

TOWN OF BROWNFIELD



Selectmen's Meeting October 27, 2020

Selectmen in Attendance: William Flynn, Erik Walker, Ricky Emery

Attendees: Jennifer Bell, Casey Johnson, Aric Junkins, Heather Junkins, Vincent Carbone, Paul Rogers, Amy Dion, Zach Everett, Whit Lucy, Brian Fortier, Lenny Jean, Deb Merrill, Wanda Bartlett, Mike Vane, Ada Lane, Alvina Day

Zoom attendees: Cindy Walker, Katelynn Eckert, Cindy (unknown last name)

5:30pm the meeting was called to order by Chair, William Flynn.

Tax Rate – Wanda presented the Board with several options to set the mil rate. Erik motioned to accept the option for a mil rate of \$11.75/thousand with \$430,000 being taken from surplus and an overlay amount of \$32,522.60; seconded by Ricky. Vote 3-0-0.

The meeting was disrupted by Vincent Carbone raising his voice for Bill Flynn to leave the meeting and to hold an emergency executive session. Heather Junkins also began speaking out of turn stating that there should be a projector so the people at the meeting could see what information was presented to the board to set the tax rate. Ricky responded that she could ask the treasurer, who was not a member of the board of selectmen, how she developed those numbers. After the out of turn speaking continued, Ricky requested both parties that were disrupting the meeting to leave and called the Oxford County Sheriffs Department. Vincent left the meeting. Heather continued to record the meeting but was allowed to stay, as she stopped disrupting the meeting.

Minutes of October 13th were approved by Bill; seconded by Erik. Vote 3-0-0.

Paul Rogers / Potato Hole Road – Paul asked if it was possible for Potato Hole Road to be maintained during the winter months. Erik stated that the Town voted to not maintain that road during winter months. Brian stated that there are only 3 PW employees that already have to plow 60 miles of road and there is no time or budget for another employee to add to that mileage.

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Zach Everett / Skate park – Zach presented the board and audience with the timeline and story of how he developed the skate park. He began the project in April of 2019 when he built his own ramp out of materials purchased by him. Later, he got ramps donated by Camp Cote made by freshpark.com valued at thousands of dollars. He has spent his own time filling the cracks in the tennis courts with concrete to make a smooth surface for skating and has been teaching kids how to improve their skate board skills. He has also been leaf blowing and weed whacking around the tennis court. Zach stated that the only involvement that Vincent Carbone has had with the skatepark was a one-time fundraiser that offered the park \$100 that was used to purchase concrete. A few weeks ago Zach removed the ramps for winter storage and states that he has been being harassed by Mr Carbone stating that Zach stole the ramps and he has no right to remove them. Zach said that he has a group of about 10 people who are willing to help improve the grounds. Ricky said that he would speak with a concrete company on Wednesday to get a price on coating the grounds to make a smooth surface; there was a \$2,500 donation to the rec that could be used to improve the park. Erik also offered to allow Zach to use the town office for his skate park committee meetings. Zach will continue to be in contact with Megan with their needs/ideas.

Public Works- Brian reports that he is still waiting on a formal quote for a new metal container at the transfer station, as ours is in very rough shape and the metal recycling company will no longer be able to haul it in the condition it is in. We could continue to use the current container as an overflow can. Brian stated that Trout Unlimited wants to help fund a new bridge on Phen Hill Road. Trout Unlimited would contribute approximately \$95,000 to the project and the Town would pay about \$8,000; Brian is hoping the town's contribution can be in the form of labor.

Office security cameras – The board discussed quotes received from Pope Security and Ideal Security for installation. Ricky stated that he spoke with Ideal Security who would match Pope's estimate. Ricky asked if Pope charged any monthly or yearly maintenance fee's: Megan will contact them to find out. This topic was tabled until next week's meeting.

Cleaning bid – The current cleaner's helper left a letter stating she would be willing to take over for her aunt, if the board wanted. The board asked about insurance for both this woman and the bid that was received from Cindy Eaton, as no proof was submitted with either. Megan will reach out to both parties to get proof of insurance so the board can move forward with their decision. This topic was tabled until next week's meeting.

ATV's on Rec Fields – Bill reports that for several weeks, almost daily, there are dirt bikes/ATV's on the rec fields which are damaging them. They are using the dirt pile that is there

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for field maintenance as a jump. Mike reports that he spoke with the two kids who have been riding their dirt bikes around the BCC and told them they could not ride on town property like they had been but it has continued. Bill asked about signage; Brian will order some this week. The Board also asked Megan to reach out to the Wardens service to see if they would be willing to patrol the area a bit.

Cable Internet – Erik said that he has been in contact with a resident who will be calling to be placed on an agenda to discuss bringing cable internet to Brownfield. Bill stated that he spoke with Spectrum who said that we do not have enough of a population to bring their service to Brownfield.

Budget Committee – Bill said that they will welcome the new member who got one vote. Megan is waiting on the name from Michelle so that the Board can sign the new members appointment papers. The first meeting will be on November 10th at 6:00pm. Megan will ask Michelle again for the list of names so that she can contact members to let them know.

EcoMaine – Since the Public Works operating budget was approved, the Board can now enter into the new contract with EcoMaine. Bill will sign the new contract and Megan will send it to EcoMaine.

In town / out of town budget requests – Bill stated that the food pantry is concerned on how they will operate without funds from Brownfield this year. The library also contacted Megan to express their concerns.

Town meeting postcards – The board discussed the post cards that were sent out informing voters of annual town meeting. They will be sent out again next year.

Bank Proposals – The Board is in favor of Wanda reaching out to Bangor Savings bank to see if they would match the proposals that we received from Peoples United and Norway Savings so that we could stay with them.

FOAA - Erik read a letter to the Secretary of State and Attorney General's offices regarding a recent FOAA request requesting proof of FOAA training for the treasurer and clerk. He also read the response from the Secretary of State stating the only mandatory training for elected officials is FOAA training; there has not yet been a response from the Attorney General's office. Erik stated that he is concerned with the liability on the Town if the request does not get answered.

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Ballot clerk election training – Bill complimented Michelle on how she conducted the training for the new ballot clerks on October 19th. He stated it was very thorough and thought that she covered all aspects of running the polls well. He also attended the beginning of the counting process and helped count the voter list for total number of votes cast.

Next week's meeting – Due to the election on November 3rd, next weeks meeting will be on Monday, November 2nd at 5:30pm.

Disorderly Building Hearing – Bill confirmed that the hearing will take place tomorrow (10/28) at 6:00pm and that the Town's attorney will be here at 5:15pm for an executive session prior to the hearing.

Brownfield Toy Box – Alvina stated that the Toy Box is working on doing a Christmas decorating contest this year. She is hoping to get 3 prize donations from local businesses. Erik asked that Alvina forward the information and sign up sheets for the contest to Megan once complete so that it can be updated to our website.

6:55pm Bill motioned to go into an executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(A) Personnel Matters. Out of executive session at 6:58pm.

6:58pm Erik motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ricky. Vote 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Witt