

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vic Chair

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

Select Board Meeting
May 21, 2024
Livermore Falls Town Office
6:30 pm

1. Call meeting to order

Will called meeting to order at 6:30

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Will postponed Public Hearing, posting not done
Public Hearings will be done next Tuesday May 28, 2024

3. Public Hearing

3.1 Special amusement permit: Stars and Stripes Family Festival
3.2 Town meeting warrant – June 11, 2024 town meeting

4. Approval of the Minutes

4.1 Minutes of May 7, 2024

Jim made 1st motion to approve as written
Will made 2nd.

Vote 3-0 in favor of approving minutes of May 7th as written (Jeff was not at meeting)

4.2 Minutes of May 8, 2024

Will made 1st motion to approve minutes of May as written
Jim made the 2nd motion to approve.

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of approving minutes as written.

4.3 Minutes of May 14, 2024

Will made the 1st motion to approve as written

Jim made the 2nd motion.

VOTE: 3-0 in favor of approving minutes as written. (Bruce was not present for meeting)

5. Old business:

No old business.

6. New Business:

6.1 Portland Trust Presentation

Jim Mcleod and Rod Cote came from Portland Trust to make a presentation on ways for the Town to make investments, Jim showed a couple options and gave his opinion.

Jim also told the Board that Androscoggin Bank is an affiliate of Portland Trust.

The options are attached to the minutes.

Jim told the Board he would recommend going with option of going through Androscoggin

Bank, they are FDIC so there is no risk, currently the interest is at .86% and as of July 1st

They will be putting the interest at 3% and Carrie told the Board that at this time

The Town has roughly 4.3 million.

Jim L said that the town has some opportunities a little later but doesn't think it is there yet

And we should revisit in a year.

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vic Chair

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

6.2 Special amusement permit: Stars and Stripes Family Festival
Will made the 1st motion to table until May 28th after posting is done.
Jeff made the 2nd
VOTE: 4-0 in favor of tabling until May 28th.

6.3 ACO update
Ken Pelletier spoke to the Board about the amount of calls he is getting and how much Time he is spending on these calls.
In the last month he has received 45-50 calls many of them regarding goats here in town, and he was on vacation for a week, he is asking the Board to create an ordinance to limit the number of animals within the town limits.

Donna Perry told the Board there is a Right to farm law and didn't think they could do anything.

Ken also told the Board he has been called to a mobile home with about 20 cats and asked "What am I supposed to do?" my hands are tied. The goats have shelter, food, and water so they Have what they need.

Ken also told the Board that he is getting a chip reader soon and this should help with stray dogs Because when he scans the dog and gets the information that he can call Augusta and find out Who the dog belongs to and bring it home instead of to Kennebec Animal Shelter, so this should lesson the time he is putting in going back and forth. Ken told the Board that if he gets a call for emergency such as a dog big or attack, he has to go right away but sometimes the call can be put off for a short time.

Ken understands there is Right to Farm law and the Right to feed themselves but would Just like the Board to consider having the Planning Board come up with an ordinance To help keep these in town farms under control.

Lauriston Gile invited the Board to his home on Cargill Street and look out his kitchen window To see what he sees every day, so many goats and a pile of excrement that is probably 7 or 8 yards. Will asked the Planning Board to look at the information and see if an ordinance should be put in place.

Carrie told the Board that Code enforcement has also been there with Animal Control.

6.4 Board Appointments:

Ernest Souther - Board of Appeals
Patricia Henges – Board of Appeals
D. Robin Beck – Board of Assessment Review
Gayle Murphy – Planning Board
Bernal Bailey – Planning Board

Will made the 1st motion to approve all appointments.
Bruce made the 2nd
VOTE: 4-0 to approve all appointments.

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vic Chair

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

6.5 Foreclosed Properties Discussion

Carrie told the Board that there are 3 foreclosed properties in town with residents still living in them and they owe approximately \$21,458.67 as of now.

We are within our rights to dispose of these properties and need to know what the board would like to do, it is not fair to the other taxpayers who are paying their bills. We have more liens going out in June and currently we have \$508,778.00 taxes outstanding. Jim and Will both agree that we need to move forward.

Carrie told the Board that we will start the process of getting RFP and move forward.

6.6 Town Office Hours

Doris told the Board that several towns have moved to 4-day work weeks, so the window is open earlier in the morning and later in the evening to accommodate the residents.

Bruce asked what the hours would be, and the answer is 7:30am -5:30pm

Bruce told the Board that as a business owner on Main Street himself he knows that this area has nothing going on here on Friday's.

Will made the 1st motion to approve the hours of 7:30am -5:30pm Mon-Thur closed on Fridays.

6.7 Close town office June 27 & 28 for year-end

Carrie is requesting the town office to be closed on June 27th & June 28th for the end of year. new chart of accounts needs to be created and then end of year processing and reports to be done.

Jim L made the 1st motion to close the office for end of year processing on June 27th

Will made the 2nd motion.

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of closing the office for end of year June 27th & June 28th

6.8 Appendix C – Flow Split Agreement Annual Update

This is something that Jay and Livermore Falls do annually, so this is nothing new.

Mark Holt said that working with the Sewer Committee they have come up with a few scenarios

For the sewer rates, Mark suggested that we go forward as presented by the joint sewer committee.

The differences between last year and this year are.

Jay paid 57.7% and this year will be paying 58.5%

Livermore Falls paid 42.3% and this year will be paying 41.5%

Last year operator #1 was 89% and this year will be 97%

Last year operator #2 was 77% and this year will be 74%

Last year operator #3 was 87% and this year will be 82%, this position is not filled at this time

Most other expenses are unchanged but are included in Appendix C

Appendix C included in the minutes

Overall Livermore Falls paying slightly less this year.

Will made the 1st motion to approve Appendix C for July 1,2024 until June 30, 2025

Jim Long made the 2nd motion.

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of approving Appendix C for July 1,2024 until June 30,2025

6.9 Sewer Rate

Mark told the Board that there is 6 sewer rate options that will cover the costs of approximately \$1.11 million dollars in expenses and so we need the Board to set the rate, and we need to raise Roughly \$825,000.00 and this does not cover the route 17 project.

Will said it has been 5 years since the sewer rates have increased.

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vic Chair

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

This is a new way of sewer billing. This will be strictly based on the water usage, so if you have a water meter you will be charged the minimum and if you have 2 water meters you will be charged 2 minimums there will be a bill for every water meter that is installed and we will be setting the minimums will be set.

Mark told the Board the recommendation is 0-3200 cubic feet.

Option #1 is what we are using at this time and the average bill would be \$762.00

Option #3 which is recommended the average bill would be \$865.00

So, there will be an increase which again there has been no increase in 5 years.

Jim said it works out to be 2.7% increase

Jim made the 1st motion to approve the increase in sewer fees effective next fiscal year with the Minimum of \$320.00 with a minimum use quantity of 0-3200 cubic feet anything over would be a Charge of 16.5 cents per cubic foot.

Bruce made the 2nd motion

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of accepting option #3 with the sewer fee of \$320.00 minimum and 16.5 cents for anything over the minimum usage of 0-3200 cubic feet.

6.10 Foundry Road Paving - \$10,000 reserve account allocation

Mark told the Board that there is a section of the foundry road that was supposed to be paved

As part of the upgrade project, Bill will be coming through with a paving company starting from Route 17 and working towards the north end which is already done however as part of the upgrade it needs to be a part of the made in America which has stipulations, which would increase the cost.

We would like to take up to \$12,000 from joint reserve to do the 400 feet and have the paving company that is coming in do the complete job for the Foundry Road

This would be cost effective, and we could take it off the cost of the upgrade.

Mark does still need to go to Jay for approval because it is joint reserve.

Bill told the Board speed bumps would be added to keep the traffic going slow.

Engineers endorsed this as well.

Will made the 1st motion to take up to \$12,000.00 from the joint reserve account for the 400 feet of the Foundry Road.

Bruce made the 2nd motion.

VOTE: 4-0 in favor of taking up to \$12,000.00 from the joint reserve to cover the cost of the 400 foot section of road to be paved for the treatment plant.

7. Warrants/Abatements/Deeds/Quit Claim

7.1 Payroll Warrant #19 \$20,680.61, #20 \$23,728.18

7.2 General Fund Warrant #163 \$41,699.95, #64 \$30,858.70

7.3 Sewer Treatment #176 \$911.37, #179 \$1,437.56

7.4 Sewer #175 \$1,816.85, \$177 & 178 \$192,092.38

7.5 Sludge #174 \$2,443.60

7.6 O & M \$2,959.62

Will made the 1st motion to approve warrants 7.1-7.6

Jim made the 2nd motion.

VOTE: 4-0 to approve warrants 7.1-7.6

Abatement – NONE

Supplement – NONE

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vic Chair

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

8. Board Discussion

Bruce wanted to mention that in fact he didn't miss the previous meeting, he was not told so His record still stands that he has never missed a Board meeting.

Jim recommends that the property maintenance ordinance go to the Planning Board

Bruce says it is good to review ordinances.

Will asked the Planning Board to look at the ordinance, Gayle Long responded they already are.

9. Department Reports

Mark told the Board that Wright Pierce made a presentation the other night and said 23 million The number is 24 million and has gone over this with the Jay Board as well.

When this project is all said and done this project is costing \$21,150,032 of that \$16,252,800 is grant money only borrowing \$4,897,232.00 for this project.76.8 grants So, basically the CDS money will be used to get matched grants and then what is left is the Is \$4,897,232 and that is how we get to the \$21,150,032.

Bill told the Board that he will be working on Meadowbrook after the buses are Done running

Nate told the Board that the tires were side by side.

2 going to fire school in Turner, 3 went to school last fall. 27 on the department right now. Engine 1 the check engine light keeps coming on and thinks that the town should think about Getting rid of it, and currently there is a refurbished truck that the town of Jay is using while Their truck is being refurbished and we should consider buying that which will be about 30 or 40 thousand.

The Fire Department will be assisting with the Memorial and July 4th parades.

68 calls so far this year, many lift assists with Northstar ambulance. Bobby is doing a great job, and everything is going well.

Rebecca told the Board that Allegient Care will increase starting July 1 by 4%.

Tammy told the Board in February on her 1st round of liens she did 180 and this last round was 120.

Doris told the Board that on June 11th voting will take place at the Fire Station and that healthy Maine Coalition will be set up in the parking lot taking blood pressure and health checks.

History Night is going on May 24th from 5-8pm at the Gazebo.

Blood drive here at the Town Office on June 17th 10-3pm

July 9th Healthy Maine Coalition will be here as well as CMP will be available to help any residents With questions on concerns about their bill and potential ways to help them.

Doris also went over the VFW Memorial Day events for the Jay/Livermore/Livermore Falls area

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vic Chair

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

10. Town Manager Report

Carrie gave the Board the information from Chief Haroon about happenings in the Police Department. April had 411 calls, which is 13.7 per day with 22 being medical calls and 18% having the likelihood to turn violent.

New cruiser here for history night for the public to see.

Carrie told the Board that Todd has had 4 new building permits, 6 plumbing and several complaints that he is taking care of.

Carrie thanked everyone for coming to the D.O.T. meeting and they will be looking for a Way to create more parking spaces because of the ones we are losing on Main Street.

Working with AVCOG on grants, possibly get a heat pump for the Transfer Station.

11. Public Comment

No public comment

12. Executive Session

13. Adjourn

Bruce made the 1st motion to adjourn the meeting.

Jim made the 2nd motion.

VOTE: 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm

Respectfully submitted by:
Doris Austin, Town Clerk

