

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**August 24, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: Gil opened the meeting through videoconferencing at 7:00PM

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE:

Gilbert S. Harris, Joanne L. Andrews, Wendy M. Thorne, Heath D. Edgerly, Dorothy M. Richard

ATTENDEES:

- Mike Ward, Kathy Ward, Judy LePage, Cindy Smith, Dave Candage, Merrill Farrand, Steve McLean

MINUTES:

- .Dottie **motioned** to accept the minutes of August 10<sup>th</sup> with one change, on page 3 it said “Dottie said that they could do shatterproof it just needs to be approved by MMA” and she wants that struck, it just needs to be approved by MMA. She didn’t say that and they don’t need approval. Wendy **second**. **All** were in favor.
- Dottie **motioned** to approve the minutes for August 17. Heath **second**. Four were in favor, Wendy abstained.

WARRANTS:

- Wendy **motioned** to approve the warrants as written. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- Cindy Smith, Library report: Cindy told everyone what is going on in the Library. Gil asked if the new hire had started and Cindy told him that Demetria Pellegrino had started Friday. Cindy brought up that Demetria is a Notary but it is running out in November and that she has offered to renew it and Cindy wanted to see if they would reimburse her for that. Gil brought up that there were others who were Notary’s already and asked if the Library needs one. Dottie brought up that Demetria works on Saturdays so that would be good. Dottie **motioned** that we reimburse Demetria the \$50 to be a Notary. Heath **second**. **All** were in favor.
- Lisa LePage, Community Block Party (deferred to next week)
- Cash flow review: Wendy read what was in the bank account and the uncollected 2018 and 2019 taxes and brought up that if they start to spend money out of the accounts holding money left and right then they will run into a cash flow issue. She brought up that the mil rate will be set tonight and that they will start to see cash flow in from taxes. Wendy read off the amounts for the revenues coming in and where they are compared to last year. Gil asked if the Revenue Sharing was up to date and Wendy told him yes. Heath asked if the money that was sitting in certain accounts, like the \$800,000, are collecting interest and Wendy told him that it goes into the regular account and does not get separated for the separate accounts. Heath brought up maybe having that divided in the future. Gil asked if it goes into the General Ledger and Wendy told him that it does and it can be used to offset commitment.

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Gil said that having this read every week will help not only the Selectmen know what is going on with the accounts but it will also help everyone in town know where they are in terms of how much is coming in and being spent. Wendy said that it is good to be aware of cash flow because they have to know in advanced for a TAN, Tax Anticipation Note, and it would take several months to get a loan on that basis. Gil asked if they should start getting that paperwork together and Wendy told him not until they start spending money on the other projects, but when the taxes start rolling in they will be fine. Gil asked about unpaid taxes compared to last year and Wendy said that she could have that for next week.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Sidewalk snow removal contract: The Board discussed that they had talked about this in their workshop and how they should have the changes sent off to the town attorney for final approval and Dottie will do that.
- Rte. 5 intersection @ Range E/Burnham Road: Gil brought up that there has been some discussion on this topic and some people are in favor of a 4-way stop and others are not. Joanne brought up that the letter to DOT should include that the town wants them to put up strobe lights. Gil brought up that they would have to do LED's because of the tree cover and Joanne said that if they don't do the solar they can hook it into the electricity and Gil said that if they go with solar it will happen almost immediately and if they do not go with solar then it could take up to a year. Heath brought up that he noticed that there are problems with a couple of the larger trees and he doesn't think the state will take care of them and Dottie told him that the state would take care of them but not until 2024. Heath brought up using other alternatives that are less drastic then the 4-way stop like putting rumble strips on Burnham Road which seems to be where most of the accidents are coming from and put a white stop line on the road, and to also try taking the trees out to see if that helps with the visibility and he asked who is involved with these accidents. Joanne brought up that most of the accidents had occurred at 8:00AM and 4:00PM in the months of February, July, August, and September. Dottie brought up that it seems to be more local because it is during business hours. Wendy said that she is not in favor of the 4-way stop being there because of the tractor trailer trucks and the people who have lived here for a long time could possibly forget about the Stop signs. Gil said that he agrees that they should look at other options first. Joanne asked Steve McLean how many accidents have occurred there so far this year. Steve McLean told her about 8. Heath said that talking to the Fire Chief he said about one accident every 30 days. Dottie asked if all of the people in the accidents were coming out of Burnham Road and Steve told her that most of them were and that he had talked to the head of DOT and had been told that the trees belonged to the residence on the corner and that the state does not own them and he had checked with the owner and they said they could take them but they could not figure out who was going to pay for them. Steve told the Board that they should figure out how much taking one tree down was going to cost. Heath offered the idea of looking into a safety grant. Joanne asked about the line that Heath had brought up and he told her that it would be next to the Stop sign and the most expensive part would be the reflective grit and that with the rumble strips they just cut a certain way down into the pavement. The Board decided to bring Bob Richardson in for the next week's meeting in order to discuss it.
- Dottie brought up the auctioning of town properties and that there are seven of them and that they have to advertise 30 days prior to the auction. Heath said that it would be with sealed

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bids after Gil asked when they would do it at one of the meetings. Joanne brought up the properties on Quarry Road being swamp area and that they should be protected and Steve McLean made the comment about conservation. Heath asked about having it surveyed because he does not want to see the three properties hold up auctioning the rest of the properties off. Heath **motioned** to set a 30 day date so we can get these advertised and get moving on them. Joanne **second**. They discussed opening the bids on October 5<sup>th</sup> and Heath modified his motion to include October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. Dottie brought up advertising it weekly in the Shopping Guide and once in the Portland Paper. Dave Candage asked about it being put on the website and Heath said yes. Joanne **second**. **All** were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- BTH use exception: The Research Club had asked for an exception to the policy of people only using the second floor if they are to use the Brick Town Hall. Dottie **motioned** that we allow the Research Club to use the first floor room here in the Brick Town Hall for their meetings. Joanne **second**. Heath brought up if they allow one group they will have to allow others and Dottie told him that it would be a case by case basis and that all of American Legion and the Mason's things are upstairs. Joanne brought up that that they wanted to put an elevator in but it would have had to be a tower on the outside of the building and would have cost about \$1,000,000. Wendy asked about the Community Room at the Municipal Building and she was told that people can use it if it is during business hours and Wendy asked when the Research Club met and she was told that they meet at 7:00PM. Heath brought up that there would be no problem with the cleaning because it is part of the Custodial job. **All** were in favor.
- Community Garden: Judy LePage asked about the Board thinking that they had to put this on the ballot just to plant seedlings and vegetables? Heath said that it is because the committee would be altering the land and that the Community Block Party and rec use the property but they do not alter it. Judy asked how they were altering it all they are doing is planting vegetables to give to the food pantries or if someone from G.A. needs some and they are not profiting off of it and that if there are any donations it would go to the rec department and that they will be donating their time and seeds to plant a garden behind the shack at the Municipal Building. Heath brought up that if they had extra beds people could use them if they don't have a space of their own to do so and Wendy brought up that if they do that they need some kind of agreement and the Selectmen can set the policy. Heath brought up that with any other town property the Selectmen have the oversight of it and there would be some guidelines. Wendy brought up that it would need to go to the Legislative body because they are using the property for something that is not already there. Judy said that they should forget about renting spaces out and just for now keep it simple. Wendy said that she does not have a problem with that but she has a problem with what would happen down the road and if this morphs into more than just the committee using it and that if it is only the committee using it then there needs to be guidelines for that too. Gil brought up the committee coming up with some bylaws of how it is going to be used. Judy asked if there were any bylaws for the rec department and isn't it the job of the Selectmen to make those bylaws. Gil brought up that these are vague terms and that the Community Garden should get together and discuss this then bring it to the Selectmen. Heath said that there would be parameters on it and the Selectmen would be kept in the loop and that by putting in the article to authorize the Selectmen to authorize whoever keeps the Selectmen as

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the overseers of it. Gil brought up that this is the first they are hearing of the limited to just the committee using it then other townspeople using it. Judy brought up that they are movable beds so if they don't want them there then they can be taken out and she brought up that if there is an article for this it would not go on until March because nothing is going on for November, except for the rotation of the Selectmen. Wendy read the article she had written and Gil brought up that he would be more comfortable with the citizens having a say in it. Judy asked if they had an October fest if they could use the snack shack and they said that yes they could and Gil said that he would like a formal request before making a decision on it.

- Discuss change of road name (Kingfield to Mountain View): Steve McLean told the Board about how he had bought a lot at the bottom of the mountain and now he owns from route 5 up through the mountain and he wants to change the name because the first 250 feet of it is Kingfield then the rest of it is Mountain View and it would just be easier to have the whole thing be Mountain View and he does not need approval from the Selectmen because he did not need to do that before. The CEO had told him that he would send it to the Selectmen for discussion. Steve told the Board that the lots on route 5 have permits for state access. Heath asked why the Board has it in front of them. Steve said that the CEO said that with it being private property he can name it what he wants. And that the town attorney and his attorney said that the Selectmen have no say in it. Gil brought up that one person on Kingfield complained about it and Steve told him that she has a P.O. Box and she should not have been given a Kingfield address according to the subdivision plan. Steve brought up that the Budget Committee can have a conversation over the phone for a recommendation and Wendy told him that they could have done a zoom meeting and Dottie said they could have done a teleconferencing call. Wendy said that they would fix it. Steve asked about the money for the Fire Department that is owed to the people on calls. Wendy told him that the article the town voted on was for the stipends and was not based on an hourly rate because if it was an hourly rate the people would become town employees. Gil said that it was supposed to come from the Fire Chief and they have not received anything.
- Mil rate discussion: Wendy told everyone that the mil rate would be 16.40 and read off the amounts for the tax evaluation, county tax, municipal appropriation, local education, and overlay. She read off the amounts of revenues coming in like, Revenue Sharing, Homestead, BETTE reimbursement, and other revenues. Dottie **motioned** to approve the mil rate of 16.40. Heath **second**. Wendy went on to explain that the mil rate went up because they used unassigned money to cover lapsed balances. She said that they have to be careful when using unassigned to drop the mil rate because it can artificially deflate it and went on to say that the school percentage of the taxes had gone up and so had the county tax. Wendy went on to read the expenditures that they have voted on for the budget and that they will just have to work harder to get the expenditures down. Heath thanked Wendy and said that everything is going up and that they are not far off on the mil rate. Wendy talked about how they had restructured the Fire Department payroll and how they should have used a reserve for the road budget. **All** were in favor.
- Limerick articles discussion: Judy LePage got up and asked the Board that if it is not an emergency to not put anything on the November ballot because they have received many requests from townspeople for absentee ballots already. The rotation of Selectmen needs to be done in November because it has to be done 90 days before March. She also said that they would like to be able to use both machines one for absentee and the other for people who come in and vote. Dottie said that there was nothing controversial that needs to be on

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the ballot and that they could have a Special Town Meeting for the term limits and the definitions for the Planning Board and Judy asked what that was. Dottie told her that it pertains to farming and domestic animals. Judy told them that Special Town Meetings are for things that are urgent and cannot wait until the next annual town meeting and brought up that they could have two or three separate questions on a paper ballot and they could use old ballot boxes that they have. Dottie brought up having a Special Town Meeting with a paper ballot where people would go to the town offices and vote and Judy brought up having it sometime in October. Heath said that they had discussed getting another machine and that they didn't think they were going to need one and Judy told him that they did not want to mess with November and that renting another machine would cost upwards of \$2,800 and that if they did different colored ballots it wouldn't cost anything and people can still vote absentee. Judy brought up that Mr. LePage had asked about the lot behind the Brick Town Hall and that he just wants to know what is going on because he does not want to wait and Wendy told her that they had been researching it and looking into the deeds. Joanne asked if it could be put on the October ballot and Wendy asked if it had been surveyed and what the property is and Heath said there were also other things that needed to be done with the property as well. Gil asked about an action step and Dottie told him it would be a Special Town Meeting by secret ballot and came up with the date of October 20 which the rest of the Board agreed with and to have the term limits, the definitions, the community garden article, and maybe the land swap if they can get it figured out. Wendy brought up putting the broadcast article on the October ballot as well and how it had been split into two articles and that she is strongly emphasizing the 70% that they use of Franchise Fees for payroll and SRC-TV and the rest goes to the equipment and if they go over the amount that they receive it has to be made up through taxation. Heath asked about insurance on the equipment and he was told that there is insurance because it is part of the town's insurance. Heath said that he does not want people to shy away from the broadcast article because they are talking about exceeding the 70%. Dottie brought up that the Franchise Fees could drop because people could drop Spectrum which is where they come from. Wendy brought up that the people she has talked to do not want all the committee meetings televised. Gil asked about the action step for the land swap and he was told that they would have to look into the deeds, purchase order, and have it surveyed and Wendy said she would work on it.

- Freedom of access webinar: Wendy **motioned** to authorize the Selectmens Secretary to attend this meeting, there's a cost of \$35. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor.
- Gil brought up that Robert Brawn had agreed to be the Constable and the Board discussed finding a Deputy Constable and talked about advertising it. Judy LePage brought up that there should be a job description for the Constable and Gil said that they will look to see if they have a job description for that position. Gil asked about an action step and Heath said to have it advertised and Gil said that they could compare the things in the job description with the application and see who qualifies and the Board decided to put it on the agenda for the next week.
- Heath brought up the potential buildings that he had found for the Transfer Station from All American Steel Buildings and that they are wholesaling them right now and the building he found was 30x35 and it is free delivery and free blueprints and that they do not hold the building and there is no installation fee included in the quote and that they would have to pay for the door but the opening for the door would be 14x14. The Board decided to discuss it at the next meeting and Gil asked Heath to send both quotes to the Board.

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- Workshops: Gil told everyone that there would be no workshop next week because of the Special Town Meeting and that they would determine their next workshop during the regular meeting the next week.
- Heath **motioned** that we go with the updated bid/purchase policy that we completed in our workshop. Wendy **second**. **All** were in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dottie read the announcements.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- Heath brought up a complaint about someone blocking access to a business that they had received and Gil told him that he had spoken to the person who made the complaint and said that he would be sending the complaint process.
- Kathy Ward brought up an ongoing issue with parking at the ballfield and how people are parking on both sides of the travel lane and that bushes she had emailed the Board about have not been cut yet. Heath told her that it had been forwarded to the Road Commissioner and he said he would take care of it and that they would invite him to the next meeting to discuss it. Gil asked Kathy if she had any suggestions and she said that she could start having people towed. Heath brought up that visibility of the signs may work but he is skeptical and Kathy agreed saying that they do not read the signs that are there. Kathy also said that she regretted giving the town the road because they have been treated like crap and having the road blocked like it is, is a danger. Mike Ward brought up that there had been questions on the Pickerel Pond boat launch last week, Gil told him that it had been determined that the town did not own that. Mike brought up that the lake association had cleaned up the island and that they should find out who owns the road that goes there. Joanne said that she had brought up that they should do a title search for it to find out who owns it and Dottie said that she does not believe that the town owns the right-of-way. Gil brought up that when Frank Carroll owned it he would take care of it and he was told that they are talking about the other side end. Mike brought up that there is no place to park at the right-of-way down there and the Board should find out who owns it. Heath told the Board that there are people interested in buying it and asked about the original owners and Dottie told him that it had been foreclosed on. Heath brought up that the property that had been foreclosed on had been auctioned but the island was never included and brought up adding it to the list of properties to be auctioned. Joanne told him that there was an offer of \$5,000 for the island. Heath brought up that the advantage of the town owning it and a tax payer owning it would be that the town could collect taxes on it and Mike told them that they would want to put good restrictions on it and Dottie said that what restrictions we can put on that we can enforce. Gil said that they should not be too hasty with this and Mike said that they find out who owns the road before raffling off the island. Heath said that he needs more information. Dottie **motioned** that we see if we can get Michael Lalonde to survey that, to research who owns that right-of-way. Gil **second**. Heath asked if the right-of-way would have gone with the foreclosed property and Joanne told him that the right-of-way is separate and has always gone with the island. Heath asked about people who own camps on that road have the rights to use the road that Mike owns to get to their camps and Mike told him yes. Dottie amended her motion that we get an estimate to do a deed research on who

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owns the right-of-way on Island Road off of Cottage Road. Gil amended his second. **All** were in favor.

ADJOURN MEETING:

- Wendy **motioned** to adjourn. Dottie **second. All** were in favor
- The Meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

These minutes were approved by the Limerick Board of Selectmen on:

**End of Broadcast**

Respectfully submitted,

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Courtney Davis

**FOR DETAILS OF MEETING**  
**SEE RECORDING**  
“Limerick Selectmen’s Meeting”  
August 24, 2020  
By Gail Libby