

Town of Greenville Select Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 7th, 2022, 6:30pm, Greenville Town Hall Meeting Room

Minutes for Meeting of the Select Board

Board members/Staff present at meeting:

 X Select Board Geno Murray (Chair) X Select Board Bonnie DuBien Police Chief Jim Carr
 X Select Board Newton Pierce (Vice Chair) X Select Board Burt Whitman Fire Chief Sawyer Murray
 X Select Board Richard Peat X Town Manager Mike Roy Town Clerk Roxanne Lizotte

Others attending: John Contreni (Chair, Planning Board), Margarita Contreni, and Tammy Firman (Town Clerk Intern)

Via Zoom: Esther Ireland and Sheila Grant (Eastern Gazette)

6:30 pm Meeting opened by Chair, Geno Murray.

1. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

2. Opening of Meeting & Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: The Chair asked all members of the Select Board to review the meeting agenda and declare any potential conflicts of interest which members may have with any of the items listed. No conflicts declared or noted.

3. Minutes: It was motioned by Newton Pierce and seconded by Burt Whitman to accept minutes of 11/16/2022. Bonnie DuBien abstained as she was not present at that meeting. Motion carried 4-0-1.

4. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda: A request was made to postpone discussion of item #5 to a later date. Richard motioned; Burt seconded to postpone. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Community Resilience Partnership Resolution – Accept and signatures. (Postponed as agreed in point #4).

6. Transfer Station Tipping Contract – Discussion and Decision.

Mike reported that our current contract expires in March, 2023. In an attempt to be proactive, bids were sought in order to prepare. A decision will need to be made about waste as this is a high ticket item.

Bids were requested from Juniper Ridge, Waste Management and Penobscot Energy.

- The Waste Management proposal was for five years with a five (5) percent increase annually. This proposal will be valid for 90 days.
- The proposal from Penobscot Energy is an annual agreement with pricing adjusted annually.
- Despite numerous attempts, Juniper Ridge failed to respond with a proposal.

The only issue with Waste Management is that they can only accept a certain amount of tires. Tires in excess of this number go to Penobscot Energy.

Mike's recommendation is that we stay with Waste Management. Richard motioned; seconded by Newt. Motion passed 5-0 to award the contract to Waste Management.

7. Allison Arbo – Destination Moosehead Lake

Allison introduced and passed out a map reprint which was funded through a grant from the Maine State Department of Tourism. Several updates have been made including tips for visitors that was added to the back. 15,000 copies were printed. A larger number of maps would have been helpful, but was cost prohibitive. Margarita reported that this number of maps has lasted for a year to a year and a half in the past.

Allison reported that they have 15 new members. 89% was retained from 2020-2021. They have some new offerings to help encourage membership. They have added a digital marketing option at the Visitor's Center. The number of visitors is approximately 6166 thus far. This represents an increase of over 600 from last year.

DM sponsored 6 community events and 2 organizational events. They also assisted with two community events – Lucky Duck and Moosehead Holiday Market. There were 21 vendors at the Market which helped to promote many small businesses that have no storefront.

For next year, they hope to add events to the Dark Skies Festival as well as increase the Moose Maine events.

They are currently working on strategic planning for next year including surveys to current, past and potential members as well as to the community at large and visitors to the center.

Allison will attend a major travel show in Chicago which will represent her position as Regional DMD for Maine Highlands as well as for Destination Moosehead Lake. She is also working with Workforce 2050 to help develop regional approaches to get their message out. In addition, Allison is trying to grow membership and increase financial sustainability without having to rely so much on grants.

Allison also updated the group on the Inns and Homes Tour which will take place this weekend. The Greenville Inn, the Blair Hill Inn, the Lodge at Moosehead Lake and the Ness Residence will be open for tours. Also, Tony LoConte will welcome visitors to drive through his property from 4 – 7 pm as it is extensively decorated with more than 18,000 lights and other festive décor. There will be voting online for best decorated home and for best decorated business.

Richard requested that Allison come back to share her experience at the Chicago meeting once she returns. She agreed.

7. Town Managers Report:

Mike reported that the Maine Municipal Employees insurance increase that he reported on at a previous meeting was budgeted for a 5% increase which will more than cover the 4.5% increase for which we were notified.

The deal for the Airport land has finally closed and the check deposited. The deed has been issued to the new owners. The \$67,000 raised from the property will replace the funds used for the purchase of the new tractor/mower for the airport. The new owner bought the property as a buffer for his adjoining property not for development.

Mike met with DuBois and King this morning at the airport regarding future hangars. They also looked at cracks which will be filled in the runways. Future areas were discussed for hangar development. The FAA takes about 45 days for the approval process for the new hangars.

A tax-acquired property will be going up for bid. Bid packets are available in the town office. They are due not later than 4 pm on January 18th, 2023. Bids to be opened at Selectboard meeting on the same day. Richard wanted to be certain that people were aware that the family had turned this property over to the town for bid – it was not seized.

The Moosehead Sanitary District notified Mike that Cemetery and North Green have been paved where the catch basin work was completed.

The Foreman for the Public Works Foreman position remains unfilled and will be left open until a suitable candidate is secured.

Statistics from the Library are attached.

Moosehead Cable has notified Mike of a rate increase which is attached.

The dealer for the new truck is uninterested in a trade which we anticipated. We will need to put the old truck up for sale. A special town meeting to discuss this will be held on January 4th, 2023. A change in zoning on the East Road just past Stagecoach Road will also be discussed.

John Contreni asked Tammy Firman to report on news from the Moosehead Lake Garden Club. The Club agreed to raise funds to replace the tree near the gazebo which is dying. This is the tree that is used for the Festival of Lights at Christmas.

8. What's on your mind?

Richard Peat felt that the new banners and wreaths look very nice. Allison reports that the DML staff members helped to decide where to hang the wreaths and banners and laid them out. Members from Public Works used a lift donated by Charlie Aucoin to install the new brackets and hang the wreaths and banners.

Richard also wanted to express thanks to Mike for stepping up and helping with plowing and sanding while Public Works is short-staffed. This is certainly not part of his job, but his extra efforts are much appreciated.

Bonnie says she's just absorbing and has nothing to add at this time.

Geno reminded that discussion will need to be resumed soon regarding parking as it's an on-going issue. We will need to be proactive and get input from businesses.

Newt asked Tammy Firman how her transition into the Town Clerk position is going. Tammy reports that it is going well and is grateful for the patience and knowledge of her colleagues.

Burt asked Allison if there are plans for more banners. The short answer is yes, but they are expensive and they will need to work to get sponsorships. There are also some grants available for this. Further down the road, she would love to have summer banners as the brackets are already in place to support them.

9. Public Comment: There were no public comments.

10. Other Business: None noted.

11. Executive Session: The Board entered into executive session at 7:19 pm as motioned by Burt and seconded by Newt. Motion carried 5-0. After discussion, executive session concluded at 8:06 pm.

There being no other business it was motioned by Burt and seconded by Richard to adjourn meeting at 8:07 pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Tammy Firman