

TOWN OF DIXFIELD
Minutes of Meeting
Board of Selectmen
November 26, 2007
5:00 p.m., Dixfield Town Office

Board Members Present: Bettina M. Martin (Chair), Brad E. Dyer, Raymond E. Carlton, Norine H. Clarke, James L. Desjardins

Board Members Absent:

Administration Present: Town Manager Thomas F. Richmond, Charlotte Collins (Minutes of Meeting), Richard A. Pickett (Police Chief)

Press Present: Western Valley Access Channel, Eileen Adams (Lewiston Journal)

Citizens Present:

1. Chair Martin opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 13th and November 19, 2007.
3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** On a motion from Mr. Carlton and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the warrants and payroll as listed on the agenda.

4. Department Heads: (Police Chief 2nd meeting of month)

Chief Pickett presented his department's monthly report to the Board of Selectmen and reported that he had addressed the concerns listed on the complaint letter received by the town. Speed enforcement has been increased, and S.A.D. No. 21's bus superintendent will speak with all the bus drivers regarding any speeding issues.

The Chief will be working with the Rumford Falls Times and Lewiston Sun Journal to print the Police Log each week in the newspapers.

Selectman Clarke reported some vandalism at the Village Green, reportedly committed by skateboarders. The Chief stated that several towns have ordinances that govern the locations that skateboarding is not permitted as well as the banned use of "Jake brakes" on large vehicles. He suggested that this might be a course of action that the Board might like to pursue. Another concern the Chief had is with the ATV speed limit signs. He requested that all signs listing 15mph be removed and 10mph signs be installed to avoid any confusion for those using ATV's.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Leo Jolin of the town's Public Works Department requested that the town remove all basketball hoops from the edges of roads before plowing begins. He felt it would be a serious safety hazard as well as a possible source of causing damage to the trucks. The Town Manager told the Police Chief to have them removed.

5. New Business:

a. Muriel Shurtleff Sewer Concerns: Mrs. Shurtleff was unable to attend the meeting. The Town Manager reported that the bill came in around \$700.00 for repairs to Mrs. Shurtleff's sewer line. She will be responsible for approximately 40% and the town 60% of the costs.

b. Purchase of LCD Projector: On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a LCD Projector for use by the Town Manager.

c. McGouldrick Park Sewer Bill: It has been reported that the water line at McGouldrick Park has been broken for some time. Consequently, the water has been running which in turn has affected the sewer bill at a cost of \$1,600. A new meter was placed on the line this past year, but the water was not turned off before winter.

Abatement of water charges was discussed back to the date of the water meter installation. Because the town now uses “porta potties” during the summer months, the water and sewer services at McGouldrick Park need to be discontinued.

On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Desjardins, the Board voted unanimously to abate the town’s water bill from the installation date of the water meter through November 26, 2007.

On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to discontinue sewer services at McGouldrick Park as of November 26, 2007.

d. Coburn Avenue Bridge (Thaddeus White Bridge): The Town Manager reported that the local ATV club has expressed an interest in looking at the Thaddeus White Bridge that spans Webb River from the end of Coburn Avenue. They are interested in using it for ATV purposes should it ever become inactive and would like to be notified at the time.

e. LPI Resignation and Appointment: The Board accepted the resignation of Wayne Putnam (due to health reasons) as the town’s Licensed Plumbing Inspector. On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to appoint David Errington as the town’s Licensed Plumbing Inspector until such time that a more permanent person will fill the position.

Public Comment

6. **Old Business:** None

7. Town Manager's Report:

- The Town Manager reported that he is moving ahead with TRIO changes to the software with Water/Sewer receipting. The town will have to buy the Water and Sewer program.
- Keel Hood, the town's auditor, has been contacted to meet with the Board of Selectmen at 6:00 p.m. sometime during the first week in December.
- The glass door at the Post Office needs repair and Portland Glass has been contacted to fix the problems.
- The Town Manager has contacted Steve Levi of Maine Rural Water Association to discuss the town's request for a water rate increase.
- The Public Works Department has been cutting brush along some roads in preparation for the winter.
- The Town Manager requested volunteers from the Board of Selectmen to serve on the union contract negotiating committee. The first meeting will be held on January 9, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.
- Peter Nelson of the Town of Wilton has requested a value on the fire truck that will be given to the East Dixfield Fire Department. The Town of Wilton will pay half of the value of the truck to be housed at the East Dixfield Fire Station that serves both Wilton and the Town of Dixfield.
- The Town Manager requested authorization for the Town Manager to sign street sign request forms from the State of Maine for new businesses. On a motion from Mr. Desjardins and a second from Mr. Dyer, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Town Manager to sign all future street sign forms for new businesses.
- The Town Manager suggested that the Board of Selectmen meet the second and third Mondays in December. It will free up their time during the holidays. All agreed to schedule the Selectmen's

Meetings for Monday, December 10, 2007 and Monday, December 17, 2007.

8. Board Questions/Comments:

Mr. Desjardins: commented that the Police Department has done a fine job of clearing up the noise from the last meeting's complaint.

Chair Martin: reported on the first organizational meeting she attended regarding the consolidation of school districts. Plans have changed, and the towns of Bethel and Rangeley will be eliminated from this area's district.

9. Other Business:

10: Executive Session M.R.S.A. 405: On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 5:40 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 6:35 p.m.

No action taken.

11: FYI: So noted.

12. Next Meeting: December 10, 2007, 5:00 p.m., Town Office

13. Adjournment: On a motion from Mr. Dyer and a second from Mr. Carlton, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins

Secretary/Deputy Treasurer

/cmc

Attachments