

SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOTES

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

Called to Order 6:00 pm

Present: Selectmen: Melissa Spinney, Doug Baston, Greg Shute; Members of the Public: Brittney Bardo, Ed Pentaleri, Jeff Spinney, Tom McKenzie; Press: Jessica Clifford ; Clerk: Liz Brown

Public Comment:

None

New Business:

Audit Discussion

Everything is ready for Fred Brewer on Friday. We are getting started much earlier than last year.

New March Warrant Items

1. EMA Request: EMA director Tom McKenzie would like to have \$500 for the EMA budget to bolster the account. There is \$1,900 in there currently, but they just bought a new radio and also need to make sure there is money to pay for water/shelter during power outages, as they are clearly becoming more frequent. Selectmen agree and will add it to the warrant.
2. Election Pay Increase: Pay for election workers going from \$11 to \$12 per hour as it is mandatory under state law as minimum wage increased in January to \$12 per hour.
3. New Contribution Requests: Adult Ed AOS 93 and New Beginnings. The town has received a request from Adult Ed AOS 93 for \$1,500. They have served one Alna resident in 3 years. The other request was from New Beginnings and they are asking for \$500. They have served one Alna resident this year. It was decided that there would be a separate warrant article for these new requests.
4. Increase in Tax Assessor and Tax Map Rates: John O'Donnell is asking for an increase of \$1,500 in assessing and \$275 in tax maps. This is the first increase in several years. Selectman Baston moved to recommend the increase, Selectman Shute seconded, all in favor.
5. Sand Building Road Upkeep Contribution: The selectmen will recommend that the town share of overall maintenance costs of should be 40% share. If costs were equally divided between all five abutters/users our share would be 20%. Historically we have paid all costs, and our attorney advises us that it is illegal for the town to continue to maintain a

private road where there are multiple users. There is no “right” answer here. Ultimately the town meeting should decide what is fair and the selectmen will administer that.

6. Pinkham Pond Parking Lot Estimate: The estimate for the 15-17 car parking area up by the rock area, 75' x 75' approximately and 1 foot thick, is \$6,800. This would provide ample parking and keep the roadway.

Puddledock School Repair—Local Contractors: Selectmen Baston expressed concern that we need to get moving on the work we committed to in our grant award from the Belvedere Foundation. Our original preferred contractors have fallen through. Selectmen Spinney said she would put our feelers to local carpenters for at least the first phase of the work.

Old Business:

TAN RFP

Selectman Spinney did RFP draft, working from a model graciously provided by the Wiscasset town manager, and would like to get it out now and have it due by March 18. The selectmen were all in favor of sending it to all the area banks.

Plow Contract

The plowing committee members that reviewed the contract were all good with it. It will be put out at the end of February for 60 days.

Food Pantry Sponsorship

Midcoast Hunger Prevention signed the paperwork on Monday to sponsor us.

Alewives Harvesting

Selectman Shute sent a letter to the Department of Marine Resources to have a meeting to clarify what the town responsibility is and who gets the rights.

Final Tally of Lincoln County Community Energy Fund Drive

Selectman Baston said that 22 families or individuals contributed \$2,535, which along with the \$700 donated by the original two anonymous donors, equals \$3,235. Very heartwarming, and a big thanks to the generous citizens of our town!

Proposed Look at the Cost Distribution Formula for the Town that use the Wiscasset Transfer Station

Selectman Baston met with the Wiscasset Town Manager, who proposed to look at some allocation options and then discuss them with Alna and Westport. This has been a very slow process.

Public Comment:

Brittney Bardo asked if we know what the fire department will be and what they are asking for this year. Michael Trask will be meeting with the selectmen on this.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20 p.m.