

**TOWN OF SEBAGO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022
SELECTMEN MEETING 6:30 PM
TOWN OFFICE BUILDING**

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.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Barry Jordan called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Selectmen: Charles Frechette, Barry Jordan and Mark Roy, Interim Town Manager
Maureen Scanlon, Interim Town Clerk and Recorder Desirae Lyle

Absent: Phil Lowe

Guests present: Philip Strike, James Palmer, Tina Vanasse, Claudia Lowe, June & Donelle Allen,
Ann Farley, Susan & John Coyne

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the start of this meeting.

III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Mark Roy made a motion to add New Business Item E Adopt General Assistance Maximums.
Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

IV. Public Hearing 2021 General Assistance Maximum Levels of Assistance

Barry Jordan opened the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Desirae Lyle spoke briefly about the General Assistance Maximum Levels of Assistance. These are enforced by the State of Maine, and are already in place as of October 1, 2022, but the Board has to formally adopt them. Many of the maximums have increased since last year. Phil Strike asked what the maximums are. Desirae explained that last years overall maximum income for a family of one in Cumberland County for thirty (30) days was \$963.00, that has been increased to \$1,016.00. Many people come in and are over income based on these numbers.

Mark Roy made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:36 p.m. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the October 4, 2022 Selectmen's Executive Session and Meeting Minutes

Charles Frechette made a motion to approve the October 4, 2022 Selectmen's Executive Session and Meeting Minutes as presented. Mark Roy seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

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B. Approval of the FY 23 Warrants Weeks 14 & 15

Mark Roy made a motion to approve Fiscal Year 23 warrants, weeks 14 and 15. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

IV. Reports from Town Officials – Public Works

Mark Roy made a motion to move the Public Works Directors report to the beginning of the agenda so that he can go home. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Jim Palmer noted that he is working on mixing salt and sand for winter road maintenance. He will be starting to grade public easement roads the first week in November, he explained that he is still short staffed and would like to request that the Selectmen allow him and the crew 5-10 hours of overtime a week to catch up and/or get ahead before snow removal starts. Barry Jordan mentioned trying to hire someone part time to help with the grading. Jim is unsure if the town could afford what an operator would want for pay. Barry would like to have a discussion during budget season to figure out what to do with the public easement roads and if there could be room in the budget for a part time operator. Barry mentioned the public easement letters that were sent and he would like to see more specific details, or he would like to see there be a conversation between the town and anyone that may be “in charge” of each road. Barry asked out of all if the public easement roads how many public works wont plow. Jim responded that all roads will be plowed unless there is a chance that George Anderson & Sons will damage a truck or plow.

Mark Roy made a motion to approve overtime for the public works department. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Jim will try to keep overtime under ten (10) hours a person per week, and this will be temporary. Motion carried with all in favor.

Jim mentioned that the backhoe was down this week, but he was able to temporarily fix it. Charles would like to take a look at the backhoe when Jim starts working on it again.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Remote Meeting Discussion

Mark Roy visited the Town of Bridgton and was able to see the “Owl” remote system in action. He was told that the initial cost for the “owl” is under \$1,000.00. The town would still need a corporate account through zoom, google meets, etc. There would also need to be a dedicated laptop for the use of the “owl”.

B. FOAA Complaint/Resolution Discussion – 80B Complaint Statement

Barry Jordan noted that the FOAA complaint has been satisfied to the best of his knowledge.

Interim Town Manager Maureen Scanlon read the following statement from Town Attorney Tim Murphy into the record: *“The Town Attorney, Tim Murphy, has indicated that the Gorham Sand and Gravel has filed an 80 B complaint in the Cumberland County Superior Court challenging the Town Zoning Board’s recent decisions on appeals of the Gorham Sand’s Site Plan approval.*

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The case also includes a legal challenge of the Town's gravel moratorium. Gorham Sand's legal counsel, Attorney Hepler, has advised the Town Attorney that Gorham Sand is going to hold off on further local proceedings before the Town's Planning Board until such time as the Court completes its review of the 80 B appeal and its legal challenge of the moratorium. The Town has retained Attorney John Wall to handle the defense of this legal action. The Select Board will provide further updates based on the Superior Court's actions when possible. "

C. Information Disbursement / Website Improvements Discussion

Interim Town Manager Maureen Scanlon reported that there is a company interested in updating the website for the Town. The quote for improvements was \$16,000 with an annual fee of \$3,000 for maintenance. Charles Frechette agreed that the website should be more user friendly. Barry Jordan mentioned adding a sentence to the tax bills when they are mailed to remind tax payers to subscribe to news on the website. Mark Roy noted that he is willing to help with updates and changes to the website after the holiday season.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lion's Club Blood Drive Request

The Sebago Lion's Club has asked to rent the Town Hall to hold a blood drive in association with the Red Cross. Maureen has already spoken to Health Officer Helen Twombly who agreed that it is a great cause and sees no issue holding it at the Town Hall. It is a Town organization and the fees will be waived.

Mark Roy made a motion to approve the Sebago Lion's Club request for whatever date they agree on that doesn't conflict with previously scheduled events at the Town Hall. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

B. Road Grading Discussion

This was covered during the discussion with Public Works Director Jim Palmer.

C. Public Easement Roads

This was also covered during the discussion with Jim Palmer.

D. Transfer Station Fees

Desirae Lyle gave the Board copies of the current Transfer Station fees. Barry Jordan would be willing to speak to the attendants and ask their opinion. Charles Frechette would like to see what we are currently being charged for these items.

Mark Roy made a motion to authorize Barry Jordan to speak with the Transfer Station attendants about the current fees and see if they would agree that the fees need to be updated. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

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E. Adopt 2022-2023 General Assistance Maximums

Charles Frechette made a motion to adopt the 2022-2023 General Assistance Maximums. Mark Roy seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

VII. REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS

A. Interim Town Manager

Maureen Scanlon noted:

- The Sebago Artists have started working on the mural.
- The ad requesting bids for the repairs to Fire Station 3 has been sent and she will be mailing out requests to some local companies.
- The Tax Acquired Property Committee will wait and meet once a new Town Manager has been named.
- Absentee Balloting is ongoing, so far 114 absentee ballots have been issued for both the State and Local Elections (totaling 228 sent).

B. Selectmen

Mark Roy had nothing to add.

Charles Frechette had nothing to add.

Barry Jordan asked to add to the next agenda a discussion about the Transfer Station hours. Last year the hours were changed to 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday during the winter months. Maureen Scanlon noted that the hour change was to help with budgeting, the office received many complaints about the change of hours. Barry will talk to the attendants and see what they think about this. Barry commented that he will be speaking to the policy committee about implementing an orientation process for any new board or committee members.

C. Department Heads

Brandon Woolley had nothing to report.

Phil Strike commented that:

- The Planning Board approved the Public Safety Building with no restrictions at the October 11, 2022 meeting. He will work with Great Falls Construction, Inc to obtain a building permit.
- He would like the Board to consider obtaining a "Chief's" vehicle. Cumberland County retires vehicles and offers them at a reasonable rate to the towns. The Town of Naples recently obtained a vehicle for their chief who works full time. Phil is using his personal vehicle for fire

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calls and EMA work. This would help him as well as the Town. Mark Roy voiced his support for this.

- The winter season is almost upon us. Phil reminded those in attendance that when they change their clocks for daylight savings, they should change the batteries in their smoke detectors and CO2 alarms. Smoke detectors expire and no longer work effectively after ten years.
- Barry Jordan mentioned that once the Public Safety Building is complete it would be nice to have a plaque in the chiefs' office listing all prior chiefs. Phil has already started reviewing the minutes and compiling a list of past chiefs.
- Tina Vanasse asked if Phil should have a master radio at home. Phil explained that he has a portable radio that is always on him.

Charles Frechette asked Brandon about the wolf sanctuary on Hogfat Hill Road. Brandon Woolley explained that it is a wildlife refuge, the "wolves" are hybrid domestic animals. The Planning Board will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Brandon invited the Board to meet with him or attend the meeting and ask questions. It is a sensitive situation that is ongoing. Brandon hopes that the veterinarians will be at the public hearing, as well as a representative from Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Brandon noted that all of the neighbors have either contacted him and/or been invited to the meeting. There is an operational facility in Limington, that has been in operation for many years.

Barry Jordan asked if Brandon Woolley or Phil Strike would like their reports to the beginning of the agenda like they did for Jim Palmer. Both noted that they would rather stay in case there are any questions.

D. Committees

There were no reports from any committees.

VIII. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Donelle Allen asked when and where the Planning Board public hearing regarding the wildlife rescue would be. Brandon Woolley replied that it would be at the Town Office November 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Barry Jordan mentioned that voting will be taking place at the Town Hall during the Planning Board meeting.

Phil Strike asked if there was an update to the Town Manager Search, he knows that Maureen and Desirae are overworked. Barry Jordan noted that the Selectmen will be starting interviews next week. Of the twenty-one applicants there are seven or eight that the Board will be interviewing, there are a couple of applicants from town.

Phil Strike reminded the Board that they skipped over Desirae during reports from department heads.

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Desirae Lyle reiterated that the Planning Board will be holding a public hearing on Tuesday, November 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. here at the Town Office. The Planning Board set a date for the public hearing regarding the proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance Use Tables. That meeting will be Thursday, November 17, 2022, 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office. Also, 2023 dog licenses are now available.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mark Roy made a motion to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Charles Frechette seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Desirae Lyle
Interim Town Clerk
Approved at the November 1, 2022 Meeting**