

**TOWN OF MEXICO  
REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMENS MEETING  
JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 (TUESDAY) 6:30 P.M.  
MEXICO TOWN OFFICE  
MINUTES**

**Present:** Richard Philbrick-Chairman, Clifford Stewart-Vice-chair, Reginald Arsenault, Jr., A. Byron Ouellette

**Absent:** Thomas "T.J." Williams

**Others:** Jack Gaudet-Town Manager, Jennifer Blodgett-Executive Secretary, Richard Jones-Fire Chief, Roy Hodsdon-Police Chief, Justeen LaPointe-Recreation Department, Kelsey Bevins-Access channel, Bruce Farrin-Rumford Falls Times, Larry Mclain

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited

**Executive session moved to the top of agenda at this time**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. I MOVE THAT THE BOARD GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TITLE 1§ M.R.S.A 405 (6) (A) TO DISCUSS A PERSONNEL MATTER.**

**TIME IN 6:31 P.M**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, second by A. Byron Ouellette to go into executive session pursuant to Title 1§ M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) to discuss a personnel matter. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**Time out 6:48 P.M.**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to come out of executive session pursuant to Title 1§ M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) from discussing a personnel matter. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**Action Taken**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to open the rec park at 8:00 A.M. and to close and lock the gates at 8:30 P.M. every night. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**Minutes**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to approve the regular board of selectmens meeting minutes dated May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Voted unanimously approve.**

**Warrants**

**\*\*Motioned by A. Byron Ouellette, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to approve the warrants dated May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**Monthly Budget Review**

Discussion about budget followed

**Tabled items**

Selectmen signed the Conflict of Interest policy that was approved at the last meeting.

**Old Business**

None

## **New Business**

1. **\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to close the Mexico Town Office on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for yearend bookkeeping. Voted unanimously to approve.**

2. Region 9 has sent us an invite to come down and meet with them. They would like to do a walk through and show us what goes on at the school, discuss cost, and their budget.

3. **\*\*Motioned Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to dissolve the Mexico Recreation Board and allow the recreation department to form a committee. Town Manager Jack Gaudet and recreation director Wayne Sevigny will create a mission statement and decide on how many committee members they should have. Voted unanimously to approve.**

## **Department report**

### **Fire Department report**

\*We have received 12 new SCBA bottles, they are not in service yet as they need to be stickered and numbered. We still have 6 bottles that need to be replaced.

\*The car show that was held on May 31<sup>st</sup> was a big hit. We had lots of people show up.

\* We have been sent paperwork discussing the EMA hazmat mitigation plan which at this time does not include the Town of Mexico. The attached resolution needs to be reviewed by the selectmen and signed by June 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Police Department report**

\*We have had over 300 calls for the month of May

### **Recreation Department report**

\*We are working on repairing a few holes in the walls that were made during the floor hockey season.

\*Baseball for the major, minor and rookie leagues has started already. T-ball signups will be Thursday June 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M.

\*There was a discussion with the board of selectmen about the gym equipment and who actually owns it and who maintains it. Discussion followed

### **Town Managers report**

\*The new Town report book is now available and it looks great.

\*Most of the new A.C. units have been installed upstairs will be putting one in downstairs as well

\*Handed out a spread sheet to all the selectmen with the upcoming fiscal years estimated mil rate Reginald Arsenault suggested we get ahold of the department of education and have a conversation about the effect the school budgets are having on smaller communities like ours.

\*We have been having a few issues with GRAMPS, Jennifer is going to have a conversation with the person in charge to see if we can resolve them.

\*The closing of the Mexico/Peru bridge has been pushed back another week. They will be closing the week of June 25<sup>th</sup>.

\*The dedication of the new (Buddy McClain) bridge is being set for September 15<sup>TH</sup>

\*Only a few members of the Mexico community showed up to vote on the school budget Tommy guns has withdrawn his appeal so that is now a dead issue

\*The planning board would like to change from a 7 member board to a 5 member board.

The town of Mexico has one open school board vacancy and no one took out papers to run. If anyone does choose to run it will have to be as a write-in.

### **Road Commissioners report**

\*The highway department sidewalk tractor is breaking down. Jack has been in contact with a company out of Canada and they have one for \$50,000 and it comes with a plow, blower, and a

sander dump box. Jack and John Blais would like to go up and take a look at it to see if it is something the highway department would want. A new one cost around \$125,000 and doesn't include any extra attachments. Lengthy discussion followed.

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to allow Jack Gaudet and highway foreman John Blais to go up to Canada and look at a sidewalk tractor that they may be interested in purchasing. Voted unanimously to approve.**

### **General Assistance report**

Written report given

### **Code Enforcement report**

Written report given

### **Library report**

Written report given

### **Selectmen report**

#### **Clifford Stewart**

The election is next Tuesday June 12<sup>th</sup> I encourage all voters to come out and vote

#### **A. Byron Ouellette**

Just a quick question on rank choice voting. Will someone be available to help if voters don't understand how it is done? Jennifer answered and said yes, Penny or I will be able to explain the process to voters if they need clarification.

#### **Reginald Arsenault, Jr.**

I have had 3 citizen voice concerns about people/teenagers sitting on the side of the red bridge (Mexico/Rumford Bridge) with their feet hang off on the road side. This is dangerous not only to those people sitting on the bridge if they were to fall off but to motorist as they are driving by.

#### **Richard Philbrick**

June 12<sup>th</sup> come on down and vote.

### **Public discussion**

Larry McLain's son Buddy McLain was killed in action during the Afghanistan War. The new bridge that is being constructed between Peru and Mexico is going to be named after Buddy. D.O.T. has asked for a date for the dedication ceremony that will be taking place. After speaking with other communities that will be involved with the ceremony it was decided that it will take place on Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. There is a small piece of land that D.O.T. has donated to the family so that they can place a memorial bench and flagpole with solar light on it. Following the dedication ceremony the McLain family will be holding a BBQ behind the old Peru school. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to approve the date of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for the bridge dedication ceremony to take place. Voted unanimously to approve.**

### **Adjournment**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by A. Byron Ouellette to adjourn at 8:11 P.M. Voted unanimously to approve.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Blodgett  
Executive Secretary

X  
Richard Philbrick-Chairman

X  
Clifford Stewart-Vice-Chair

X  
A. Byron Ouellette

X  
Reginald Arsenault, Jr

X ABSENT  
Thomas "T.J." Williams

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_