

Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Monday July 20th, 2015, 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street

Attendance: Wade Browne, Raymond Meldrum, Brian Hatfield, Leanna Targett, Heather Moody, John Dill, Raylene Tolman, and Dee Menear

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Selectman Browne makes a motion to accept meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Selectman Meldrum. All in Favor.

Chairman Moody says first item of discussion is on the school vote. The vote was 69 yes to 107 against continuing the next step of the school withdrawal. Selectman Hatfield says he paid attention to some of the voters comments and he has talked to some on the phone, he has talked to Tom Saviello, the new chairman of the school board and basically those that voted no was for one particular reason because they thought the board was dysfunctional, that the funding model was unfair, that the teachers contracts are no good and are causing a poor working environment for the teachers. Those that were opposed had many different reasons like my husband and I went to Mt. Abram and we really enjoyed it and we want that tradition to stay the same – but I would categorize that more on the emotional side and there were discussions on good educations and so on. So the petition was signed and we had the informational meeting which was conducted with the lack of anything specific from the petition we decided that the best way to do this is to ask the question of if we voted yes what kind of questions would you ask and how do we go forward with the exploration. What I am proposing, and hopefully I get the backing of the board is that we move forward and form a voluntary committee composed of the selectmen, Kingfield school board members, the superintendent and anyone else who would like to join the committee bearing in mind that number have to be managed and that we take the information that is applicable to the district and the information that we might need to address and bring them to the board in a manner that can be measured. One of the statements that I saw over and over again is to give them one year and see if they can correct it – if you say you can have a year is like saying let me sleep for an hour and whether I sleep or not doesn't matter – you gave me an hour of sleep, we need to give them specific goals that we can measure for the performance so that the community members can look at the system and decide whether it is effective or not and the results than can be weighed whether we wait a year and start this whole process over again or we engage them and get it fixed the way we want. I will also add that if we go forward with this it may be something we do on an annual basis – to make new goals and visit them at the end of the year. Same thing as when I wanted to be a selectmen I wrote down what my goals would be if I was voted in and I look at them routinely to see if I am doing what I said I was going to. Chairman Moody says she thinks those are great ideas and she would also say that the Kingfield Independent committee was asked last year about this time to put the petition away and give Erica Brouillet one year and that was done it actually came back out by popular request. Selectman Browne says he agrees with Brian and is not sure about putting a committee together or not but we should take those concerns that were written down by the group of people that came here and say we would like to have some sort of an answer on these if possible and maybe they can give us some idea of

what they are going to change within a year – I will do whatever the town wants to do and I am not opposed to that I just think there is a majority that came to the informationals that were concerned about some things and it seemed to me that it was pushed in the end to not vote for it and yet those people were not here for those meetings so there might have been some misinformation put out there – I think we need to address some of these issues. Chairman Moody says everyone needs to have the same information at the same time – so things that are said are true. Selectman Dill says count me out, you have a school board for this as a former superintendent said I don't run the transfer station and you don't need to run the schools. Selectman Browne says that is what I am saying – to bring it to them and have them has over those issues – but somebody should bring it to them. Selectman Dill says we have a duly elected school board for a reason. From what I read about the vote it didn't seem as if anyone was saying let's do this again. Selectman Browne says he doesn't know if all the information was put out so that they understood it correctly. Selectman Dill says that was not a selectmen problem. Selectman Browne says your right. Selectman Dill says he has no interest in doing that – if anything it is the school boards thing. Selectman Browne says yes, that is what he is saying – bring it to the school board because they were legitimate concerns. Selectman Hatfield says to respond I would agree with you however there is a problem in our town that it seems to keep rearing its head and the only way to get ahead of that I for somebody which I assume would be the leaders of the town to come up with a way to address what these are so that people in the town that are voters/taxpayers can look and get a quick snapshot of if these are being addressed or not and if the school board didn't come to that meeting or there was no connection between the school board and the tax payers then somehow it is incumbent upon us to make that connection. Selectman Hatfield there may not even be something that needs to be brought to the school board – a committee could say we don't have anything we want to bring to them - then it's done. Selectman Dill said he had read in the paper that Mrs. Pratt was going to reach out to the towns - let's see if she is going to. AA, Targett says they are looking at dates the second week in August. Selectman Meldrum says he agrees with Johns direction, his way of looking at things is that we have these votes for a purpose and the residents voted to not go any further so we should not go any further, if an independent committee such as Brian suggested wants to get together as there is some worthwhile information that should go out to the school that's fine but don't include us in that, the school board should be looking at that as they are the ones that can make the changes to what may fit the different towns and if the town wants more done they will let us know – that is my thoughts. Chairman Moody says in keeping with our normal way of doing things let's give some time for everyone to chew on it and we will bring it up next time for more discussion.

Chairman Moody says Leanna has provided us some copies of a background check that has probably been borrowed from somewhere. AA, Targett said she got this from MSAD 58 and their lawyers looked at it, I did not send it to our Attorney and MMA says to contact your attorney – I am not certain if the board wants to do that or not. I have also talked with the sheriff's department and I know who I will send these to and she will look them over and give me an immediate response. Selectman Dill asked did you send them a blank one to look at? AA, Targett says she did not but she spoke with someone and gave her the details of it. Chairman Moody says she would add in big letters confidential so that people know if they have an OUI or shoplifting conviction that we are not going to be talking about it. AA, Targett says she will put it on the

corners in lighter text. AA, Targett says she will be the only one dealing with them and they will be locked up in her office drawer. Dee Menear asks if is for volunteer's only. Selectman Browne says volunteers/employees/committee members. Chairman Moody asks if we are ok to go ahead with this. Brian Hatfield says just the security piece – is locking them up in a drawer adequate when protecting someone's social security number. Chairman Moody says that is what we do with their personnel files and that is adequate. AA, Targett says she is the only one who holds a key to the lock. Selectman Meldrum says we don't need a social security number for a background check. AA, Targett agrees to remove that as well as it is not necessary. Board agrees the rest is fine.

Chairman Moody says Rodney Lynch who does our economic and community development activities has sent a list of ideas for upcoming projects. Route 27 Rehab - Attendance at the tentatively MDOT public hearing tentatively scheduled for late August 2015. AA, Targett says she thinks he should continue with the Route 27 Plans and discussions. As far as the CDBG Public Infrastructure Close out and final monitoring visit we haven't even started the project yet which is the sewer grants and if I am doing all the administration it might makes sense for me to do the closeout – however I am not certain what this entails until I talk with Terry Ann. I think Rodney should continue tracking for a possible downtown revitalization grant 2018 or after. As far as the brownfields - revisit the issue of the town wants to pursue Brownfield grant and mitigation for the properties it owns we no longer own the property so it is a moot point. Historic District - Determine if the town wants to pursue an historic district especially in the downtown commercial area I would suggest getting further information. When we did the walk thru with the Maine historic preservation commission it was a vast amount of properties. Selectman Dill asked if there were grants available for those properties. AA, Targett says she believes so at different levels, state federal, and local. The internet as a follow up to the 2013 Business Assessment Study, an assessment of local internet delivery and satisfaction. We can use UMF intern(s) for this I think might be of interest – however I would like a little more information. Selectman Dill says we had planned money in the TIF to help bring faster broadband internet to the town. AA, Targett says I think grants which could be beneficial to Kingfield are of most importance. Chairman moody agrees whatever grant he can find that betters Kingfield is top priority along with Route 27 rehab.

Selectman Hatfield asked if Rodney was our local expert on TIF. Chairman Moody says no, Leanna is. AA, Targett says he is our economic and community development consultant – we refer to him as our grant writer but he has done so much more than that.

Chairman Moody says she has to note something under old business – it appears to us that we need to find some ballot clerks to appoint – so let's do a little recruiting for Kingfield residents preferably. The more people we have the bigger the pool we have to choose from.

Selectman Dill makes a motion to accept the Waste Water Commitment for quarter II as presented. Seconded by Selectman Browne. All in Favor.

Selectman Dill makes a motion to accept the Kingfield Woodsmen liquor License as presented. Selectman Hatfield says the only issue he has is there an ordinance about having an area that is so close to a parking area. Chairman Moody says all they are asking is do we have any laws on the books, or have any ordinances that would prevent this from happening. AA, Targett says that

those rules fall into play with liquor licensing; they inspect and approve the areas. Seconded by Selectman Browne. All in Favor.

Chairman Moody states that the Bicentennial Committee has requested use of the baseball field in August 2016 for an antique cars/tractors event. Selectman Hatfield makes a motion to allow the use of the baseball field for the event. Seconded by Selectman Dill. All in Favor.

Maine Downtown Network Cost - \$500.00/year - In 2013, Kingfield was accepted by the Maine Downtown Center (MDC) as a Maine Downtown Network Community, qualifying Kingfield to be part of the successful program aimed to improve village centers. MDC states that "healthy, thriving downtowns, village centers and neighborhood commercial districts are assets to communities endeavoring to grow their local economy, protect their authentic character and create or retain jobs". In October 2013 a group from the MDC toured Kingfield to learn all they could about our Town. The result of this visit was a "Summary Report from the Start up Team Visit". A large group of business owners met at the Herbert Hotel to discuss this report and determine what the next steps would be. Additional meetings were scheduled and cancelled due to low attendance and bad weather. Being part of the MDN gives the Town better eligibility with CDBG and other grants. The MDN Crew is in the process of making plans to come up in August/September to reevaluate. Hopefully this will aid in continued events after the Bicentennial which will help with organization, sustainability and momentum. I believe this is a great opportunity for business owners and community members to be involved in their community and events. Chairman Moody suggests that some outreach for leaders of this group and for volunteers must be completed if this is to continue as Leanna and Heather do not have the time that is involved with this. Selectman Dill makes a motion to authorize Leanna to sign the document for one more year. Seconded by Selectman Meldrum. All in Favor.

Chairman Moody then moves discussion into Webster Hall and the need for a liquor license. She states that a license is **NOT** needed if someone is holding a private party, wedding, reception, gathering etc. as long as it is not being catered. IF it is catered than the person catering it would apply for a license. (Catering Permit/License) If the event being held is for the general public to attend or is an event to raise money then a permit is needed. (B.Y.O.B. or Incorporated Civic Organization or Catering) Chairman Moody states that Leanna has added this into the Webster Hall rental policy and has added some more protective language and asks for a motion of acceptance. Selectman Browne makes a motion to accept newly drafted Webster Hall usage agreement. Seconded by Selectman Dill. All in Favor.

Selectman Dill makes a motion to sign the Quitclaim Deed for taxes paid by Romanoski as presented. Seconded by Selectman Browne. All in Favor.

Chairman Moody states that assessing is almost done but we won't commit until the second week of August because we will mess up everyone's escrows if we commit now but it has worked out well as we have gotten a lot of new transfers entered in. AA, Targett says it is important to keep it consistent for the last four years it has been done the second week in August. Selectman Dill says it is probably better to hold off because his understanding is that the school district has received

more from the state and the town of Kingfield should be getting back 40% of the \$84,000.00 which will help with taxes.

Selectman Hatfield asks about having a sponsored TIF 101 class it may be done two times at various times, maybe Rodney could do it or someone else who is an expert with TIF with the community to talk about the benefits of the TIF what the whole program is so that it would eliminate some of the lack of education. AA, Targett says we have done that twice now as Eaton/Peabody has come here twice since she has worked for the town and they did a nice slide show. Selectman Hatfield asks if it was attended. AA, Targett says it was advertised and over the years I have tried to get information out for people to understand it better. Chairman Moody says she has been working on a new CEA for over a year now. AA, Targett says yes and it is sitting in Smitty's hands for what she calls a "first flight" review and once that is done I plan to review again with the board, and hold public meetings and then a special town meeting for acceptance. I am certain Raegan will come to the public meeting and answer any questions that we may have on our TIF.

Chairman Moody reads the following announcements Credit Enhancement Agreement (TIF) – work in progress. Banking Services is still a work in progress, Safe Routes to School Contract – awaiting documents from MaineDOT, and there is a possible Public Informational meeting with Maine DOT on Route 27 Road Construction the end of August. More details will follow.

Selectman Browne makes a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant Title 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) A – Personnel Matters – discussion of employee merit increases. Seconded by Selectman Dill. All in favor.

Selectman Meldrum makes a motion to pay employees 1.7% cost of living increase. Seconded by Selectman Browne. All in Favor.

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Dill. Seconded by Selectman Meldrum. All in Favor