of Brian Smith to adjourn. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.




Brian Smith



Jeffrey Davis



Michael Hinerman



Marcia Hayward / Clerk