

## MUNICIPAL OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2023

7:00 P.M.

8:20 P.M.

ERIC DURGIN

CORY HALE

KAREN JAMES

Meeting called to order with all 3 municipal officers present. Ken Harmon, Greg Sawyer, and Beverly Russell present for a period.

The board reviewed warrants from July 13 and July 20 and signed them with no changes.

The board reviewed minutes from the July 13 meeting and accepted with amendments.

Eric signed the checks.

An agenda item was added by the board.

**Modine & Town Office Deck Quotes - Ken Harmon submitted a quote to replace the Town Office ramp deck/railing for \$15,628.**

The board asked how long it would take him to do the work, and he stated only a couple of days. He explained that some of the materials would need to be special ordered so he could start whenever they come in and do it over a weekend so it will not interrupt Town Office hours.

The board voted to approve Ken's quote as written, minus replacing the front door.

Terry asked where we should be using the funds from. The board mentioned using the ARPA funds, but we would need a Special Town Meeting for that, so they agreed to use money from the Building Maintenance Reserve account because there is plenty in there for this project, and just have a Public Hearing instead.

**Ken said that he would order materials this weekend and get back to us on when they arrive and a date that works for him to come work on the deck/railing.**

Terry asked Ken while he was here if he ever ordered a tarp for the salt that the board approved him to buy back in the spring. He said that he couldn't find one within the budget that was worth buying.

Ken said that there is enough sand on the south end of town to start the plowing season off with, so there is no need to put any up in the fall. He will need 1 load of salt to be ordered in the fall to top it off. Emma said she will make note of it so she can order that in the fall.

**There were no other bids for the Modine at the SHFD being replaced. The board voted to approve the bid from Stacy Burners Service of \$16,834.93. Funds will also come out of the Building Maintenance Reserve for that.**

The board signed the Mossy Ledge Spirits Catering Permit.

**Letter of Concern about SML - The Board reviewed a letter that was received by the Town Office staff from an abutter of the SML. There are concerns about the placement of the proposed Gazebo that will be constructed with the funds from the Grant that the library received. The landowners feel that it will obstruct their view of Mt. Cutler and when people park, their headlights will shine right through their kitchen window. They also expressed in the letter that they don't feel it will be used enough, and that there is plenty of room away from their house for the Gazebo, but when speaking with the library staff, they were set on their original placement. The letter mentioned that come wintertime, there will be a problem with plowing/shoveling snow and where it will go.**

Eric said that he also got a phone call from them as well. Emma explained that when they came into the office to deliver the letter, they were upset that the town did not give the residents an opportunity to speak about these proposed renovations to the library.

The board decided that it would be appropriate to have a Public Hearing to allow the residents to express their opinions or concerns regarding the SML renovations. The board asked Emma to call Dan Hester on Friday and ask him to please hold off on starting any renovations to the library, until there is a Public Hearing.

**Greg** - The board talked with Greg about the issue that he is currently dealing with on Hampshire Street regarding cutting trees down. A landowner was upset about it and thinks that the trees are on her property and does not want the town touching them. Karen reached out to James Seymour at Sebago Technics and provided him with the deed and some other information about the road and asked his opinion and any help he could provide on the matter. James sent an email back this week stating that he feels that unless the town is willing to spend money on getting the road surveyed, he suggests that Greg does not shift the road at all and establish the centerline. Then from there, the board will meet with the landowner and go from there. The board agreed that this is the smartest route.

Karen said that there was a statement in the email that James provided saying something about "Tree Law"... She asked if Emma could research as to what that is ASAP, and let the board know, so that they can understand it when they talk about it with the landowner. Terry stated that quite a few years ago, the Board of Selectmen voted to declare any town road that was not officially laid out by the town, would be a 2 rod road.

Greg stated that Andrew Zelman is having Brent Day cut trees on the Notch Road, and there are some piles of rocks here and there along the road, that he feels are not "rock walls", and that they will probably get knocked over during the tree cutting process. The board did not have any comments about this, or see it being an issue because they are not rock walls. Andrew also agreed that he did not care if the rock piles were disturbed.

Greg said that there are two driveways on Richardson Road that could use culverts to help get water out of the road when we get rain. No input from the board.

Eric said that he got a call from a resident on Hampshire Street the other day, expressing that he was very happy with the quick response that Greg had to clearing a deer in the road.

**Ford Recall Notice** – There is a recall on the F550 for the airbags. Cory asked Emma to call the Arundel Ford dealership and schedule a date to bring it in and he would be able to do that.

**GR Budget** – The board asked that the office staff work up the figures of what has been expended to date and what is left of the roads budget. Emma and Terry printed out a spreadsheet showing the balance and what has been spent. We still need to have a Public Hearing to move \$37,852 from the Reserve account to cover the rest of the Tearcap Road project.

**Terry Insurance** – Terry explained to the board that she believes that she overpaid for health insurance. Since we pay the health insurance for a month in advance, she already paid for July in the month of June, therefore the money that has been taken out of her checks for the month of July would be for August, but she is retiring at the end of July. **The board agreed that Terry is owed that back, in the amount of \$139.92.**

**EMA – Cory explained that his mother, Lisa Hale is still the EMA director, but she feels that she doesn't do anything for it, and no longer wants that position. Terry explained that her appointment expires this month anyway. Cory suggested that the board appoint Emma as the EMA director, as she does a lot of the work anyways. The board asked how Emma felt about that and if she was up for it. She explained that she was okay with that, and thinks it made more sense, since she is doing that type of work already and it will be easier for someone to do the work if they are in the office with the needed resources. The board voted to appoint Emma as the new EMA Director and filled out the appointment paper. She will just need to contact the Oxford County EMA director and notify them of the new appointment.**

Terry asked the board about paying Lisa. She said that back in March, Lisa told her that she did not want her payout for that quarter because she felt she did not need it or do any of the work to earn it and explained that she is due another payment this month for her last quarterly payout and how to proceed with that. Cory said that he would have Lisa call the office in the morning to talk with Terry about it and see if she wants the money. He is almost positive that she said she doesn't.

Bev Russell was present for a short period of time towards the end of the meeting. She stated that she feels that she needs to sit down with the 4 towns selectmen that Rescue has a contract with and discuss the Rescue's budget. She feels there is going to be a big increase next year. The board felt that that would be appropriate and to keep them updated.

**The board decided on a date of August 17<sup>th</sup> for a Public Hearing to use funds from the Building Maintenance Reserve account for the SHFD Modine repairs and the Town Office ramp deck/railing replacement. As well as using funds from the Road Reserve account for the remainder of the cost for the Tearcap Road project, and lastly to give the public a chance to voice their opinions/concerns regarding the renovations to the Soldiers Memorial Library.**

The board thanked Terry for her years of work with them and wished her a happy and healthy retirement. They will miss her and all the good times they had with her.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,  
Emma Ouellette