

Town of Livermore Falls

2 Main Street
Livermore Falls ME 04254
(207)897-3321

Jim Long- Chair
Ernie Souther- Vice
William Kenniston

Bruce Peary
James Cyr

Select Board Meeting
Tuesday March 21, 2023
6:30 pm

Selectboard members present: Jim L, Ernie, Jim Cyr, Bruce
Department Heads: Bill Nichols, Brandon Hobbs, Mike Adcock, Amanda Allen/Alex Pawson

Public: see sign in sheet

6:30 Pledge of Allegiance

Jim L, made 1st motion to go into executive session

Ernie made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 to go into executive session at 6:31pm.

MRSA Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, §405, (6) (D) Discussion of labor proposal between a public agency and its negotiators. (LF Police Dept)

Bruce made 1st motion to end executive session

Ernie made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 to come out of executive session

Executive session ended at 7:00pm.

7:02pm Jim L. stated the investigation is complete and Amanda Allen has been cleared and is returning as Town Manager. This is a confidential matter and therefore we will not discuss this further. Jim also thanked Alex Pawson for filling in as the Interim Town Manager and all his hard work.

Public Hearing: Mend Cannabis

Max from Mend Cannabis spoke to the Board requesting a chance to do business in this town and to show appreciation to the Board for giving them a chance.

Public comments:

Mark Mancini from the Pharm spoke that he is not sure if this town can support another marijuana business.

Roger Moulton from Reefah Remedies spoke about the financial risk he has taken to get his business started here. There has already been 1 failed marijuana business in less than a year in this town and if another marijuana business comes in it may put the rest at risk. Roger also feels that most of the town does not really want any more marijuana businesses in Livermore Falls.

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Bob Tarrant from BJ's Cannabis feels that if we allow more marijuana business into town that we are over saturating this town. Ashley from BJ's also states that she doesn't understand the way the ordinance is allowing another business because with Mend coming in it would be 1 more business than when they started last March.

Jason Foley spoke up and said he is vet and he likes this town and its Maine charm, he owns 2 homes here and now feels like it is becoming the cannabis capitol of Maine.

Board - The vote for the ordinance will be June 13th

Jim L made 1st motion

Jim C made 2nd motion

VOTE: 2-2, therefore it is not approved because it requires a majority vote

Mend asks if they can appeal this vote and Jim L said they can start the appeal process.

Approval of Minutes:

March 7th

Bruce made 1st

Ernie made 2nd

VOTE: 4-0 to accept as written

March 9th

Tabled

March 15th (Revised date from March 14th)

Tabled

Jim L made 1st

Bruce made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 to accept as written

Old Business:

CEO Permit Fee Schedule

Brandon Hobbs submitted paperwork to the board to show the permit fee from other towns so we can show that we would be in align with our fees. (Fee Schedule included with minutes). Brandon has also listed 7 ordinances that he has been working on for updates. (Included with minutes)

Substation Update:

Letters went out March 17th to the heirs of the property and they have 3 months to get back to us and this will make the property clear for us to build the substation.

Sherman is done at the fire station and can now move on to the substation.

Ernie expressed concern that at one point years ago there was a gas station on that corner and we need to make sure the property does not have an underground tank that the town would then be responsible for.

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New Business:

Town Clerk, Doris Austin, accepted the Proposed Ordinances for the June 13th vote.

Jim L. asked about the revision for the Budget Committee from 9 members to 5. This needs to be voted on by the town.

Sewer/Sludge Discussion:

Mark Holt discussed the increase in charges from Casella Waste Management to haul off the sludge and is asking for an increase of \$10.00 per thousand gallons from the haulers and an increase of \$5.00 from RVs that come in to dump, this should be enough of an adjustment to offset the increased fees charged to the town.

Jim L made 1st motion to for \$10.00 increase to the haulers and \$5.00 for RVs to dump.

Bruce made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of increasing the fees for dumping at the plant.

(Notice of Rate Adjustment included in the minutes)

(Bruce left the meeting hall after the vote)

Opening of bid for 2005 GMC Sierra:

The town received one bid from Asian Auto for \$1632.12. This bid did not meet the minimum bid of \$2500.00, so the truck will be going back out to bid with no minimum bid but with the right to refuse any and all bids.

Solid Waste Ordinance change:

Looking for an upgrade to the solid waste ordinance to include white trash bags as well as clear trash bags. Jim L. thinks this is two separate documents and would like more research.

Jim L. made 1st motion to table

James made 2nd motion

VOTE: 3-0 in favor to table until further information is received.

(Bruce returned to the meeting hall)

Town Motto:

Alex reported 13 submissions; top 3 were:

Gateway to the Mountains, The town that moved a mountain, We're not Rumford (joke).

Jim L. says board shouldn't be the ones to pick the motto for the town and feels that we should give the residents more time to pick. The board asks that if we could set something up at the April 25th election for more participation.

Jim L. made 1st motion to table

Ernie made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 to table motto selection until after the April 25th election.

Warrants/Abatements/Deeds/Quit Claim

Signed

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Board Discussion:

Bruce asked why Mr. Guptill was not present.

Department Heads:

Bill is looking for a mechanic and would like to look at the pay. At this time the pay is \$21.07 per hour and would recommend between \$25 and \$26 per hour. Jim L. said that is one of the positions they were looking at for a pay increase.

Ernie made motion to increase pay for mechanic to \$25.00

Bruce made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 to increase pay for mechanic to \$25.00

Chief Adcock reports that he has four officers and is using reserve officers as needed.

Brandon Hobbs has been putting in time working with the AYS and the building at 25 Cedar St. He has been putting in several hours on administrative tasks such as working on the ordinances and that he received his building inspectors license on Monday. Brandon would also like to see a board or committee be formed for ordinances to stay on top of issues.

Alex reported that we have received two requests for outsourcing information to the public, these requests came from "GOGov and TextMyGov" these would cost about \$4000,00 per year but feels they are unnecessary as we post closings and such on our social media. Board agrees with this decision and will not outsource our postings.

Mark has reported where we are at for funding for the plant. The funding scenario is included with the minutes.

All public comments were done in the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Bruce made 1st motion to adjourn

Ernie made 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 to adjourn at 8:20

Respectfully submitted by:

Doris Austin, Town Clerk