

Town of Livermore Falls

Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
John Barbioni
Ernie Souther

Bruce Peary – Vice Chair
Jeffrey Bryant

Select Board Meeting **June 17, 2025** Livermore Falls Town Office

1. Call meeting to order

2. Will called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Carrie asked to adjust the meeting with 6.6 to close the roads for the 4th of July parade

Will motions to amend the meeting to include road closure for the parade. Ernie 2nd all in favor 5-0

4. Approval of the Minutes

Will motions to approve the minutes from May 6, 2025, John 2nd all in favor 4-1 Ernie did not vote

Will motions to approve the minutes from May 20, 2025, Ernie 2nd all in favor 5-0

Will motions to amend the minutes on June 3, 2025, to show under the Androscoggin County Committee budget the vote was 4-0, 1 abstaining

Will motion to approve the minutes from June 3, 2025, John 2nd all in favor 5-0

5. Old business:

5.1 WWTF Trailer purchase – Joint Sewer Reserve

Will thanked Mark for all the information and work he put into this, but with the budget he feels we should look at this later down the road. Mark told him it will cost more money in labor with the extra trips with the truck they will be making back and forth when doing Rt 17 and the in-town street projects and this does not come from the budget it is coming from the joint sewer reserve account. Ernie asked if they already have a trailer they can use, Mark said yes they have a trailer but they cannot put pipe on it because the pipe is 13'6" this is why we are asking for the 14' trailer and when he can bring it back up to the board, Carrie asked when is the next joint meeting and Mark told her this is not a joint thing it is a Livermore Falls thing, No one responded to Marks question. Mark wanted to discuss the mower and Will said it's not on the agenda so not at this time, but we can add it to the next agenda and discuss it at the next meeting. Will motioned to not purchase the trailer at this time Ernie 2nd the motion. All in favor 4, 1 abstaining.

5.2 Ordinance Update

The board received information last week about changes, the next step is to send it to the planning board for consideration and investigation. Will motions to send to the planning board, Bruce 2nd all in favor 5-0

6. New Business:

6.1 4th of July Parade Committee – Kristie Cooper

Kristie is asking for road closures, and the parade will start at 6pm instead of 5pm like the past parade, the parade will be on July 3. Will asked if this is just informational only. Debbie C. asked how can people you get in touch with you to be in the parade, Kristie gave her face book page; Tri-town 4th of July parade. You can ask questions like joining the committee or being in the parade.

6.2 WWTF – WWTF Flow Split Rate

Appendix C has the flow split numbers. The joint committee passed this at their meeting on May 21, 2025, and Jay also passed it at their last meeting on June 9, 25. Mark is asking for Livermore Falls to

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approve so we can go forward with our split billing in the next fiscal year. After Mark read Appendix C to the board, Ernie motioned to approve the Appendix C, Bruce 2nd all in favor 5-0.

6.3 Chlorine Contact Tank – Joint Sewer Reserve

The tanks have sags in the floor and fill elevation that could be modified, pouring concrete in the tanks will make this quicker, easier and a lot safer for the workers to clean. The joint committee voted to bring this to the towns, and Jay passed this at their meeting on June 9, the joint account has approximately \$231,000 in it. The price to do this is not to exceed \$15,500. Ernie motions to approve the chlorine contact tank and not to exceed the \$15,500, Bruce 2nd the motion. Will is asking if the money in these accounts comes from the rate payers? Mark explained that the money comes from the joint account and 50% of the revenue that comes from Appendix C goes into the joint account. Plus, there is a line in the operations & maintenance that puts \$2,000 in the account monthly, this all comes from the sewer users themselves. Will wants to table this because of the budget not passing yet and he wants to hold on to the money in case other items fail. Mark explains we need to do this in July or August because that is when our low flow period is, and we have to take a tank down one at a time. Mark also explained this does not impact sewer or tax rates or anyone's budget. It comes from the capital reserve account and the money was put in there for this reason. There is no further discussion so Will asked for all in favor 4, 1 oppose.

6.4 Roof Line Modifications – Joint Sewer Reserve

The heat that comes off the primary Clarifiers melts the snow and ice off the roofs, and it lands in front of the doors. If this happens during the day it's fine, but on the weekends or nights the solution for this is to chop the ice out of the way and this destroys the catwalk and the cement, if we use salt, it deteriorates the metal on the door and the concrete. If we modify the roof line, it will stop the snow and ice from landing in front of the doors. The amount is \$9,700 for two clarifiers; this is something that needs to be done this summer as well. Will asked if this is a new issue and Mark said yes, it is with the new primary clarifiers this has been for two years now. Ernie motions to approve the modifications on the primary clarifiers not to exceed \$9,700, Bruce 2nd all in favor 4, 1 opposed

6.5 Catwalk Extension – Joint Sewer Reserve

By extending the catwalk all the way across, it will make access to that tank easier and safer and cleaning will be quicker and safer. By extending the catwalk we will no longer have to get in the tank to clean it. By reusing materials from the demolition or the wastewater facility. I am being told these materials are very expensive so the cost would be around \$27,000, we can save between \$5 to \$7 thousand by using existing materials so look at the cost to be around \$22,000. If we were given a cost to not to exceed \$27,000 in case it doesn't work out using the existing materials. Ernie asked if Mark looked into the cost if we did not use a local contractor, Mark said if we would use a contract change order and use American Steel it would cost around \$75,000. Mark said that Brackett Mechanical has very good track record of coming in under budget, if you approve \$27,000 we should come in under that. Bruce said this is a safety benefit, Mark said this will make it so we don't have to get in the tank to clean it and we can clean it from the walkway above. The eye beams are already all the way across we are just putting the walkway on top of the eye beams. Bruce motions to approve but not to exceed \$27,000. Ernie 2nd the motions, all in favor 4, 1 opposed

6.6 Closing Roads for the Parade

Will motions to close Bridge St. and Main St. from 5:30 to 7pm on July 3, for the 4th of July Parade. Ernie 2nd the motion all in favor 5-0

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7. Warrants/Abatements/Deeds/Quit Claim

7.1 Payroll Warrant: #23 \$25,598.88, #24 \$26,683.87

Will motioned to approve #23 & #24, Bruce 2nd all in favor 5-0

7.2 General Fund Warrant: #73 \$16,436.41, #74 \$5,589.68, #75 \$58,545.51

Will moves to approve #73, #74 & #75, John 2nd all in favor 5-0

7.3 Quit Claim Deed – Map 20, Lot 156

Property sold by owner, we need to Quit Claim Deed back to the owner so they can have the closing.

7.4 Abatement – none

7.5 Supplement – NONE

8. Board Discussion

Bruce talked about the referendum, he wished people could see what goes on to create the budget. How every department head goes through every line item and whittles away everything they think they can do without, and then the department heads, the board and the budget committee go through it again and this goes on for weeks and months on end, this large group discusses, debate and question and come up with a budget. Everyone on the board is from Livermore Falls and almost everyone on the planning board and budget committee are from Livermore Falls. There has been this feeling of us against them, we pay the property taxes and sewer bills. We made this budget with ourselves in mind as much as we did for all of Livermore Falls residents, this is the best budget we could come up with, without losing any of the services or quality of services that we expect. Bruce also said he has been reading on Facebook or hearing that there was an or else threat that if the articles do not pass it could jeopardize our ability to apply for grants. I want people to know that I was not threat or an or else, it's a fact. Bruce wanted to clear up that it was not if you don't do this, you're going to be so sorry, because we work so hard that's not it, it's because as a town we will suffer. This town has more heart and care, and we see that with the crowds of people we have seen show up, so I ask when the budget committee, planning board or when one of our seats are up volunteer, run for select board. Ernie believes the threatening tone came from him, because when I spoke about dept service and it does not pass this town will be dragged through the legal not hole and as Bruce said we won't be able to apply for grants. The debt service is already there, it's bonds and loans that need to be paid and if they are not paid our town will see hard times. So please, when you vote, vote in favor of the debt service. Will is asking if the 4x4 has been sold yet, Carrie said the bids closed on that yesterday (6/16/25) and the high bid was \$12,000, so Carrie denied it. Carrie said we might want to use another plate form, but not sure if we are going to put it up for bid again because that truck is worth more than \$12,000. Will is asking about consideration with the budget and how things play out and the plow gear how will that work. Carrie wasn't going to anything with it until August, so we have time. Will just wanted to thank Ken for the sign and bench's they look good.

9. Manager Discussion

Last Tuesday the gentleman was here completing the energy audit on this building and the library. So, we are just waiting for the report from that, he did say the library was in pretty good shape, this building with the windows is a huge heat loss, more because of the metal frame than the glass. The nice thing about the report it will have potential strategy for us. A reminder tomorrow (6/18/25) is the

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absolute last day to sign up for summer rec, so if you have any kids you want to sign up you have until 5pm tomorrow. Last thing is no one has come forward for the anti-marijuana committee, do you want to move forward with this while we are still trying to recruit someone just so we can get going on it or do we want to wait until the beginning of July? Bruce said he would like to move forward, Will asked if they would need to make an amend the committee and Carrie said we have a Quorum if everyone showed up, so she thinks we can move forward with it and hope that two somebodies will step forward and agree to be part of the group because she really wants those voices heard. Will is looking for a Monday or Thursday night for him.

10. Department Head Discussion

Rick has follow up on properties with opportunities he has some people that are eager to comply, one person I haven't even spoken to yet, but have visited twice has brought in a dump trail. They got the message without anything needing to be said. Plumbing & septic permits are up, inspections are up, so things are moving forward that way as well. Will said that it is good things are getting cleaned up and thanked Rick for his work. Doris reminded everyone we have voting here Tuesday for 2-6pm, absentees are available until 5pm on Wednesday June 18, because we are closed for Thursday for Juneteenth and we are closed on Fridays anyway. We would love to have some volunteers for our community garden; Doris wants to get a committee for the garden and asking people to call or send her an email.

11. Public Comment

John Benedetto – If codes is fulltime how can he work part time Jay and Livermore Falls? If code officer inspects electrical, does that make the town reliable if there is a fire and damage done to our home? John is saying the town is running up debt (maybe not intentionally) but they are and it ends up being a burden to all of us. John said the engineering company he works for does commercial cleanings, maybe we should look into automating the cleanings (sewer) and we can get rid of someone and save the town some more money. John has a few solutions, lets go to apart time for the CEO and let build up the community. I have been out discussing this with the community, and they are not happy with what is going on. We want to build the community up and we do have some ideas. Will asked John to submit his questions in writing so we can get him some answers and John said sure.

Bryce Bilodeau – Bruce and Ernie are saying it can cause harm if we don't vote for some of the budget items, I get that. I have a question on the TIF fund one, if that article fails how does the snowmobile club and the CEO get paid? Odes that come from another account? Will told him he will have to get back to him on that, but if you leave you questions, we can get back to you. Bryce contacted the department of economics and community development, and we can't pay someone's salary with TIF funds, Tina Mullen said no salary can be paid with TIF funds. If this goes through anyways, we can get penalized for it. Will said we will look closely at that and if you leave your questions and concerns, we will try to get answers to it. Gail asked about the revaluation and how it is going. Ernie told her he is working diligently on it to make its deadline and Carrie told her it should be completed in 5-6 weeks.

12. Executive Session – 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) - Personnel Matters

Entered at 7:30pm, session ended at 8:30 no action taken

13. Adjourn Bruce motioned to adjourn at 8:31 Ernie 2nd all in favor 5-0