



## SELECTMEN'S MEETING

FEBRUARY 14, 2023

### MINUTES

**Selectmen in Attendance:** Dick Norcross, Ricky Emery; and John Hicks.

Attendees: Fire Chief, Richard Perreault; Public Works Director, Cliff Cousins; Dana Forcier, Jr.; Patrick Bryant; Joe Egan; Animal Control Officer, Cindy Eaton; Dan Larson; Whit Lucy; Hailey Boudreau; Bruce Collins; Planning Board Chair, Sonia Frye; Steve Gourley; Recreation Director, William Tracy and Ada Lane.

**Payroll and A/P Warrants** were approved.

**The Minutes of the February 7, 2023 Meeting:** Dick motioned, John second to approve the minutes. Voted affirmative by a show of hands.

**Planning Board Chairman, Sonia Frye:** Spoke on changing the marijuana fees and read the proposed new initial and renewal fees. Dick said he feels the new renewal is way too low. Discussion was ensued. John made a motion, Dick second that the application fees and license fees, the initial fees stay the same and the renewals be passed. Voted affirmative by a show of hands.

**Dana Forcier:** Offered to pay half of the cost of one hour of the legal expense for a third-party perspective of the documents. Rick said with the documents that have been put forward there is no way it could be done in an hour. John made a motion to submit the documents that were presented to the Board to Bern Stein Shur for them to review and report back to the Selectmen and the Town exactly what they mean to the citizens of the town. Rick asked for a dollar amount and John said he can't give that. Rick wants to have the Board try to do this intown. Discussion ensued and it was agreed to meet on Thursday at 3:30 PM with the Planning Board and Comprehensive Plan Committee. Rick asked what is the absolute worst that can happen, John replied that the Comprehensive Plan passes and broadsides the Community. Joe said they are not broadsiding anyone, they have had meetings and answered questions, that whatever the Planning Board did or didn't do, it shouldn't affect the Comprehensive Plan and it should move forward. Bruce said that if the lawyers deem the Planning Board has done things illegally everything would be illegal from that time and day.

**Steve Gourley Re: Potato Hole Road:** Steve Gourley stated that at one point the Town had changed the winter road closings to allow for primary residence and wanted to know what changed? Frank explained that the roads were closed for winter maintenance for ten years with the reason being that if someone moved onto a road that was not maintained then the town would have to maintain it and that is not fair to the town. The reason to close a road to winter maintenance is because it is not up to standards. Steve said it seems to him to have the potential of being selective and it may become personal, he then said that he thinks roads that we don't want we should get rid of. Steve discussed a section of Corn Hill Road is not maintained. He also brought up Thurston Road and Frank explained that it was because of that policy he had to start maintaining Thurston Road part-way through the winter which only made his case stronger that we had to get these closed and the State allows it. Frank said from what he's seen, the Town will not close a road that someone is living on, they may not open a road but they won't close it. Joe asked about the liability of it and Dick said it is their responsibility not the Town.

After reviewing a fine for \$76.25 from the Maine Turnpike Authority, violation processing center Rick made a motion, Dick second to get the E-ZPASS for the town not to exceed \$45.00 subscription fee.

It was agreed for Alvina to contact Oxford County Sheriff's Office to serve a summons that was sent to the Brownfield Police Department.

There was a discussion on the Town Policy for health insurance to pay an employee 75% of the insurance benefit if they elect not to take the Town offered insurance. Rick said this is an attraction for "new hires". Alvina said this policy was never voted on by the Town and that is why she brought it to the table.

Joe gave a brief report on the progress he is making toward obtaining a grant for the Community Center. One question is whether or not the Town has to have a plan in place in order to obtain the grant. He thinks we have room for 12 beds. Dicky said that he has a plan, that he can declare an emergency and we can get help from FEMA he was working on a emergency management grant for the Community Center for a generator for the building but when someone else started working on it, he dropped it. Joe said he will reach out to Kathy Drummond from Jared Golden's Office.

Dicky wants two warrant articles this year. One to build a Fire Station and another to change our fire department to a Municipal Fire Department.

At 6:52 PM, John motioned, Rick second to adjourn. Voted affirmatively by a show of hands.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alvina Day, Administrative Assistant