



Select Board

Tuesday, August 25, 2020 @ 6:00pm
Southwest Harbor Fire Station

MINUTES

I. Chairwoman Kristin Hutchins called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm; Present were Board Members Carolyn Ball, Snap Willey, Chad Terry, and George Jellison. Town Manager, Justin VanDongen; Admin Assistant, Jesse Dunbar; Town Clerk, Marilyn Lowell; and members of the public.

II. Visitors to be heard not on the agenda – Lydia Goetze and Ryan Donohue both spoke briefly in support of Town Manager Justin VanDongen in regards to the executive session scheduled on the agenda.

III. Minutes of August 11, 2020 – Carolyn Ball went over corrections she had for the minutes. Motion made by Kristin Hutchins to approve the minutes of August 11, 2020 with corrections made by Carolyn Ball, seconded by George Jellison. Passed 4-0-1 with Chad Terry abstaining.

IV. Manager's Report

- COVID-19– Justin VanDongen gave an update on the town's response to Covid-19 which included discussion of new hand sanitizer stands as well as bins of individually wrapped masks that will be distributed to businesses for distribution to the public. These items were funded with grant money from the Keep ME Healthy grant the town received. The Town was approved for a second round of grant funding from the Keep ME Healthy grant that will be used to purchase a mobile digital sign trailer. A new digital sign has been ordered for the Fire Station entrance. The sign should take about 5-6 weeks to arrive.

- Town Garage –Justin VanDongen gave an update on the status of the town garage search. He has learned that one of the owners of the 13 Mountain View Road building is not interested in selling at this time. Justin will be meeting with him sometime next week to discuss a possible lease situation and possible long term goals. The risk management report from MMA has a long list of updates and improvements; however nothing is particularly expensive.

V. New Business:

a. Deer Reduction Straw Poll – The Board discussed what the next steps would be after the voters favored 186-83 of exploring options for reducing the deer population. Chad Terry stated he felt the whole island would need to be on board with the plan in order for it to be effective. Discussion ensued on forming a committee if another town was on board. Nuisance permits were discussed and Ryan Donahue suggested a publicized process for taking care of them on your own property may be an option to consider. Justin VanDongen suggested the first step should be talking with the other towns at the next League of Towns meeting to gauge their interest. If there is interest we can proceed to the next step of contacting the State about how to handle reduction properly.

VI. Old Business:

a. Chris's Pond – Maine Coast Heritage Trust is still working on the possible purchase of the land near the pond. MCHT will move forward with an offer and option with the sellers. The option can be extended, MCHT will come back to the Town if it is successful with the offer. MCHT and the town could then work on fundraising for the property.

b.c.d.e. – The Board discussed the proposed ordinances; Land Use Ordinance, Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, Marijuana Ordinance. Lowell explained that the ballot questions need to be finalized by September 3rd. Kristin Hutchins expressed the desire to proceed with approving the questions for the ballot and scheduling public hearings. Chad Terry expressed concern over the standard for decks and patios being changed again after voters approved changing it last year. Marilyn Lowell clarified that changes could be made to the language of the ordinance after tonight, just the ballot questions need to be finalized.

Ball moved to put the proposed ordinances on the November 3rd ballot, seconded by Hutchins.
Passed 5-0

Further discussion was had regarding the ordinances and the scheduling of public hearings. Carolyn Ball suggested discussing the ordinances as a Board at the next meeting on September 8th. Kristin Hutchins recommended a “cheat sheet” to have available to help clarify the changes. The Board agreed to:

Public Hearing on the Marijuana Ordinance for Tuesday September 15th at 5:30pm.

Public Hearing with the Planning Board on the Land Use Ordinance, Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, and the Subdivision Ordinance on Thursday September 17th at 5:30pm.

Public Hearing on Tuesday September 22nd at 5:30pm, before the regular Select Board meeting.

VII. Other Business/Consent Items (Selectmen) – Kristin Hutchins gave a brief update on the conservation committee and asked if they could use the towns Zoom account for meetings. Allen Willey said he has heard concerns about the intersection of Seal Cove Rd and Long Pond Rd. Vehicles are failing to stop completely at the stop sign. Scott Alley pointed out that the intersection has a stop sign, painted line on the road, reflective pole, and a stop ahead sign. Scott feels it is due to the angle of the road creating a blind spot. The Board concluded that enforcement was the best course of action at this time. Kristin Hutchins said she has had one person comment that they like the change to the parking on Main Street. Chad Terry added that he felt it had improved the visibility for the sidewalks, and that it seems like people may be speeding but in reality it is now just easier to drive the actual speed limit of 25mph.

VIII. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) to discuss removal of the Town Manager. – George Jellison expressed his concern for the way the Executive Session was written on the agenda. Hutchins noted the party had agreed to the wording identifying that the executive session was to discuss the town manager.

Motion made by George Jellison to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) at 7:07pm, seconded by Allen Willey. Passed 4-1-0 with Carolyn Ball opposed.

Motion made by Kristin Hutchins to come out of Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) at 7:39 pm, seconded by Carolyn Ball. Passed 5-0-0.

IX. Accept:

Motion by Chad Terry to accept
General Fund Warrants: FY20: 15 and 17
Payroll Warrants: FY21: dated 8/20/20 & 8/27/20
School Payroll Warrants: FY 21: 12 and 13
Payroll Warrants FY 21: 14 and 16
Seconded by Allen Willey, Passed 5-0-0.

X. Next Meeting Date: September 8th, 2020 Regular Select Board Meeting at the Southwest Harbor Fire Station. 6pm.

XI. Adjourn Meeting

Motion to adjourn at 7:42pm by Chad Terry, Seconded by Allen Willey. Passed 5-0-0.

Minutes Prepared by Jesse Dunbar