

TOWN OF SEBAGO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 4, 2023
SELECTMEN MEETING 6:30 PM
TOWN OFFICE

ALL REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 1ST AND 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Reminder to the attending public: Select board meetings are open to the public, but the public may not speak unless recognized by the Chair or Vice Chair and only during public comment. Comment time is limited to 2 minutes per speaker. Matters related to personnel or boards will not be heard or discussed.

5:30 PM WORKSHOP – FUTURE GOALS / EQUIPMENT NEEDS OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Phil Lowe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Selectmen: Scott Douglas, Barry Jordan, Phil Lowe, Charles Frechette, and Mark Roy, Town Manager Maureen Scanlon, Town Clerk and Recorder Letitia Genest

Guests present: CEO Brandon Woolley, Public Works Director Jim Palmer, David McCarthy, June Allen, Donelle Allen, Joseph McMahon, Jim & Marjorie Jansz, Michael Borsetti, Phil Strike, Ryan Suga, Nancy Thompson, Claudia Lowe, Maggie Williams, Chris Jordan, Kelly Hale, Wendy Aronsson, Bob Laliberte, Recreation Director Leslie Hayes, Rick Light, Andrew Plummer

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge Allegiance was recited at the beginning of the meeting.

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no adjustments made to the agenda.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the March 7, 2023 Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes

Scott Douglas made the motion to Approve the March 7, 2023 Selectmen’s meeting minutes. Mark Roy seconded. Motion passes.

B. Approval of the FY 23 Warrant Week 37

Charles Frechette made the motion to approve FY 23 Accounts Payable Warrant. Scott Douglas seconded the motion. Motion passes.

V. REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS

A. Department Heads: Public Works Director

Jim Palmer reported that the he has taken down the posted road signs. Sweeping will begin towards the end of April. Begin to grade the roads as well.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Road Use Agreement (Formerly Known as Stickney Road)

CEO Brandon Woolley stated he hoped that all board members had a chance to read the agreement. It is a tentative license agreement; it has not gone before the Planning Board.

Phil Lowe stated that not all board members had a chance to pick up their packets. A copy should have been made available to the public as well (Phil acknowledged he neglected to state that previously).

The Town has not put money into that road in over thirty years. There is a statute (the wording is quite technical) that allows the Town to not take on responsibility of maintainece after thirty years with no activity.

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Discussion continued with Wendy Aronsson (the applicant), the Select Board, the CEO, and Rick Light (engineer) of Light Environmental Design concerning the purchase (suggested that Wendy to contact the abutter, as well as entertain the purchase for one dollar), the maintenance (will the road be grandfathered as a Town road) and design (Phil stated that the upper 1800 ft need culverts to avoid washouts, Rick replied that the current plans are not the finals, more work is being done to address culverts in future plans), and the statute. Phil stated there needs to be a clear understanding for all parties involved. Legal will be contacted, and further discussion will take place at a future date.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. EV Charging Station Grant Opportunity – Tony Giambro, Municipal Resiliency Manager (Center for an Ecology-Based Economy)

Town Manager Maureen Scanlon reported out that Tony Giambro would not be in attendance for tonight's meeting. Tony's role is to help towns with the grant process as well as secure grant funding through Efficiency Maine Public Funding Program for EV charging stations. 90% will be covered by Efficiency Maine Public Funding and 10% will be to the cost of the Town. There is also the option "Pay as you go" model, surrounding Towns are implementing this model. The application needs to be in by the end of June, work does not need to begin right away.

B. Zoning Board of Appeals Applicant Interview

Maureen stated that an applicant has asked that his application be pulled due to health issues. There are two applications, the applicants are present.

Phil Lowe asked each applicant to state what is your experience and what do you feel you would offer the ZBA?

Mr. Joseph McMahon-stated that he has been a member of the, Planning Board, School Committee, Budget Committee, Cemetery Committee and a Potter Trustee. Has done a lot of public service work for the Town. Was part of the group that set up Zoning.

Phil Lowe asked if anyone else had any questions for Mr. McMahon. None at this time. The Board acknowledge and thanked Mr. McMahon for his involvement with the Town.

Mr. Michael Borsetti-stated that he served five years on the Board of Appeals. Is a retired Fire Fighter and Rescue Instructor from Massachusetts. His is a developer in Harrison and numerous projects in Sebago. Is shy on laws, but has been to the State Supreme Court without lawyers and has won every step of the way for four years. A position that is important to the Town, as it's the first step before you go to court. It is a common-sense position. Felt it was a good chance to get involved again. Would appreciate the courtesy of a thought of appointment.

The Board thanked Mr. Borsetti for taking the time to step up and offer his services.

A role call for the Board to appoint the ZBA was called by Phil Lowe:

Scott Douglas chose Mr. Michael Borsetti
Mark Roy chose Mr. Joseph McMahon
Charles Frechette chose Mr. Joseph McMahon
Barry Jordan chose Mr. Joseph McMahon
Phil Lowe chose Mr. Joseph McMahon

Mr. Joseph McMahon was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

C. Planning Board Applicant Interviews

Phil Lowe asked each applicant to state what is your experience and what do you feel you would offer the Planning Board?

Mr. Ryan Suga-has been a Sebago resident for three years. Military retired. Has been in construction since retirement. Is a licensed electrician. Has worked with Code Enforcement from Virginia and in several towns here in Maine. Familiar with national building codes. Wants to help the Town. Would appreciate any consideration.

Phil Lowe asked if anyone had any further questions for Mr. Suga. None at this time. The Board acknowledge and thanked Mr. Suga for throwing his hat in the ring.

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Mr. David McCarthy-thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve on the Planning Board. Has lived here for thirty-five years. Served on the Budget Committee, been a Selectman, on the Appeals Board for two terms. Vice and then President of SYAA for a few years. On the Ordinance Review Committee. Has a good grasp of the Town's ordinances as well as the Comprehensive Plan and how the ordinances are supporting the Comprehensive Plan and what work needs to be done. Is pragmatic, not afraid to raise or ask questions, and expect real answers on issues that are important. Appreciates the time he has served on the ZBA, and would really like to try his hand on the Planning Board.

Phil Lowe asked if anyone had any further questions for Mr. McCarthy. No further questions at this time. Phil alerted the applicants that there is still time in the application campaign. The candidate will be chosen at the next Select Board Meeting.

D. School Proposal for Recreation Program

Maggie Williams a School Board Committee Member and a parent along with Rich Bianculli reported the need to discuss the option for a full time Recreation Director. Sebago has a lack of before and after school care, and no Summer Recreation Program. There are no day cares in Sebago; this is a challenge where both parents need to work. Standish, Naples, Limington, and Buxton were researched to see what they provide and how it works for them, said above towns have the same model as well as a full-time Recreation Director. The school sent out a survey, 80% of families responded with 44% that would participate in an afterschool program, and 60% would participate in a Summer Recreation. This would be a Town run program, not a school program.

Leslie Hayes part-time Sebago Recreation Director gave an overview of the Town of Bridgton's Recreation Program.

Barry Jordan stated there is a lot more to it than "just getting a full-time Recreation Director" he is all for giving the kids as many opportunities as we can. There is a need for workshops and come up with a plan to present to the Town that will outline what is needed.

Rich stated that is why the Town needs to hire a Recreation Director. This is the work that that Rec. Director would do from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 to be ready for Summer of 2024.

Phil Lowe enquired, is this about hiring a person this upcoming fiscal year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)?

Rich and Maggie replied they were hoping to get this position in under the radar for this upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023. This was not for the school to do as the Recreation Department is part of the Town, and would like it to stay that way. It is understood that the school is more than happy to let the Recreation Department use the grounds and buildings at no cost.

Charles Frechette asked Rich if there is any grant information, he could supply to the Select Board, Rich confirmed he would supply what he has.

Phil asked Rich if there was anyone at the school that would be willing to entertain trying to get a grant?

Rich replied that is why they are asking to get a full time Recreation Director into this upcoming fiscal year budget, as this would be their main assignment to get this program up and off the ground.

The Board commended Maggie for her hard work. Mark Roy stated it is a great idea, and growth is exponential and upcoming. Like most things it is a math problem, there is a need to try and not shoulder too much burden on the general public if there are grants available. It's a cart and horse scenario, a need to get someone in to do the research, and apply for the grants. It works for other Towns and could work for us.

Phil asked the Board if they should add a full time Recreation Director to this year's budget, which is currently up 14%.

Barry stated that with the salary of 50K, benefits and taxes need to be included, which is close for a total of \$100,000.00 yearly salary.

Charles asked how much time is there to get a meeting together. All parties involved decided upon April 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Town Office for the meeting.

E. Town Server Replacement Discussion

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Maureen reported that she has talked to the computer people and has been informed that the Town Server is very brittle. It is not scheduled to be replaced until 2025 in CIP. There have been ongoing issues, and it needs to be replaced sooner than later. Maureen suggested that further discussion take place at the next Select Board Meeting.

VIII. REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS

A. Town Manager

- Last Thursday, our Town Clerk Letitia and I attend a training session on “Preparing for an Audit”. The speaker was actually one of the town’s Auditors which gave me the opportunity to connect with him. It was a very informative class that is going to be very beneficial to us during the town’s audit processes.
- I’m going to be attending the annual Spring Meeting and training sessions of MCAPWA (Maine Chapter American Public Works Association) with our Public Works Director in Augusta this Thursday. We will be focusing on information that will allow us to develop a formal in-house training program for the Public Works department and the options available for purchasing materials at lower costs to the town.
- I met with two individuals from the Portland Water District last week to discuss several items. These included a discussion on their Sebago Lake Watershed conservancy program, water testing at the town beach throughout the summer months, and available (still unused) grant money for the town. Going forward, I will be meeting and working more with the Portland Water District and LEA (Lakes Environmental Association) on matters such as these.
- I was recently approached by a resident regarding his desire to donate a parcel of land to the town in his will. I will be looking into this matter and following up with him on it. It is a possibility that this parcel of land could be placed in the Portland Water District’s conservancy program since the whole town of Sebago is located in the Sebago Lake Watershed.
- Wanda Plummer has a request to ask that the local chapter of the American Field Service Exchange Program can rent the Town Hall for the annual end of stay overnight. There would be nine exchange girls and four to five chaperones arriving May 19th and departing May 20th. Those date conflict with preparing and scheduling the set up with Public Works for the Annual Town Meeting. A call will need to be made to the insurance company. Is this something the Board would approve.

Phil Strike the Fire Chief commented that the building isn’t sprinklered nor does it have a full-time alarm system.

Phil Lowe stated it poses a risk. Scott Douglas stated its safer to not approve the request.

Select Board unanimously voted down this request.

- If possible, I would like to hold the combined Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee meeting next Wednesday night. Before I communicate this to the Budget Committee, I need to know if this will work for the Board of Selectmen.
- The Emergency Warming Center has now been re-named The Sebago Emergency Community Center.
- Interviews have begun for the Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk position. An interview took place today. There is the possibility of running the Ad again in the newspapers. Four applications have been received. One has rescinded their application, and one is looking for just part-time.

The Board has chosen April 12th at 6:30pm will be the combined meeting of the Budget Committee, CIP and the Select Board.

B. Selectmen

Mark Roy had nothing to report.

Scott Douglas had nothing to report.

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Charles Frechette thanked the Town Manager and the Town Clerk for working on Mondays trying to catch up. Keep focused and get through it. All your hard work is not going unnoticed.

Maureen enquired if the Board has considered closing early on Wednesdays to try and get further caught up.

The majority of the Board is against the Town Office closing early on Wednesday. Working on Monday will continue temporarily as will having Bobbie Jo man the counter on Wednesdays.

Phil Lowe suggested having a two-week trial with Deputy Clerk Bobbie Jo solely manning the counter on Wednesdays. If it doesn't work it will be addressed at the end of the trial.

Barry Jordan reported that the cost of 1800 postcard Bulky Waste Day is \$356.00. Postage is not included in that amount; he is waiting for that cost from Cardinal.

Scott Douglas made a motion to cap the mailing of the postcards at \$1,400.00 using Cardinal Printing. Phil seconded. Motion passes with all in favor.

Barry stated that it came to his attention today that as the chair of the Ordinance Review Committee he does not have permission to talk to MMA free legal counsel. He could be added with a motion, a vote, a letter from the Town Manager and the minutes of this meeting.

Phil made a motion to put Barry Jordan on the MMA list to contact legal. Charles Frechette seconded. Motion passes with all in favor.

Barry has had a lot of people comment that yellow lights should be on Routes 11 and 114. D.O.T. does not support the entrance roads, only main drags. A third set of light may be purchased at bid cost, the Town can install on Route 11 for a projected amount of \$6,000.00 funded through ARPA.

C. Department Heads:

CEO-Brandon Wooley reported that he remains busy.

Fire-Chief Phil Strike asked about the status list of the tabled ARPA funds.

Phil Lowe stated that the list remains ongoing. There is a date of December 2024 to obligate the funds, and 2026 to expend the funds.

Barry Jordan asked if a Clerk for the Works has been put in place to oversee the Fire Station (Public Safety Building) project. Phil Strike stated that they will be talking about this at their next meeting. There is still some finalizing with Great Falls Construction.

Phil Lowe asked if there is a tentative start date.

Phil Strike replied there is no start date at this point.

Phil Strike reported there were 499 people that attended Maine Maple Sunday. The money raised is used to purchase rescue suits, ropes, other items that are in need that aren't budgeted for. An engagement ring was lost at Maine Maple Sunday and was later found.

EMA-Phil Strike reported that Cumberland County didn't meet the threshold from the Grinch Storm. Waiting on more information for mitigation funds from said storm, preventative maintenance.

EMS- Not present

Town Clerk- Continuing to catch up on work. Learning Sebago's Accounts Payable process. Just as a reminder, those who took out Nomination Papers, they are due back to the Clerks Office by Friday, April 7th no later than 5:00 PM

Rec-Recreation Director Leslie Hayes reported that most baseball and softball registrations are mostly in. Rec. has held baseball and softball clinics. There was an end of season celebration for basketball. Easter

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Egg Hunt is scheduled for this Saturday (April 8, 2023) rain or shine. Working on getting the third field (the Barry Jordan Field) ready for baseball, all three fields will be up and running. The new charter for SYAA baseball and softball. Will be hosting the Majors Tournament.

ACO-Not present

Health-Not present

GA- Barry Jordan reported its going along and everything is getting organized.

D. Committees:

Broadband-Not present.

Ordinance Review-Nothing new.

CIP-Maureen reported that CIP is all buttoned up.

Budget-Maureen will contact the Budget Committee and CIP members about next weeks combined meeting.

Policy Review-Nothing to report out on.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Marjorie Jansz thanked everyone for their hard work and for going above and beyond.

Phil Strike asked what the load count will be for Bulky Waste Day.

Phil Lowe replied it is one load, with no boats.

There was a comment from the audience that they are pleased to hear conversation about after school and summer programs.

Phil Lowe agreed stating that both parents and children need it.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Scott Douglas made the motion to adjourn at 8:42 PM. Barry Jordan seconded. Motion carried will all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Letitia M. Genest
Town Clerk
Approved at the June 20, 2023 Meeting