

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

Town of Dixfield

Board of Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor

Monday, August 23, 2010

5:00 p.m., Town Office

**Board Members Present:** Bettina M. Martin (Chair), Norine H. Clarke, Stephen G. Donahue, Katherine N. Harvey and Malcolm M. Gill

**Board Members Absent:**

**Administration Present:** Eugene R. Skibitsky (Town Manager), Charlotte M. Collins (Minutes), Police Chief Richard Pickett, Calvin Beaumier (CEO)

**Press Present:** RVAC and Eileen Adams

**Citizens Present:** Freemont Tibbetts, Danny McKay, Ron and Yvonne Hemingway, River Valley Growth Council Representative, Susan Knight, Tom and Bonnie Therriault, Bitsy and Evelyn Ionta, Lawrence Sprague, III, Sonja Fuller and Norman Roy

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – CURFEW ORDINANCE**

Chair Martin opened the public hearing to hear comments regarding the proposed Curfew Ordinance. Several citizens voiced their approval of the ordinance, and Chief Pickett fielded several questions. The ordinance will be voted on by secret ballot at the polls on November 2, 2010. The public hearing closed at 5:05 p.m. Copies of the proposed curfew ordinance are available at the Town Office.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of August 9, 2010.

3. **Approval of Warrants and Payroll:** On a motion from Mrs. Harvey and a second from Mr. Donahue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the warrants and payroll as listed on the agenda.

4. **Department Head Reports:**

a. **Police Department (Chief Pickett):** The Chief stated that the Police Department's fuel log had also been distributed to the Selectmen's mail boxes prior to the meeting

- The "Bike Silent Auction" went very well with all bicycles sold netting \$336.75 for use with the DARE Program.

- The summer enforcement program grants regarding speed enforcement and OUI enforcement had gone very well over the past few weeks. An OUI was stopped, three people with operating after suspension were caught and some cars that had open cans of beer were ticketed.
- The Chief has scheduled late September or the first of October to meet again with the residents of Pine Street regarding the juvenile crime reports in the area.
- The Chief had met with the Maine DOT regarding the placement of “No Parking” signs by the residence of Mr. Sprague on Weld Street. A “No Parking from Here to Corner” sign can be erected by his home with the State DOT splitting the cost of the sign with the town. On a motion from Mr. Gill and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to erect the signs by Mr. Sprague’s rental property.
- Mrs. Harvey complimented Chief Pickett on a job well done regarding the recent OUI road blocks.

**Public Comment:** None

#### 5. **Old Business:**

a. **Town Garage Lease:** The Town Garage Lease, due for renewal, was renegotiated with RSU No. 10. The leasing fee was increased to \$15,000 and RSU No. 10 will share the costs of the Town Garage utilities with the town. The Board of Selectmen signed the lease.

b. **Shoreland Zoning – Hemingway Property:** The town’s Code Enforcement Officer, Calvin Beaumier, presented the tree planting plan to the Board of Selectmen. The Hemingways and CEO have agreed to the plan with some changes. Mr. Beaumier will be observing the trees over the next year to be sure of the planting success. Any dead trees will need to be replaced. Mr. Beaumier will present the final plan at the Board’s next meeting as there were corrections made to it at this meeting with the date agreed upon as August 23, 2010.

#### 6. **New Business:**

a. **River Valley Growth Council Presentation:** Bill Hines of the RVGC explained the group’s goal of reaching out to the area towns in order to seek their views and recommendations for the council. He introduced the new promotional DVD, available to the local communities, and played it for the Board. The DVD was very good, and the Board thanked him for his attendance.

#### 7. **Town Manager’s Report:**

a. **WWII Commemoration Day Proclamation:** The town received a proclamation from the Governor proclaiming September 2, 2010 as the WWII Commemoration Day for the end of WWII. Area churches and organizations are asked to ring their bells that day in remembrance of the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

- FYI the Oxford County Budget

- Received an email from the Mexico Water District with a counter proposal for the town's contract for Water Department services. They have requested a 2% increase each year for CPI their capital expenses that will also benefit the Town of Dixfield's Water Department. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Donahue, the Board voted unanimously to approve the contract with the 2% increase.
- Received an email from Standards and Poor regarding the town's rating. The Town Manager will meet the bank to talk this over. On a motion from Mrs. Clarke and a second from Mr. Donahue, the Board voted unanimously to allow the Town Manager to sign all documents regarding the loan for the Board of Selectmen.
- The Town Manager is re-submitting the application for a sidewalk grant.
- The wind ordinance is in the hands of our lawyers and will also be given to AVCOG for their critique of the document.

#### **Public Comments:**

Norman Roy was present to request help from the town with his road (Old Canton Road) regarding rock buildup on his property. The road is raked each year and stones are left to accumulate as well as being effected by the improper drainage at the top of his property. The Town Manager as Road Commissioner will visit the property soon.

Freemont Tibbetts requested that the Town Manager visit the Wendell Henderson property located on lower Main Street to view the dangerous tree condition that must be addressed. The Town Manager will also visit this property as soon as possible.

#### **8. Board Questions/Comments:**

**Mr. Gill:** Mr. Gill and Mr. Donahue went on a "road trip" throughout the East Dixfield area of town and viewed cemeteries, old roads and the proposed wind farm site on Colonel Holman Mountain. They also visited the Merrill Road and others and would like to speak with Mr. Dale Carlton and Road Committee members regarding the recent engineering road proposals.

9. **FYI:** So Noted.

10. **Next Meeting:** Monday, September 13, 2010, 5:00 p.m., Town Office. The Sewer Loan Public Hearing will also be held that evening.

11. **Adjournment:** On a motion from Mr. Donahue and a second from Mrs. Harvey, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte M. Collins  
Secretary/Deputy Treasurer  
/cmc - attachments