

## MUNICIPAL OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES

**MARCH 23, 2023**

**7:00 P.M.**

**8:45 P.M.**

**KAREN JAMES**

**ERIC DURGIN**

**CORY HALE**

Eric and Terry were unable to attend – this meeting was rescheduled from March 16 due to a lack of quorum on the 16. Dan Hester, Pat Dietzel, Ed Leborgne, Susan Hamilton, Nathan and Elizabeth Burnett, Jim and Mary Hannaford all Hiram residents, plus Andy Buck from Brownfield were present for the Mtn Division Trail and Library Grant. Greg Sawyer Road Commissioner was also present for a period of time.

Board signed the previously approved warrants from March 9 and 16 signed and approved the warrants from March 23, 2023, as is.

Board reviewed minutes and accepted as read from March 2.

**Hiram Fire Department Service Ordinance** – Supplied the board with the second draft of the ordinance, they requested them to be emailed as well. Marylou will send them out on Friday.

**Pay Rates** – Board postponed signing the 2023 pay rates. Would like to discuss the road commissioners wage prior to signing. Review at the next meeting with the full board.

**Supplements** – two supplements were presented for the assessors' signatures for tree growth penalties assessed to Zelman Brothers Holdings, LLC on lots U7-1 and U7-117.

Stanley Burial Grounds warrant was signed.

**Policies** – the board signed annual policies Small Amounts of Uncollected Property Tax, 36 MRSA §906 which pertains to the application of tax payments to the oldest outstanding balance, and Disbursement of Wages allowing only one signature on payroll warrants.

**Aaron Sabine** - the board signed a letter for the York County Sheriff's Office to serve Aaron regarding the return of the equipment he was issued by the SHFD. The service costs \$100.00.

**CEO Fee Schedule** - the revised fee schedule was signed by the municipal officers, waiting signatures from the planning board. The only revisions being that there was a fee of \$150 added for an amendment to a CUP, and adding mobile homes to the fee schedule as a dwelling.

**Mtn Division Trail** several residents came in to show support for the trails to rails project. Rick Bennett former representative for Hiram is the sponsor for LD404. Those in attendance are looking for a letter of support on this project; they would like the letter by mid-April. The board decided to host a public hearing on the matter on April 6 (later in the meeting) and revisit the request for support letter after the public hearing.

**Maine State Library ARPA Grant** – the same group of residents came in to show support for the grant application for renovations to the Soldiers Memorial Library. Adding an ADA bathroom to the first floor,

a new entrance, a small meeting room and the addition of a heat pump. Adding much-needed space and improved access for those needing a remote workspace. They are requesting a letter of support to be submitted along with the grant application not only approving the project but granting permission for changes to the town owned building. The board agreed to sign a letter of support once written, the letter will be emailed to the library on Monday.

**Road Commissioner** – Greg came in to discuss several items.

- a) Looked at paperwork from Greater Portland Council of Government (GPCOG) regarding paving bids. Do not have enough information at this time to submit a request. Karen will review the paperwork.
- b) Hiram Hill an 1800 ft section has deteriorated rapidly, Greg believes this was caused by the Christmas Day Storm, we will see if this can be added to the FEMA declaration. Greg will bring in photos for the file. He is proposing to grind up the pavement and fix the base. Possibly waiting to pave for another year.
- c) Peaked Mtn Pass residents have called the RC to discuss winter damage to the road. Cory will go and look at the roadway with Greg. Discussed the possibility of closing a portion of the roadway to winter maintenance to prevent damage in future years.
- d) Excavator rental is beginning around the second week in June.
- e) Reviewed the two quotes for cutting select trees on New Settlement Rd. Moody's quote was for \$3,900 for three trees and Donovan Tree Removal was \$5,320-\$5,480 for a total of five trees and road detail (flaggers). Board signed contract with Donovan's work to be done mid-May hopefully.
- f) Truck repairs need a new transmission pan and fuel tank Greg will schedule with Scott Chapman.
- g) Greg suggested looking for a 6–7-yard dump truck for the road commissioners use.
- h) Wages Greg would like to see Craigs wage increased, he has his CDL and many years of experience.

**Public Hearing - April 6th, 2023 to discuss the Mtn Division Rails, the Fire Department Services Ordinance, and Zoning Ordinance update on Accessory Dwellings.**

**Tearcap** – need to start working on getting quotes for the project. Need bid specs written up.

**School Budget** – Hiram is seeing another large increase this year due to the increase in the town's valuation. Hiram's increase will be roughly 6.74%. Still in need for school board member, will make up posters and place on website.

Reviewed the SRU run report and Brookfield renewal application for the Hydro Dam Discharge due every five years.

Meeting adjourned,  
Respectfully submitted,  
Marylou Stacey