



Select Board Minutes
Tuesday, May 31, 2022

Attendance: Mary Mills, Eileen Hennessey, Peter Washington, Gloria Dyer

- 6:00 - Call to Order by Chair, Shelly Gobeille
- Open meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

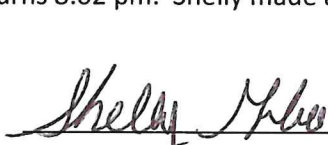
SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

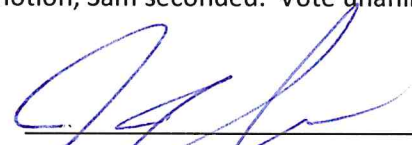
- **Fire quarterly meeting set for 6pm.** Fire did not show for meeting.
- **Eagle Scout-Andy Michaud.** Andy came up with a couple ideas of either a bus stop at the West Newfield Park or 3 benches and a new fence at the town office. He would replace the existing chain-link fencing with 3 split rail fencing. Sam volunteered to take the old fencing down and the tree. Board agrees they like the idea at the Town Office.
- **Recycling Center (Swap Shop).** We have 4 or 5 volunteers who have filled out volunteer waivers, yay! Monday, June 6th the Select Board will work on cleaning out the building. Nichole to call about a 15-yard low-profile dumpster.
- **Certified Ratio.** According to the State the town's certified ratio is at 83%. This would allow the town to claim between 75% and 91%. The ideal certified ratio is 100%- this would allow for the town to claim 100% reimbursement and allow for exemptions to be at 100%. When Nichole spoke to the assessor, he suggested increasing land and building values by 25% each. Due to the increase in sale prices our certified ratio is low. Adjusting the values by 25% each, will get us more in line with 100%. Shelly made a motion to increase land values by 25% and building values by 25% across the board. Sam seconded. Discussion- Nichole explained that it is just a numbers game. We still must raise the same amount of dollars that was approved at town meeting regardless of if someone's property is valued at \$100,000 then or \$125,000 now. For example: if we must raise \$1,000,000 and your value before was \$100,000 your mil rate would be higher than if we must raise the same \$1,000,000 and now your value is \$125,000. Eileen asked why raising 25% if the ratio is at 83%. Nichole explained that this is based on a 3-year average and the numbers we are currently using in our three-year average has one year with lower home costs and due to the last 2 years of such high sale prices adding another year of the same would make us not be within the 100% guideline again next year and the adjustment would have to take place again next year. So, we are trying to make just enough of an adjustment this year to still be within the 100% next year. Vote 3 in favor.
- **RHR Smith auditor-Bill Hall.** Bill discussed the general fund balance and the unassigned balance. Unassigned being at 1.24 million as of FY21. He spoke about the two trusts for scholarships that the town was bequeathed as being an amazing opportunity for our small town. He indicated the town to be in good shape and the audit went well- Scott (pre-auditor) does a great job and our books are in good order. The way in which our account in TRIO is set up are all listed under "general Government" and should be separated out into 4 categories; general government (operating budgets), Special revenue, capital reserves, and assigned (reserve/permanent account) that we have established. Over the next two years this will get straightened out in the system. He mentioned some related party issues that could arise, and to be sure to be transparent when it comes to purchasing sand for winter maintenance. He will be working on FY22 audit in the coming weeks/month. Gloria asked a question with regards to the town administrator doing assessing maintenance- Bill explained that the Select Board members are technically the assessors and there is absolutely no problem with the town administrator doing the assessing maintenance provided by our assessing agent.

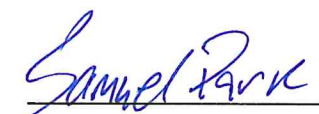
- **Quarterly Meetings.** Nichole to send reminders to departments/committees/ board when their quarterly meeting. Reminder will be sent out the Thursday before the meeting.
- **Derek Welch RE: mowing/beaches.** Derek requested this discussion to be held in Executive Session. Pursuant to 1 MRS 405(6)(D) discussion of labor contract. Party involved: Derek Welch DBA Welch Services. Executive session will take place at the end of the meeting.
- **Fuel Bids.** Jim mentioned fuel companies not allowing contracts on fuel at this time. He suggested topping off all the tanks with the current pricing especially since gallons have been utilized for all contracts except the PSB.
- **Town Hall Maintenance.** Storm windows to be removed prior to voting by Sam. Handicap ramp is missing 5 boards- Shelly will have them replaced/put back in place. Jim will install smoke detectors. Shelly to get price on gutter. There is a broken window as well.
- **AED Machine.** Nichole to get in touch with Rescue (Nick & John) about moving AED machine to Town Hall from Town Office for the day of voting.
- **Finance Committee.** Nichole to send a reminder about the upcoming meeting.
- **Employment Review.** Planning Board completed their review of Maria (Administrative Assistant to the Planning Board) and provided a recommendation to the Select Board. Select Board would like to meet with Maria in executive session (as they do with all employees having a review). Nichole to see if Maria can meet at 5:30pm at Town Hall on the 6th.

7:31- Shelly made a motion to enter into EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to 1 MRS 405(6)(D) discussion of labor contract. Party involved: Derek Welch DBA Welch Services. Sam seconded.

Meeting adjourns 8:02 pm. Shelly made a motion, Sam seconded. Vote unanimous.


Shelly Gobeille


James McLaughlin


Samuel Park