

Town of Livermore Falls
Office of the Select Board

William Kenniston – Chair
Jim Long – Vice Chair
John Barbioni

Bruce Peary
Jeffrey Bryant

Select Board **Minutes**
September 3, 2024
Livermore Falls Town Office
6:30 pm

1. Call meeting to order

Will called the meeting to order at 6:30

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Hearing

none

4. Approval of the Minutes

4.1 Minutes of August 20, 2024

Jim motioned to approve the minutes

Will 2nd the motion

All in favor 3-1 Jeff abstained he was not at that meeting

5. Old business:

5.1 East Livermore Substation Update

Plymouth Engineering stopped by with nice plans you could see, they went to the site to look at it.

They did email Carrie about having Mainland do a survey with contours on it for a better site plan, the quote was an additional \$2,000. The original survey was just a boundary one.

Jim motioned to authorize Mainland to do the survey

Bruce 2nd the motion

All in favor 4-0

6. New Business:

6.1 Confirmation of ACO – Tonya Jewell

Tonya came to us with interest and has worked with animals as she grew up on a farm. She is working on her online training and we received confirmation that she is listed with dispatch as our animal control officer, she is also listed on the state website.

Will motioned to confirm Tonya as our animal control officer

John 2nd the motion

All in favor 4-0

6.2 Set special meeting 9/10/2024 to commit taxes

Paul will be here to go over different scenarios meeting time would be 9/10/24 at 5:30

Bruce motioned to approve special meeting date and time of 9/10/24 at 5:30

Will 2nd the motion

All in favor 4-0

6.3 Police Department – vehicle

Will motioned to table as Ab is out on a case

Jim 2nd the motion

All in favor 4-0

Ab was able to make the meeting, Bruce motioned to reopen for discussion

John 2nd the motion, All in favor 4-0

There are funds that were not used last year in the police department and I would like to use those Funds to purchase a new vehicle. This vehicle would replace an existing car, this car was born on

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December 2018, which makes this car six years old. It has 127k miles and the engine has 16,374 hours on it plus the wheel locks when you turn left or right, you need to wiggle it to unlock it, it would cost \$2,500 to repair. Ab's long term goal is to get the vehicles on a rotation of five years this would include the full package. There is a Tahoe that is \$500 under book value and is a police package for \$47,500 if it is still available. Ab is aware the board is interested in a truck for the fleet but he feels an SUV will be better in the winter. So an estimated cost would be \$75k for a new one and Ab feels like this would be the number when replacing cars time. Will asked if the saving on last years salaries would cover the cost of this new vehicle, Carrie said yes the total carry over is about \$150k. Ab would like to use the money to finish up the bathrooms for the new 48 hour schedule. Jim was hoping to use the money to help reduce taxes and mentioned it should go to the voters first and this could be done in November. Jeff said the town use to buy a half a car a year and this made the rotation every two years and then they moved to buying a third of a car a year and that made the rotation every three years. It worked well to do it this way and you always got replaced the oldest car. Jeff did agree that this should go to the voters first and hopefully they can get on the two year rotation, Carrie agreed with putting it to the voters and that the town should get on a rotation. Will asked if we are going to repair the cruise before the November election and Ab said most likely because he doesn't know if it will pass or not to use the funds to purchase another vehicle. The board would like this to go to the voters with it stating it will not increase taxes. Carrie did say the board needs to see pricing first to make a decision and hopefully get it on November's vote.

6.4 Police Department – MainePERS plan

Will motioned to table as Ab is out on a case

Jim 2nd the motion

All in favor 4-0

Ab was able to make the meeting, Bruce motioned to reopen for discussion

John 2nd the motion, All in favor 4-0

Currently we are on a 2C plan and this will let the Officers retire with 25 years served and receive 50% of their income. There is another plan called 1C this plan you can retire with 20 years served and receive 50% of your income. Ab would like the board and the voters to choose the 1C plan because it will entice individuals to want to work for our department because they would shave 5 years off the current retirement plan, this will help us retain employees because if they leave they will be adding five more years on to their retirement plan. The cost to the town to change over would be 2.2% right now we pay 11.8% and it would be 14%. There would be an increase to the employee to and that would be 1.6% increase right now they pay 8.5% and it would be 10.1%. There is no penalty for the change over we just need to notify them and they will make the change, there is no buy out if we choose to move to the 1C plan. Jim is asking if we specify the effective date and the answer is yes. If we choose to have the effective date be July 1, 2024 the town would have to make up the difference in contributions from that effective Date. The cost to change to the new plan is roughly \$10k more a year according to Jim. We only Have three people in the department so it wouldn't be bad to have the effective date of July 1, 24 Jim wanted to know what Wilton PD Department has and Carrie said she surveyed the state and found most of the state is at 3C Plan and that is 25 year retirement with 2/3's your pay. Jay is at 2c, Oxford and Hamden has 1C and Wilton did not respond. Ab said he heard Farmington is 1C and they are one of our biggest competitors.

Bruce motioned to except the 1C plan and for it to go on November's Ballot.

Jim 2nd the motion.

All in favor 4-0.

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7. Warrants/Abatements/Deeds/Quit Claim

7.1 Payroll Warrant #34 \$23,437.21, #35 \$21,078.79
7.2 General Fund Warrant #11 \$58,957.37, #12 \$232,905.74
7.3 Pay Requisition #55 (general fund #10) \$188,758.30
Abatement – NONE
Supplement – NONE
Bruce motioned to approve 7.1 -7.3
Jim 2nd the motion
All in favor 4-0

8. Board Discussion - None

9. Department Reports - None

10. Town Manager Report

I believe Ken has fixed the benches and picnic tables today.

Many kids use the Rec field, we are asking everyone to please pick up after themselves. There is bottles and trash left laying around the fields, there are receptacles in place at the field for you to deposit you trash and recyclables.

The Community Resilience grant is in review right now and Zack will let me know if there are any changes.

The Community Assessment taxes are \$27,215, this is more than what was budgeted. Jim saw their initial budget for next year is 15% higher. The county administration wants to know if we want to be billed annually or quarterly? Jim said quarterly because we get more interest that way, as we get 3% for our money sitting in the account.

Carrie is turning of the last thing to Gail. Gail said you asked the Planning board to draft a few ordinances, One was to update the Property maintenance ordinance. This has been update but we have not received it back from the attorney yet.

The second one was to draft an Animal ordinance and update the dog ordinance. The attorney reminded us that the state has a statute called Maine Aquicultural Protection Act, this gives directive to any municipality that is writing an ordinance that is about or of farm animals/farming in general. The recommendation is to sent the ordinance to Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry for review prior to having go to vote. The attorney said he thinks there is little in here that would be a problem, so if we wanted to we could go to vote in November then send it to Maine department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry but, if they find issues we would have a short time to correct them and all the corrections would have to be revoted on. The Planning Board would like this to go to Maine Agriculture Conservation and Forestry first and hopefully get it back in time for Aprils vote. The Attorney made some suggestions and the Planning Board agrees with them, once those are done they will give a clean copy of the draft to Carrie for the board to receive. The draft will be sent to Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry sometime in the next week. The draft has defined space limitations based on some of the problems we have had in town, we took out the word village because a lot of smaller communities like Moose hill Road and East Livermore some of the lots there are equal to the size to the ones in town and we didn't want to limit the smaller restrictions to the town area. These limitations are broad enough so someone with a current farm will not be affected. The ordinance clearly defines where and how the housing should be and how the manure should be managed (like not bleeding into the septic system).

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11. Public Comment - None

12. Executive Session - None

13. Adjourn

Bruce motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm

Jim 2nd the motion

All in favor 4-0

