

**REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
AUGUST 21ST, 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, Marilla Couch-Library Administrator, Richard Jones-Fire Chief, Justeen LaPointe-Rec employee, Bruce Farrin-Rumford Falls Times, Kelsey Bevins-Access Channel, Allen Scott, Thomas Carey

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE—Recited

MINUTES

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Clifford Stewart to approve the regular board of selectmen meeting minutes dated July 17th, and the special selectmen meeting minutes dated August 3rd, 2018. Voted unanimously to approve.**

WARRANTS

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to approve the warrants dated July 24th, 31st, August 7th, 14th, and 21st, 2018. Voted unanimously to approve.**

MONTHLY BUDGET REVIEW

Selectmen looked over budget sheet

TABLED ITEMS

Jack hasn't heard anything from D.O.T. in regards to placement of the Rotary/Lyons clubs sign. He told the board that we could most likely place the sign down at the Memorial Greens. Jack is still waiting to hear from Dave Duguay about the size of the sign.

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to allow the placement of a sign by the Rotary/Lyons club at the Mexico Memorial Greens. Voted unanimously to approve.**

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. DISCUSS WHAT TO DO WITH EXCESS STUFF IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM

Jennifer will check with the Mexico Historical Society to see if they would like any extra copies of our old town report books as we have quite a few on hand. Jennifer has been cleaning out the conference room of excess stuff.

2. SET DATE FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Jack shared a spread sheet with the selectmen and lengthy discuss followed. A special town meeting is set for September 4th, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the Calvin Lyons Hall to set the 2018-2019 mil rate. Jack also discussed with the board taking \$130,000 out of the undesignated fund balance to help offset taxes. The homestead exemption will remain at \$20,000 for all residents

whom qualify. As of April 1st the state homestead reimbursement to the town went from 50% to 62.5%.

****Motioned by Richard Philbrick, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., to take \$130,000 from the undesignated fund balance to help reduce the tax rate. Voted unanimously to approve.**

3. HAWKERS/PEDDLERS LICENSE'S FOR AUGUST 25TH BICENTENNIAL EVENT

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to waive the need for hawkers/peddler's license for all vendors at the August 25th, 2018 bicentennial events. As the bicentennial committee already has liability insurance covering that event. Voted unanimously to approve.**

4. OIL BIDS LOOKING FOR 23,800 GALLONS

Dead River- Fixed price of \$2.485

Community Energy- Fixed price @ \$2.529 any gallons above 23,800 will be billed using the rack plus method.

C.N. Brown- Fixed price at \$2.369 any gallons above 23,800 will be billed at CNB low rack plus at \$0.165. If town uses under the 23,800 gallons the town would have to pay a difference between the low rack price on day of contract 8/21/2018 \$2.1713 and the low rack price at the end of the contract period 6/30/2019.

Fabian- Fixed price at \$2.3845 any gallons above the 23,800 will be billed at rack average of \$0.1520.

Lengthy discussion followed.

****Motioned by Clifford Stewart, second by Richard Philbrick to accept the bid from Fabian with a fixed price at \$2.3845 any gallons above the 23,800 will be billed at rack average of \$0.1520. Voted unanimously to approve.**

5. WINTER SAND BIDS LOOKING FOR 3500 YARDS

Jean Castonguay- \$8.75 per yard delivered.

Knox Loam and Gravel- \$10.00 per yard ½ inch slotted screen or \$11.00 per yard ½ inch square screen delivered.

R.A. Tibbetts Trucking- \$8.60 per yard ½ inch minus screened sand delivered.

WA Lucas Enterprises, LLC- \$10.50 per yard for 3/8 inch screened delivered.

C.H. Stevenson, INC- \$10.80 per yard ½ inch minus screened sand delivered.

Lengthy discussion followed.

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to accept the bid from Jean Castonguay for \$8.75 per yard delivered. Voted unanimously to approve.**

6. SNOWMOBIL GRANT

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to approve the snowmobile grant. Voted unanimously to approve.**

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Fire Department

Chief stated that as of right now we have no fulltime Fire Fighters in the department. Two are out on sick leave and one has retired. However we have been very lucky to have coverage due to others stepping up and filling shifts. As of right now we have coverage right thru to the end of September. We have advertised in the Rumford Falls times for a fulltime Fire Fighter and we received 8 applications 4 from out of town and 4 from in town. Chief would like to set up a hiring committee that would include himself, Matt Theriault, Town Manager Jack Gaudet, and two Selectmen.

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to have Selectmen Richard Philbrick and Clifford Stewart be on the hiring committee. Voted unanimously to approve.**

It was decided that on Thursday the 23rd, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the town office conference room they would start the screening process and then set-up interviews accordingly.

Also I would like to know if a CDL license is required by our insurance company. Jennifer will contact Kyes insurance to see if that is a requirement.

On another note calls have been down this month.

Police Department Report

There was a burglary suspect that was finally arrested

Recreation Department Report

T-ball is all done for the year

Men's softball has playoffs this weekend

The snack shack at the recreation park is almost completed. The fryolaters, 3 bay sink, hood and walls are up. Just need to install the handwashing sink and have the state come in and inspect.

Soccer will be up and running very soon.

The gym floor at the Rec building is being polished to get ready for basketball season.

Planning is starting for the hunted walk and we are looking for volunteers to help.

Town Managers Report

I have received a letter in regards to trash pick-up on Granite Street and Pleasant Street.

Instead of placing the trash outside of their own homes residents are bring it to the end of the streets and piling it up there. Animals are getting in to it and it's making a mess. Also if they are late putting the trash out then it does not get picked up until the following week. People are starting to complain about the mess and the smell. Jack is going to follow this up with a letter to the residents on that street.

Jack received a letter from Charlie Lever whom voiced concern about the appearance of the town. He stated that he sees trash and junk cars all over the place and is worried that the town's valuation will decline due to this. Discussion followed.

The Buddy McLain bride dedication will take place on September 15, 2018 at 1:00. They would like to have a bbq after and have sent a letter to the town asking if they could use the recreation park to host it.

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, second by T.J. Williams to allow Larry McLain to host a bbq at the Mexico recreation park following the bridge dedication. Voted unanimously to approve.**

Jack introduced the new Library Administrator Marilla Couch to the board. She told the board a little about herself.

The Police Department lift has been certified. Every five years they do a CAT 5 inspection and the elevator only has 23 hours on it, it's in excellent condition.

The Bicentennial parade starts at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday August 25th, followed by music and vendor behind the Mexico Town Office.

Steve Brown whom was a long time Town of Carthage selectmen has passed away. On Saturday the 25th at 1:00 p.m. there will be a celebration of life at Med-Care.

Also we need to decide what we are going to do with the three town owned properties that we had previously put out to bid in April.

****Motioned by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., second by T.J. Williams to put the properties out to bid again and to have T.W. Lawn care remove the trailer on 39 Chase Ave and leave the minimum bid on that property at \$5000.00. Voted unanimously to approve.**

General Assistance Report

Written report given

Code Enforcement Report

Written report given

Library Department Report

Marilla would like to start a weekly newsletter. She will have a written report for the board at the next selectmen's meeting.

Selectmen Report

Clifford Stewart

The group that organized a spring clean-up of the town would like to plan another for this fall. They are looking for ideas of places to clean like maybe the soccer fields at the rec park or any other public/town areas. If anyone has any ideas they can let me or Lisa Arsenault know.

A. Byron Ouellette

None

Reginald Arsenault, Jr.

The planning board is working on an ordinance for tiny houses. As of right now they do not meet any state codes. Dave is looking at other towns to see what they are doing in regards to the tiny houses. A large portion of the state is not in favor of people putting these up.

Also with the way the school budget is going I would like to see all or some of the selectmen talk to the Department of Education and let them know what their ever increasing budget is doing to small towns like Mexico.

Thomas "T.J." Williams

I will not be on the County Commissioners budget committee this year. I would like to ask my fellow selectmen if any of them would like to be on the committee. They only meet twice a year.

Richard Philbrick
None

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 8:11 P.M.

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., 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 8:44 P.M.

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, 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
None

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 8:45 P.M.

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr. 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 9:09 P.M.

****Motioned by Richard Philbrick, second by Reginald Arsenault, Jr., 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 T.J. Williams to increase Jennifer Blodgett from the employee and children medical plan to the family medical plan during open enrollment. Voted unanimously to approve.**

3. 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 9:10 P.M.

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Richard Philbrick 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 9:14 P.M.

****Motioned by T.J. Williams, second by Richard Philbrick to come out of executive session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (E) from discussing a legal issue. Voted unanimously to approve.**

Action taken
None

Adjournment
****Motioned by Richard Philbrick, second by T.J. Williams to adjourn at 9:15 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-Chairman

Date signed: _____