

## MUNICIPAL OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2024  
7:00 P.M.  
8:55 P.M.

Karen James  
Eric Durgin  
Cory Hale

Meeting called to order with all three municipal officers in attendance. Greg Sawyer was also present for a portion of the meeting.

The board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board accepted the minutes from March 7, 2024, and signed the warrants for this week.

Agenda item added under New Business, Executive Session of Personnel Matters.

Road Commissioner :

1. Discussed the FEMA projects, the CRC cost estimates are substantially more than what was budgeted for in 2024. Emma and Greg reviewed the plans and feel they are more extensive than required. They reviewed changes to the scope of the projects and will resubmit the FEMA and wait to hear back from Christine (FEMA rep).
2. Grade Dirt Roads – Greg is going to have a local contractor grade the dirt roads this year, a lot of the gravel has been pushed into the shoulders.
3. Greg is going to inquire about borrowing Todd Pierces excavator to straighten piles of debris at the Town garage lot.
4. Pay – Greg is fine with his pay rate and would like to see McGwire and Craig both receive an increase. Wondered if he would be eligible for holiday pay.
5. Eric let Greg know the gate at Scribner Mill is broken, the bottom shackle is broken. Need to see about getting it repaired.

Recording of Meeting – Emma presented information on purchasing a GoPro, stand and accessories all for less than \$450.00. The board authorized the equipment purchase. The recordings will be posted on YouTube.

Marylou reviewed project updates with the board for both the office and Hiram Fire department station, all projects should be completed by the end of April.

So Hiram Fire Department Association – Jamie Marshall contacted the office to let us know he had officially closed the SHFD Association bank account and discussed with Gary Pierce what to do with the funds they decided to donate the remaining funds to End 68 Hours of Hunger. They have no plans to renew the incorporation paperwork with the state.

The board would like to visit Hiram Hill during wet weather so see the runoff conditions and such, add to reminders.

Emma will set up a meeting with the town attorney regarding the Schnell briefing for April.

Mowing – need to see about getting quotes for mowing the Peleg Wadsworth Park in Hiram Village.

**Library Building Repairs** - The board reviewed the list of projects Dan submitted, they discussed the repainting of the composite wood and decided they would like to see it pressure washed instead of painted again, the sign out front is not the Towns responsibility and Karen reached out to Vinny DiDonato during the meeting to look at the chimney issue. Scott Kruse had given us a quote for painting at the library in 2023 but due to weather was unable to complete, need to add the pressure washing of the composite decking and painting of the concrete stairs.

**Fiber** – Marylou contacted Consolidated Communications regarding fiber upgrade here at the office. The cost will be around \$180-\$190 a month for a fiber connection, we currently pay \$130 for cable internet. Need to revisit in the fall to see about installation prior to moving to web-based software for the office.

**Remodel**- presented the board with information regarding replacing the VCT and wood flooring in the office, taking the glass partition down and selling the door. The board would like to see the customer side of the counter redesigned. Suggested reaching out to Ken Harmon to see if he would be interested. Cory and Eric feel they can take the glass down. The board authorized the selling the door for \$675

Signed appointment papers for the Election Clerks.

**Homestead Exemption** – Emma recently discovered we have some accounts who are receiving the homestead exemption in error due to the owner of said parcel passing. She will send out letters to the effected parcels and give them until April 1, 2025, to address the issue or the homestead will have to be removed for 2025.

The board made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(6)(A). The board exited executive session at 8:50.

The board made a motion to increase the road crews' pay scale by 5% for the current three road employees. Since the road commissioner is currently an elected employee, he does not qualify for holiday pay. Need to review the personnel policy for next year when the position becomes appointed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Marylou Stacey