

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

**January 25, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Gil opened the meeting at 7:05PM.

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE:

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

ATTENDEES:

- Joe Parsons

MINUTES:

- Joanne **motioned** to approve the minutes for January 19. Wendy **second**. **All** were in favor.

WARRANT:

- Gil reminded everyone to review and sign the warrants. Heath told the Board that there are time cards that have been hand edited and not approved by a supervisor. Gil asked if Laura was working on getting those back to the department head and Heath said that he had made it a point but nothing was said. Wendy said for Gil to send out a blanket email to all the department heads and Gil said that he would do that.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dottie read the announcements.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- Joe Parsons, Recreation Department: Asked if the Fire Department are the ones flooding the ice rink and asked if they are going to flood it again and Heath told him that yes they are the ones flooding it and they are going to add more water onto it. Heath brought up approving the skate trainers and Joe said that he had talked to Laura and that if they ordered them through Amazon they would not get them till March so he is going to go buy them then get reimbursed. Joe brought up starting a dance session in March for four weeks on either Monday's or Thursday's up at the Brick Town Hall. The secretary told Joe that Thursday's would be better because there is only one meeting those days and it is only once a month and Joe said that he could contact her with those dates. Heath asked when the start date would be and Joe said March 4 and every Thursday after that for four weeks. Heath brought up that they have some rental equipment coming from SRC TV for Town Meeting and Dottie brought up holding off for two more weeks and Joe said that he would have to check with Miranda to make sure. Dottie asked if Miranda has any kind of certification and asked if that is something that Joe could get for them to have on file and Joe said that he believes they have it already and the secretary said that she would check tomorrow. Joe asked about

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when the mirrors would be in and Heath told him that the order was never placed and Joe asked if they were going to place the order. Wendy said that she thinks that they should hold off on that order because it is a lot of money and it may limit the use up there for other functions. Joe asked why it got approved and Wendy said that more thought should have been put into it and Joe made the comment of going back and rehashing this stuff and Wendy said that they can revisit things. Wendy asked how many kids were signed up and Joe said that they haven't put sign ups out yet. Dottie said that she doesn't think that the Brick Town Hall is the place for mirrors and that the building is used for multiple things. Joe asked why they approved the camera and the TV and that they are approving things but not moving forward. Heath asked for Gil and Joanne's outlook on this. Joanne said that when they voted on it was based on the answer forthcoming from MMA and she is still not convinced that MMA would even cover it and that it is too much of a liability for the town and it could keep others from using that upstairs. Heath asked about the other mirror that is already up there and that MMA said that it would have to be looked at as a case by case basis and brought up no one letting Joe know about the mirrors is a problem. Joe said that it makes it difficult to plan and move forward. Dottie made the comment about not making a modification to a building like that and that it was a mistake to approve it and for the other one to be put up there and that he can use it as a dance studio just the mirrors should not go up there. Dottie made the comment about how several parents had come to her and said that the camera and TV should not have gone up there and Joe said that the parents should have the option to see their kids and that he had a majority of the parents tell him that they wanted to see their kids. Joanne asked if they have that in other places that Miranda teaches and Joe said yes. Joanne said that she thought Laura had told Joe that they had not been ordered by the end of the year. Gil apologized to Joe for the miscommunication and that he should have been notified and Heath made the comment about wanting to know who told Laura not to order the mirrors and why it became a one Board member decision when they never revisited it. Dottie told Heath that by the time Laura got the order that it was too late to put it in and it had to be in by the end of the year and Heath said that Laura said that if they had voted on it didn't matter if it ran into the next year. Joe made the comment on how Laura said that it would be up to the Selectmen for an order that big. Wendy asked if he could still do dance classes without the mirror and Joe said yes but made the comment about upgrading. Gil made the comment of what's there is there and the addition of more is what brought this up and Joanne said that the one that is there needs to be properly installed and commented that MMA will not stand behind the one that is there and Joe asked if he should remove it and Joanne said that they think the Board should discuss that at another time. Joanne said that her concern is the liability to the town. Heath asked who told Laura not to place the order and Wendy told him no one that she knew of because when she talked to Laura she was told that there had been no purchase order done. Gil made the comment of trying to rush it through on the 2020 budget and that didn't happen and Joanne said that Laura had told her that it had to be invoiced and ordered in 2020. Dave Candage asked a question about if MMA will cover injuries at the skating area and Joanne said yes. Another

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question was asked if the mirror up there is shatterproof and if there are mirrors up there do they need to be shatterproof and Joe said that they were told they need to be shatterproof and the one up there is not shatterproof and needs to be removed but they will address it later.

- Joanne Andrews, Transfer Station: Told everyone that they had finalized the contract with Fowler Roofing & Construction and that the building cost \$36,000, for erecting it, foundation, the floor, and the 14 foot overhead door. She told everyone that the Code Enforcement Officer had inspected it and approved it and they had moved into it last week. Joanne told everyone that the only money the town had liability wise was \$19,500 and the other money was a grant that she had received from the DEP. She told everyone that the plumbing under the floor is all donated by Mr. Hogan and the dig was donated and that there is electricity that is going in and a bathroom which will eliminate the porta potty down there. Joanne told everyone that they had received a check from Grimmell for metal that was \$6,223.80 that was \$115 per straight ton.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Approve background checks: Gil told everyone that they have background checks in process for the staff at the Transfer Station. Wendy **motioned** to approve the background checks. Dottie **second**. Heath brought up them already being done and Joanne said that when they voted on them they should be done every five years and that she had requested it. Dottie made the comment of background checks usually being approved for new hires and when they approve the background check they are approving the new hire and that they had voted on everyone having to have one. Gil brought up that he would sign that for the record and Joanne brought up that Gil had been doing it all along and he said yes with the ones that have been mentioned in the meeting.
- Approve & sign Certificate of Completion for water/sewer project: Dottie **motioned** to approve and sign the Certificate of Completion for the water/sewer project. Joanne **second**. **Four were in favor, Heath did not vote.** Heath froze and was having technical difficulties.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Review Warrant articles: Article 26: egress design for the first floor of the Brick Town Hall, Wendy said that she had asked Heath if he had gotten any bids on and he had not and it was brought up to move it to the June ballot and they do not have an exact dollar amount. Joanne asked if a Request for Proposal should be put out and Wendy said yes but they will not have enough time to get anything back. Wendy **motioned** to put this on the June ballot. Joanne **second**. **Four were in favor, Heath did not vote.** Article 27: To transfer so much from unassigned to the capital project reserve account. Wendy said that she still does not have the final numbers for this article from Laura and that if she doesn't it will have to go to a later vote. Article 28: Funds from Snowmobile registrations to use for snowmobile club. Joanne **motioned** to approve as written. Dottie **second**. **Three were in favor, Gil and Heath did not vote.** Article 29: housekeeping articles. Wendy told everyone that she had gotten a

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notification that the rate will go down to 6%. Joanne **motioned** that we approve the warrant articles as written. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor. Wendy brought up revenues and read the different ones that she has, state block grant, excise tax, boat fees, agent fees, clerk fees, Code Enforcement, Recreation, Fire Department, and that she does not have the bank interest she is waiting on that from Laura and said that they could hold off on this one because they do not know what the lapsed balances are going to be to offset commitment. Article 31: tax abatements, \$15,000. Wendy **motioned** to place \$15,000 on the warrant. Joanne **second**. **All** were in favor. Article 32: \$15,000 for unanticipated expenses that are emergencies out of the unassigned account. Wendy **motioned** that we put on the warrant \$15,000. Dottie **second**. Gil made the comment that the amount has been that the Selectmen have used over the years. **All** were in favor. Article 33: government operations. Wendy brought up the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector budget and how they are splitting the job and that each job is 20 hours a week and Judy was handling it as a fulltime person. Wendy told everyone the total dollar amount that had been submitted, \$105,841 which is an increase of \$16,719 and that she would do some research to see what's fair for them and the town and that they are trying to determine how much the person running for Town Clerk should get paid. She told everyone that with COLA it would increase to \$16.97. Judy had proposed \$23.11 and this figure had come from someone being in place for a long time and that they have to look at hourly wage and how long that person has been on the job and population. Wendy read off numbers from other towns and Gil asked if she has an average of those numbers and Wendy said yes, \$22.83 and is above the median which ranges from \$40,000 to \$40,779 and went on to say that giving her \$21 per hour at 37 hours would put her at \$40,404. Wendy went through and told everyone that for the Tax Collector the numbers that she had come up with were 37 hours at \$24.88 per hour would be \$47,869 for a total payroll of \$88,273. She told everyone that the budget request was \$96,326. Gil made the comment on how Judy said that she didn't want to take a decrease in pay and asked if on the floor if that can be raised and he was told yes. Wendy made the comment on when you do the math it comes out to 37 hours. Heath asked if she surveys all branches of government like she has with this one and Wendy said that she has a spreadsheet with all departments on it. Heath made a comment about how it is hard to put apples to apples because the town is different than others and asked how it works with it being on the town floor and if someone can raise it or lower it and Wendy told him that because the amount is not in the wording of the article then it can be increased or decreased. Wendy made the comment that with starting DeeDee out at \$21 it is being fair to everyone and that it gives her room to grow in pay. Heath asked about DeeDee being deputy to the Tax Collector and Gil told him that they would be deputies to each other and Heath made the comment of now disavowing the half of a job they will be doing on the side. Wendy told them about the other towns Tax Collector and Town Clerk and Heath asked if they were deputy to each other and Wendy told him that in some towns they are. Gil **motioned** to accept that warrant with Wendy's adjustments. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor. Wendy asked if they wanted to go over these and Gil said that they already discussed them. Joanne **motioned** to recommend a total dollar amount of

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\$652,435. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor. Article 34: earned paid leave account. Dottie **motioned** to place \$6,500 on the warrant for this account. Joanne **second**. Gil made the comment about this being mandated. **All** were in favor. Article 35: operations of assessing, code enforcement, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and tax assessment. Gil **motioned** to place \$135,326 on the warrant. Heath **second**. **Four were in favor, Dottie abstained**. Article 36: three year contract for door to door pickup. Joanne **motioned** to recommend a yes vote. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor. Article 37: \$30,000 for future paving of town roads. Gil **motioned** to put \$30,000 on the warrant. Dottie **second**. **Four were in favor, Heath was opposed**. Article 38: operations for public works. Dottie **motioned** to recommend \$1,318,011. Gil **second**. **Four were in favor, Heath was opposed**. Article 39: Rescue billing account. Dottie **motioned** to place \$50,000 on the warrant. Joanne **second**. **All** were in favor. Article 40: EMS has total dollar amount of \$342,004 and she can deduct \$47,747 or when we get to this article and the fire article passes reducing it by \$50,000 and Gil said to leave it how it is because it is always a good thing to say that they have to reduce something. Gil **motioned** to place \$553,197 on the warrant for this article. Dottie **second**. Heath made the comment that having one article dependent on another and its confusion and Gil said that if the first one fails then the second one has it and if it passes then they can say they are going to reduce the next article. Dottie made a comment about the Public Hearing only being for the secret ballot articles and town meeting is the Public Hearing for the articles. **All** were in favor. Article 41: operations for community services. Dottie **motioned** to recommend \$87,610 to go on the warrant. Joanne **second**. **All** were in favor. Article 42: capital project account and Wendy does not have all the figures and she knows that they want to put \$8,000 in for bleachers and Gil brought up paving behind the Municipal Building and asked Heath if he was going to request a proposal for that. Heath told everyone that they were trying to figure out what was underneath, a total reconstruction or just an overlay. Gil brought up having to come back for a Special Town Meeting for the paving after they got some specs and Heath brought up that they hadn't really discussed a direction to go in. Wendy said that they would have to come back one more time when she gets some numbers from Laura. Article 43: cable franchise fee. Wendy said that she usually has the breakdown and she does not and brought up bringing the techs up to \$16 an hour. Dottie **motioned** to recommend \$24,564 for this article. Wendy said that this is not raised through taxation. Joanne **second**. Gil asked if that included the \$16 and Wendy told him yes. **All** were in favor. Article 44: property tax levy will be voted on secret ballot. Wendy made the comment that the ones that involve transfer from unassigned need to be revisited. Wendy brought up going back to the snowplowing articles and how they had put 22 storms but asked if they wanted to reduce them. Dottie said that they could know the plowable events down to 14 and be fine. Heath brought up when to start saving money on different budgets and Wendy went through and listed all of the budgets and how much they've gone up or down and \$2,733,000 which would make it \$150,000 over last year. Heath brought up that the departments that are bringing the money in have what they need and Wendy brought up the other side of it with needing a Treasurer 32 hours a week or a Town Clerk 37 hours a

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week because a good portion of it can be done online. Gil made the comment about reducing the number of storms and if they want to take that gamble or leave it as is and that money goes back into the unexpended. Heath asked if Laura's budget was done and Wendy said that she doesn't have all of her closing entries done and Heath made the comment about if this is something we can give her a hand on.

- Overlook camera: Dottie said that they are on Bob's schedule and when he gets a free moment he will do up the quote for us.
- Dottie brought up the signs that they had voted on the week before and how they have to have an ordinance but it is one the Selectboard can create and approve and she is in the process of writing one up right now and has to run it by Natalie first to make sure it is legal. Heath told everyone that if the state is going to put a sign up at the boat launch they have to do a survey and permission slip through the state.
- Heath asked for the report from MMA on town properties and Dottie said that she thinks the only thing left is the gazebo, everything else was done. Gil said that it would take a little while to find it and Dottie said she would have to go onto the link to see what it was.
- Wendy read the comment about the cables that go from the first floor to the second floor and Heath said that the tech had said he could get a 100 foot cable and they told him that they did not need to see the people upstairs. Dottie said that they may need a camera upstairs to be able to see the people. Gil said that they had just gotten a message saying that equipment has started showing up. Heath brought up having a 10 foot cable going into Gail's room and Dottie said they would need to drill a hole to be able to do that. Gail Libby said that they had run cables that day that went down the stairs into the room through the entryway and that if anyone tugs on that the cameras on the first floor will tip over and that they can tape down cables but it is not safe. Gil **motioned** that we get a hole drilled and conduit put in to run the cable direct and not run it down the stairway. Joanne **second**. **All** were in favor. Heath asked who would do it and Dottie said that she will try to find someone if not she will call Heath to do it.
- Heath brought up the tree at the cemetery and are they going to hire out to have that removed and Dottie asked if that was something Aaron was taking care of and Gil said that he would call him and clarify that
- Heath asked where he would find out how much it cost for Hamilton to draft the plans up for the lights in front of the Brick Town Hall and Wendy asked if they had been invoiced.
- Heath said that townspeople are asking when the zoom meetings will be done and Joanne said that Limerick's cases have gone up and Heath said to be determined.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

ADJOURN MEETING:

- Joanne **motioned** to adjourn. Dottie **second**. **All** were in favor.
- The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM.

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These minutes were approved by the Limerick Board of Selectmen on: February 1, 2021

**End of Broadcast**

Respectfully submitted,

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Courtney Davis

**FOR DETAILS OF MEETING  
SEE RECORDING  
AT SRC-TV.ORG**  
“Limerick Selectmen’s Meeting”  
Under Brick Town Hall  
January 25, 2021  
By Gail Libby