

**REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMENS MEETING  
JUNE 19, 2018 (TUESDAY) 6:30 P.M.  
MEXICO TOWN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Richard Philbrick-Chairman, Thomas "T.J." Williams-Vice Chair, Clifford Stewart, Reginald Arsenault, Jr., A. Byron Ouellette

**OTHERS:** Jack Gaudet-Town Manager, Jennifer Blodgett-Executive Secretary, Roy Hodsdon-Police Chief, Richard Jones-Fire Chief, Kelsey Bevins-Access Channel, Bruce Farrin-Rumford Falls Times, Randy Canwell, Darlene and Pat Martin, Bettie Litalien and Gerald Litalien, Alan Scott

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**-Recited

**ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA  
A. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

**\*\*Motioned by Clifford Stewart, second by A. Byron Ouellette to have Richard Philbrick be the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**B. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

**\*\*Motioned by Richard Philbrick, second by A. Byron Ouellette to have Thomas "T.J." Williams be the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN FROM THE REFERENDUM TOWN MEETING**

**SECTION 6B**

To authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes prior to the date of commitment to the Tax Collector, pursuant to Title 36 § M.R.S.A. Section 506, and issue a receipt for the same. To also authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to establish an eight (8) month payment plan known as the "Mexico Tax Club," under such terms and conditions as the Tax Collector or Treasurer deems are in the best interest of the Town, including, but not limited to, the abatement of interest for all members of the Tax Club making regular payments in accordance with any rules and regulations for said "Mexico Tax Club" established by the Tax Collector or Treasurer.

**SECTION 6C**

To establish the dates during the month of October and during the month of March each year when taxes for the fiscal period will be due and payable in two equal installments, and to fix the interest rate to be charged on all taxes unpaid after said dates, and to fix the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to Title 36 § M.R.S.A. Section 506 A. The interest rate charged shall not exceed the maximum interest rate authorized each year by the State Treasurer and the interest rate charged shall not exceed the maximum interest rate authorized each year by the State Treasurer and

interest rate paid shall be fixed at a rate 4% less than the interest rate charged. Interest rates shall be set after review by the budget committee.

**Recommended dates are Friday, October 26, 2018 and Friday, March 8, 2019.**

Current rate is: 6.5%

Recommended by budget committee: 6.5%

(Established maximum rate **8%**)

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, seconded by Thomas "T.J." Williams to approve the dates listed above as recommended when the property taxes for the fiscal period will be due and payable in the two equal installments, and to fix the interest rate to be charged on all taxes unpaid after said dates at 6.5%, and fix the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes at 2.5% pursuant to Title 36 § M.R.S.A. Section 506 A. Voted: 4:1 to approve**

#### Section 6J

To authorize the Treasurer to deposit State of Maine, Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) received each year into the road construction and maintenance reserve account.

**\*\*Motioned by Thomas "T.J." Williams, seconded by Richard Philbrick to authorize the Treasurer to deposit State of Maine, Local Road Assistance moneys received each year into the road construction and maintenance reserve account. Voted: 5:0 to approve**

#### Minutes

**\*\*Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to approve the minutes dated June 5, 2018. Voted unanimously to approve.**

#### Warrants

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to approve the warrants dated June 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**\*\*Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault to move up NEW BUSINESS #3 TOWN OWNED PROPERTY BIDS at this time. Voted unanimously to approve.**

We have 6 properties that went out to bid but we only received two bids. Alan Scott former owner of 35 Ledgeview Street has requested that the board of selectmen give him two weeks to come up with the \$5200.00 bid price on his property. Lengthy discussion followed and it was brought to the attention of the board that one of the two bids received was for 35 Ledgeview Street.

**\*\*Motioned by A. Byron Ouellette, second by Richard Philbrick to allow Alan Scott two weeks to come up with the \$5200.00 bid price which would allow him to redeem his property at 35 Ledgeview Street. Voted 2:3 motioned failed.**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by Clifford Stewart to accept the submitted bid on 35 Ledgeview Street by Darlene and Pat Martin in the amount of \$5200.00. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**\*\*Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to accept the bid on 130 Roxbury Road submitted by Jeremy Barrett in the amount of \$9000.00. Voted unanimously to approve.**

It was then decided by the board to advertise the remaining 4 properties located at 39 Chase Ave, 26 Dix Ave, 45 Granite Street and 34 Harlow Hill again.

## **TABLED ITEMS**

### **1. POLICIES**

Town Manager Jack Gaudet has been working on updating the town's policies and present the board with a draft of the Recreation Park Policy. It was reviewed and decided that a few additional adjustments would be made before the board approved it. Jack will make those adjustments and present it to the board at the next selectmens meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

**\*\*Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to approve the board appointments. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by Richard Philbrick to approve the board appointment of Felix Libby to the Mexico Rumford Sewer District. Voted unanimously to approve.**

### **2. POLICE CRUISER**

On June 7, 2018 Police Chief Roy Hodsdon was hit by a deer and his 2009 Chevy police pick-up truck received damage. The truck is 11 years old and even if the damage was fixed it is reaching the end of its useful life. The chief handed out packets to the selectmen and town manager with a couple of different options. Upon review of this information lengthy discussion followed. The chief has indicated that his preference would be to lease a new 2018 dodge for the price of \$28,534.00 tax, title, and licensing included in that price. He also indicated that between the insurance monies received for the damaged police vehicle and money from his drug forfeiture account he would have enough to make the first years lease payment taking the burden of that off the town for the fiscal year 2018-2019. The next 4 years lease payments would have to be included in his budget starting in the fiscal year 2019-2020. More discussion followed.

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by Richard Philbrick to allow the chief to lease a 2018 Dodge in the amount of \$28,534. Voted unanimously to approve.**

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

### **Police Department report**

Dean Benson retired from the police force after serving for 21 years. His retirement ceremony was very nice. Dean also expressed an interest in volunteering his time with the local police explorer. Nick Young is our new reserve office and he is doing a fabulous job. I felt very comfortable leaving him when he worked his first shift on his own. He is a huge benefit to this community. We will also be continuing speed details throughout the summer months.

### **Fire Department report**

The chief has stated that the fire department is having issues with the boiler unit. There are seals that are leaking and we have been told that for \$2300.00 we could have those seals fixed.

The boiler unit is over 20 years old. Jack has been talking with Andy Witham from Specialty Services. The selectmen wanted to know how much time would fixing the seals buy us before we have to replace the boiler. Jack is going to touch base with Andy on whether it would be cost efficient to fix the boiler or to replace it all together. As it stands right now the boiler can still be used as is.

Jack had applied for a grant through Maine Municipal Association and it has been accepted they will pay up to \$2000.00 towards the replacement of the SCBA bottles. The total cost of the bottles is \$11,200.00 once we show them proof that it was paid in full they will send us the grant money. I also received a message from the Yarmouth Fire Chief he would like to purchase the slider for \$3000.00 and we could apply that to the price of the SCBA bottles.

### **Recreation Department report**

T-Ball had over 70 kids sign up to play. Baseball has been really busy and the fields look real good.

### **Town Managers report**

In everyone's box was a copy of the RSU #10 board meeting schedule. We should really invite the school board members to some of the selectmen's meetings. Also in everyone's box was a letter Jennifer drafted to the GRAMPS program voicing some concerns over the issues that we have been having, I talked with a gentleman who was upset over the letter and we agreed to disagree at this point. Also I would like to thank Byron for the donation of a new clock for the conference room.

### **Road Commissioners report**

We need to decide if we are going to work on some of the roads here in town. We had Bruce Manzer look at Recreation drive and Bucknum Street last fall. Discussion followed. The plow truck is all done and it is running great and we came in under budget.

### **General Assistance report**

Written report given

### **Code Enforcement report**

Written report given

### **Library report**

Written report given

### **Selectmen's report**

#### **Clifford Stewart**

None

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

The highway crew has delivered 10 or 11 loads of sand from street sweeping. I am very happy about this.

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

None

#### **Thomas T.J. Williams**

None

**Richard Philbrick**

I would just like to say thank you to everyone who came out and voted for me during the election.

**Public discussion**

None

**Executive session**

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

**TIME IN 8:22 P.M.**

**\*\*Motioned by Richard Philbrick, second by T.J. Williams to go into executive session pursuant to title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E) to discuss a legal matter. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**TIME OUT 8:32 P.M.**

**\*\*Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to come out of executive session pursuant to title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E) from discussing a legal matter. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**ACTION TAKEN**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to apply for mediation in a personnel matter and to have legal counsel at mediation with the town manager. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**2. 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 8:34 P.M.**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams 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 8:54 P.M.**

**\*\*Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams 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 Richard Philbrick, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to approve the contract for the Town Manager for one year. Voted unanimously to approve.**

**Adjournment**

**\*\*Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr. to adjourn at 8:56 P.M. Voted unanimously to approve.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Blodgett  
Executive Secretary

X  
Richard Philbrick-Chairman

X  
Clifford Stewart

X  
A. Byron Ouellette

X  
Reginald Arsenault, Jr.

X  
Thomas "T.J. Williams-Vice Chair

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