

Readfield Select Board
Regular Meeting Minutes March 24, 2014

Select Board members present: Valarie Pomerleau, Greg Durgin and Larry Dunn.

Others attending: Shannon Gould (PEG TV), Stefan Pakulski, John Parent, Thomas Dunham, Peter Davis, Debora Doten and Milton Wright.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Mr. Durgin. The Pledge of Allegiance was made.

(1) Minutes: **Motion** by Mr. Dunn, **second** by Ms. Pomerleau to approve the minutes of 03/10/2014 as amended and 03/12/2014 as presented; **vote** 3-0-0.

(2) Warrant: The warrant was reviewed by Ms. Pomerleau. **Motion** by Mr. Dunn to approve warrant #21 in the amount of \$48,791.92, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 3-0-0.

(3) Select Board communications:

- Ms. Pomerleau said the board is still gathering information for the ad hoc public works committee and they are looking for volunteers.
- The proposed 04/30/2014 date and topics for the Fayette regional meeting were discussed.
- Legal RFP questions update: Stephen Langsdorf of Preti Flaherty is on vacation and has not yet responded.
- The snowplow contractor will temporarily fix road signs to make them more visible and will fix them permanently when the weather allows.
- Mr. Durgin noted a letter was received from trails committee chair Milt Wright. The board will respond at a later date.

(4) Town Manager: Mr. Pakulski noted his report which listed his activities.

Motion by Mr. Durgin for the town manager to attend the annual statewide manager interchange on 3/28/2014, **second** by Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 3-0-0.

- Ms. Pomerleau asked about possibilities for a demolition bin cover at the transfer station in order to prevent wet materials. Mr. Pakulski said the next phase for the SWRC to consider is to look at some type of coverage over the demo area. This will be a capital expense.
- Mr. Pakulski will check to see if any of his staff can attend the verbal judo session.

(5) Boards, Committees, Commissions & Departments:

- Ms. Pomerleau asked who would decide what a synopsis of the minutes would be if they are over two pages long. Mr. Pakulski said the town clerk would decide but she would have to indicate it was a synopsis of the approved minutes.
- Foreclosures were discussed. The code officer and the town manager will be inspecting the properties prior to the next board meeting.
- Critical dates for the annual town meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Mr. Dunn to set the on-floor town meeting for 06/12/2014 at 6 pm at the Readfield Elementary School, **second** by Mr. Durgin; Mr. Dunn **amended** the motion to include the voting portion of the town meeting to open on 06/10/2014 from 8 am to 8 pm, with town meeting to reconvene on 06/12/2014 at 6 pm at the Readfield Elementary School, the amendment was **seconded** by Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** on amendment 3-0-0; **vote** on original motion 3-0-0.

- Mr. Durgin referenced the letter from the school superintendent dated 03/19/2014 in regard to a moderator for the RSU meeting. Mr. Durgin will attend the next school budget meeting on 03/26/2014.

(6): Motion by Ms. Pomerleau to appoint the listed ballot clerks for 2014 and the listed election clerks for 2014 and 2015, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 3-0-0.

(7) Spirit of America Nominations: The board gave unanimous consent to have the Spirit of America awards presented at town meeting and to order the plaques.

(8) Legal services RFP: Tabled to the 04/07/2014 meeting.

(9) Weathervane liquor license renewal: **Motion** by Mr. Dunn to waive the public hearing requirement for this application, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 3-0-0.

Motion by Mr. Durgin to approve the liquor license for the Weathervane Restaurant, **second** Ms. Pomerleau; **vote** 3-0-0.

(10) 2013 Audit review: Mr. Pakulski reported the final draft for 2013 has not been received but is expected soon. He said for the year ending 6/30/2013 the audit shows the town is still in good fiscal condition and the unassigned fund balance is about \$800,000. This is slightly higher than the year before. No problems have been cited by the auditor. When the final draft is received it will be given to the board and a meeting can be scheduled with the auditor.

(11) PSAP contract renewal – RCC: **Motion** by Ms. Pomerleau to approve the PSAP agreement for 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2015 for the amount of \$15,293, **second** Mr. Durgin; **vote** 3-0-0.

(12) Security camera proposals: The quotes were noted to be out of date. Opinions regarding appropriate funding, if necessary, were discussed. John Parent recommended the board review whether they want to fund this in the upcoming budget or to push it ahead one year. He said the budget figure from last week's meeting was much larger than expected and the town will need to find funds for it at the next budget meeting on 04/03/2014. The board was in unanimous agreement to keep the \$2,500 funding for security cameras for the time being.

(13) Budget process updates: Individual board member reports were noted. John Parent gave an update. The committee will meet again to make adjustments. Mr. Parent said the committee discussed moving an \$111,000 bond payment to next year's budget as it was initially thought the payment would be due in 2013 but it is actually due in 2014. Mr. Pakulski further explained Key Bank did not require a payment in the first year of the bond; this was unexpected, and it can now be used to offset costs if approved at town meeting. Mr. Parent said the road committee will be meeting to discuss possible projects that could be put off. The town manager did not recommend this. The reason for the budget issue is road maintenance; this was paid for with bond money in the current budget, but there will be no bond money in the new budget. Carry forward accounts can also be reduced to help make up for this discrepancy.

There was a discussion about Heritage Days. Mr. Parent said it has cost tax money for the last few years. He said Karen Dube asked the budget committee to fund \$5,000 each year but to only hold Heritage Days every other year. The budget committee is only recommending \$455, which is to pay for an outstanding bill. Mr. Parent suggested the board put the decision to vote at town meeting.

Motion by Mr. Dunn to ask the town manager to draft a ballot question asking the voters whether or not to fund Heritage Days for 2014 not to exceed \$10,000 with tax dollars, **second** by Mr. Durgin; **vote** 3-0-0.

Mr. Durgin made a request for the public to attend budget meetings and thanked Tom Dunham for attending.

(14) Other:

- Mr. Dunn is meeting with the library building committee on 03/27/2014.
- Ms. Pomerleau said she has heard the state did reimburse the school for the 2013 retirement and the legislature promised to do the same for 2014 and 2015. Mr. Durgin said the most recent information from the state indicates the school will be getting more money than what was expected.
- Mr. Pakulski said information from MMA is not that the town is getting more revenue sharing but it was not to have as much taken out.

(15) Public communications: Mr. Durgin read the policy. There were no public comments.

Executive Sessions: **Motion** by Mr. Durgin enter into executive session pursuant to Title 36 MRSA Sec. 841-2 at 8:03 pm for a poverty abatement request, and invite the town manager and applicant to attend, **second** Mr. Dunn; **vote** 3-0-0.

Recorded by Deborah Nichols

The Select Board left executive session and reconvened in open session at 8:40 PM.

Motion by Mr. Durgin, **second** by Mr. Dunn, to approve an abatement in the amount of \$1,239.04 for the tax years 2011 and 2012. **Vote:** 3 – 0.

Seeing no further business before the Board, Mr. Durgin adjourned the meeting at 8:41 PM.

Recorded by Stefan Pakulski