



Town of Livermore Falls

Select Board Meeting
Tuesday December 20, 2022
Livermore Falls Town Office

BOARD: Jim Long, Chair, Ernie Souther, Vice, Will Kenniston
Bruce Peary, Jim Cyr

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Bill Nichols, Doris Austin

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC: (see sign-in sheet)

6:30pm Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC HEARING- To approve the Selectboard Amended Bylaws

6:30 Jim Long talked about the outdated bylaws and fact that they need to be revised and updated. The board would like to add a public comment section, delete associate members which are not applicable and to add select persons instead of Selectmen and this all needs to be brought up tonight and voted on by the Selectboard.

Tom Barker asked if it was necessary to sign in with comments and Jim said he thought it would be nice for follow-up reasons, may not have the answers and to air on the side of communication.

Arin Quintel Loves the idea of having a time set aside for comments, opens up time for communication and thanks the board for their work.

Amanda Ricci asks about the limits of changes; Ernie says no changes in 14 years so doesn't believe it will be a problem.

Jim Long says Bylaws can change but believes they need to be ethical and that they govern us.

6:40 Jim closed public hearing

Bruce asked about section 3, meetings- Jim said the final copy will be put into the board's packets.

Bruce made 1st motion to accept updated bylaws



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Will made 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 to accept updated revised bylaws

Ernie made motion to make bylaws effective immediately so that a comment time would be effective tonight.

Will made 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 for revised bylaws to be effective for tonight's meeting.

Approval of minutes for December 6th and 12th.

Bruce says to make sure the minutes say Monday not Tuesday for 12th.

Jim says 12-6 fire chief committee is Ernie, Jim Cyr, Amanda and Bobby.

12-6- minutes Bruce was not present

Jim 1st motion to approve minutes with correction

Will 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of accepting minutes

12-12- minutes Jim made 1st motion to accept with correction

Will made 2nd motion

VOTE 5-0 in favor of accepting minutes with correction

New Business:

Jay, Livermore and Livermore Falls representatives met to talk about if and how much Livermore Falls should reimburse Jay and Livermore fire departments for responding to calls in Livermore Falls.

Jay and Livermore would still respond to emergency calls per the mutual aid agreement however they are seeking reimbursement of the non-emergency calls with the prices that are included in the packets.

Jim Cyr says the prices which are half the cost to run the equipment is fair, stating the non-emergency calls are such things as limbs down in roadway and fires are still emergency calls which would not be billed.

Ernie thinks prices are fair and should be voted on tonight, Jim is in favor but needs to do research on how to pay for the services of the other towns.

Ernie made 1st motion to table it until January 3rd to do the research.

James made 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 to table to do due diligence on where money comes from to pay Jay and Livermore.



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Second part of this is the 6-month plan to also be tables until January 3rd.

Ernie made 1st motion

Bruce made 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 for plan to be tabled until January 3rd, after research is completed.

James Cyr says the applications closed for the fire chief and there has been zero communication, "What do we do to get the ball rolling, there doesn't seem to be any urgency on getting a fire chief"

Ernie says "Wrong thing is to wait; a petition was handed to James Cyr and feels like the application process will not be fair".

Jim Cyr says he feels the applicant that handed him the petition will not get a fair shake for the fire chief position.

Ernie says town manager is responsible for hiring, says Select Board is responsible for advising.

Jim L. requests James Cyr and Ernie to set up meeting with Amanda Allen about applications and bring information back to the board.

Other discussions: Budget and Election Timeline

Budget and Elections to be pushed up to April 25th to be in line with Jay and Livermore elections for budget and school.

Budget process to start in 3 weeks with a workshop being on January 17th and then 6 ½ weeks to go through the budget with a projected date of March 3rd and then public hearing on March 13th.

Will is asking for more meetings to ensure the board isn't being rushed and they have time to look at everything.

Last years warrant passed out in packet for reference.

Warrants/abatements/deeds/quit claim

To be discussed in executive session

Board discussion

Will- national volunteers recognized were: Jocelyn Collins,

Correction, not recognized nationally but wanted recognized locally

Michael, Zoe and Annabelle Collins, Doug and Priscilla Mosher



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Also asked if Sherm would be willing to help them with questions for fire department budget.

Ernie says Sherm may help with advice and will see if available to help with budget, will send him an e-mail.

James-nothing

Jim- nothing

Bruce- nothing

Bill- Truck bids need to be announced for the 2002 truck that went out for bid, Top bid is \$10,027.00 from Mark Britwell and the second bid was for \$6,000.00 from Warren Smith.

Motion was made to accept the bids.

Ernie made 1st motion to accept bid from Mark Britwell for \$10,027.00

Jim L. made 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 to accept the high bid from Mark Britwell.

Jim Long made announcement to go into public comment and that there would be no personal attacks and person would get a limit of 3 minutes.

Ernie says if you want to keep the comment sessions available "Don't abuse it and you won't lose it".

Trudy Bishop, "How did we allow this to happen to this town?"

Zach Nichols "Fire department not plowed and why was Jay called for a tree down, why?"

Veronica Duguay, "Thank you for BLS inspection, would like to see Board and fire department talk together and why is Bobby Cummins acting chief not able to buy anything, "I had to buy 9-volt batteries"

Jim Long says he is feeling challenged in not being able to answer these questions, maybe another revision soon in the bylaws so that questions and comments can be addressed.

Trudy, the town is frustrated and is becoming a ghost town.

Sheila, we have no fire department so how can we have a substation



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Amanda Ricci, Budget committee doesn't have enough members to even have a quorum, need more members.

State audit hasn't been done since 2019

Concerns from a past employee.

Would like to add a no fraternization in the employee policy and procedures guide.

Firefighter applications just sitting there, no hiring process.

Why are other towns getting paid when we have 10 people on the roster with 3 active which is enough to have our EMS license.

We have a not paid person with access to our files.

Amanda Ricci says she understands why no response to these questions and comments but understand the process.

Tom Barker would like to know why the board has no interest in consulting the fire department members.

Jim Long thanked everyone for the comments and will look at the process and the board will address the comments and questions

Jim made 1st motion to enter executive session

Ernie made 2nd motion

Voted 5-0 to enter executive session

Executive session at 7:43

MRS Title 1, Chap. 13 & (6) (F)- Tax Abatement

Executive session ended at 7:55

Ernie 1st motion to except abatement in the amount of \$1429.69

Bruce 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 in favor of granting abatement in the amount of \$1429.69

Ernie made 1st motion to adjourn

Jim made 2nd motion

VOTE: 5-0 to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,
Doris Austin, Clerk