

# TOWN OF BROWNFIELD



## Selectmen's Meeting August 23, 2022

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

**Attendees:** Fire Chief Richard Perreault; Town Clerk Michelle Day, Recreation Director Willy Tracy; Animal Control Officer Cynthia Eaton; John DuBois, Kimberly DuBois, Lenny Jean, Steve Booker, Hailey Boudreau, Dana Forcier, Lisa Hebert, Robert Hebert, Brian Merrill, Lori Brann, Erik Walker, Judy McVaine, Michael Bebis, Hollie Hazzard, Joe Egan, Whit Lucy, Cindy Walker, Dan Larson, Terry Egan, Gail Hart, Bruce Collins, Suzie Eland, Steve Nutting, Sonia Frye, Judy Tordo, Harvey Sherwood, and Frank Day.

5:30 PM the meeting was called to order by Dick Norcross.

**Minutes:** Rick motioned, John 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the Minutes of August 9, 2022. Vote was unanimous.

Hollie Hazzard, of Saco River Corridor discussed the two failed water tests due to e-coli numbers being high. She said she could provide laminated signs to warn people and Willy Tracy agreed to post them. It was reported that the levels were not high while swimming lessons were going on.

Harvey Sherwood discussed litter being discarded on Dugway Roads along with cardboard boxes and other articles of trash. On the subject of ATV/4-wheelers, travel speed is good during the week but on weekends the traffic speed is not respected. It was suggested that he contact Oxford County Sheriff and/or the ATV Club. Dick provided Harvey with contact information.

Terry Egan asked the Board to review and approve a copy of the Aug/Sept edition of the Brownfield Newsletter. She complimented Willy and Dick on the fine jobs they have done with Recreation and the Fire Department. It was agreed that they may continue to print the newsletters here and it was suggested that they might want to add a line that Selectmen are not responsible for the validity of the content.

Joe Egan and several members met to discuss the proposed Brownfield Comprehensive Plan dated 7/26/22 and the letter written by Stephen Nutting, Brownfield Comprehensive Plan Chairperson. The letter requests the Town accept the plan and place it on the November 8, 2022 ballot as a referendum article. Article\_\_\_\_: Shall the Town adopt the "Brownfield Comprehensive Plan dated 7/26/22" which shall repeal and replace the "Comprehensive Plan dated 1991"? (an attested copy of the plan is on file in the Town Clerk's office.) Joe said that at the end of each chapter they present Goals and Strategies to help people understand it. Bruce Collins provided a document from the Maine State Planning Office on the 2012 Comprehensive Plan Deadline stating

that there is already a 30-year-old plan on the books. Dick agreed that it is on file but may be outdated. Town Clerk Michelle Day expressed concern for time. Ballots must be ready by Oct 8. Steve Nutting explained that the State asked questions that the Comp plan answers and that it is tailored to Brownfield needs. Rick made a motion, Dick 2<sup>nd</sup> to proceed with the warrant article on the ballot, to post and advertise. Voted unanimously.

Animal Control Officer Cynthia Eaton, reported on a neighborhood dispute. The town purchased 2 cameras for this purpose which have sound and tape. One has been up a week and a half and the second one just went up. Lisa Hebert was told her copies with photos of dogs on their property and Brian Merrill had a video of a dog on his property taken will not work. The Board told Cindy to give it a couple of weeks and see what we get. Then she can pull the card and Alvina will download it.

Mike Bebis, Pease Lane regarding a “culvert removal complaint” which Rick Emery read aloud. Problem was stated that Mike didn’t get the required permit to install the culvert and it was within the right of way and damaging the road, the Public Works were within their rights to remove it. Rick made a motion, John 2<sup>nd</sup> not to reinstall the culvert. Voted unanimously.

Discussion was to cancel both uniform contracts and offer a stipend to the employees.

After Rick read a FEMA document 412 Riverbend Rd, it was agreed to have the CEO look into it.

The School Board decreased our town assessment by \$9,940.07 due to there being no corresponding warrant article to raise that amount for food services in this year’s school warrant.

The Board received a correspondence from Justin Brown stating that he is running for Sheriff.

Cindy Walker, FOAA stated that she received an expense and revenue report that was not up to date. Questions when the books are balanced to, and the petty cash receipts she requested are simply copies of money order receipts from the post office. She also stated that she received a bill for \$35.25 which she isn’t going to pay.

Alvina was instructed to pull all a/p warrants from Jan 1 to now and provide a copy of each for the Board.

In regards to the Town ordinance for marijuana, the CEO will go out if there are complaints but it has to be a judge to assess the fines. John Debois said he will be in to file a complaint.

Steve Booker asked about zoom meetings. The Town Laptop Computer is still with our computer support company. Perhaps in the future the zoom meetings can resume. Erik Walker was thanked for donating a light for the American flag in the yard beside this building. Other flags in the town needing a light are at the Rec building, Pine Grove Cemetery, and Bean Spring Park.

Alvina was instructed to draft up a document for safety protocol for this office.

Rick and Willy will meet to determine the place to put the new shed.

At 7:45 PM Dick motioned, John 2<sup>nd</sup> to go into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E) to discuss a legal material received from an attorney. Closed at 7:55 PM. Dick will contact the Town Attorney.

The only application for the open Administrative Assistant position was submitted by Alvina Day. After discussion Rick made a motion, Dick 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept Ms. Day's resume and for the work week to be at 40 hours, stating it is what the position is supposed to be and she is to resign from the Deputy Treasurer and the Deputy Clerk Positions. Vote unanimous.

Rick told Alvina she is now the FOAA Officer.

There was a brief discussion on the status of the petition Bruce submitted regarding term limits and 30-A MRS 25-26. Rick read a response from an MMA Attorney. That states "the article appears to be attempting to create a form of term limits for select board members. This cannot be done by warrant article or ordinance. Only a municipal charter can impose term limits on elected officials or disqualify someone from running for office. For that reason, the proposed article would not be valid."

8:25 PM John motioned to adjourn, seconded by Rick. Vote:3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alvina Day, Administrative Assistant