

Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Monday June 21st, 2022; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street

Attendance

Municipal Officers: Walter Kilbreth, Wade Browne, Polly MacMichael and Morgan Dunham

Municipal Staff: Leanna Targett (Administrative Assistant); Travis Targett (Wastewater Superintendent)

Public: Clay Tranten, Tracy Bessey, Susan Davis, Richard Hawkes, Donna Bailey-Gagne, Babe Smith, Mark Green David Deluca, John Beaupre, Bob Luce, Bobby Brown, Jeff Maget, Billy Gilmore, Kim Jordan, Kate Ray, Jim Meldrum, Claudia Diller, Kathy Houston, Bethany. Ryan Reed and Andrea Fenwick (via Zoom)

Chairman Dunham call the meeting to order

Meeting minutes from June 6th, are reviewed. Motion to accept meeting minutes as written by Selectman Browne. Seconded by Selectman MacMichael. All in Favor.

Old Business:

New Business:

Chairman Dunham indicates that the first item of business is for the Workforce Housing Committee to provide update. John Beaupre says they call it a regional housing committee. It is a committee that has worked hard for the past 12 months which includes Polly, Jed, John Beaupre, Mark Green, business owners and Carrabassett code officer. John says this housing issue is affecting all of us and that's why we need to stress that it is regional. The group is in the process of applying for a 501c3 status. The Town of Carrabassett was gracious enough to provide funds for this which allowed us to hire an attorney from Eaton/Peabody. With some consensus and collaboration, they wish to put a package together to ask the county commissioners who have received 5 million in ARPA funding for funding. We just want to show that everyone has skin in the game. We need to be a team. Mark Green says we need money but more importantly we need acceptance of the newly drafted memo of understanding. Ideally a little money from each community helps as well. Carrabassett has already paid \$6,000.00 but we will need to hire a full-time staff member to see this through we would be looking for two-year position. We plan to ask the county for money to assist with this. We could seek other funding once a project is underway. The deadline they have set for acceptance of the MOU is July 15th so they would like to have a response from the board at the next scheduled board meeting. Coplin has said that they could assist up to \$1,500.00 without having to go back before the tax payers. Stratton/Eustis have discussed some funding but were not certain of the amount. Bobb Luce says we really need some land near utilities. The board agrees to review the MOU and to return with any changes by the July 5th meeting.

Richard Hawkes, Shiloh Pond Committee to discuss removal of cabin on property. Richard Hawkes presents an application to tear down one of the cabins and to install a canoe rack near the water. He has discussed this with Tom Marcotte and with DEP and this permit would be good for two years once submitted. The fee for this is \$266.00 which is already covered. Richard says that he has made Leanna the applicant/owner and he is listed as the agent. He would like approval from the board. Selectman

MacMichael makes a motion to approve the permit and Leanna signing documents. Seconded by Selectman Kilbreth. All in Favor.

Board review appointment of candidate to Shiloh Pond Committee named William Jefferies. Motion made by Selectman Browne to accept. Seconded by Selectman Kilbreth. All in Favor.

Donna Bailey-Gagne is recognized to discuss West Kingfield Road and other concerns. Donna thanks the board for the opportunity to speak. She speaks of often reading in the irregular the walkable, bikeable initiative for the Town of Kingfield and since she has moved onto west Kingfield Road, she has some areas of concern. First is the speed limit, there are three different sections on West Kingfield Road and near her house it is 30 mph. Another area of concern is the excessive use of engine brakes, she doesn't understand why they must be used and isn't there signs restricting them. Clay Tranten says no, there is one on State Route 16 but not in town as it opens up a whole can of worms with a noise ordinance because it would involve Jake brakes, back-up beepers, mowing a lawn, dogs and more it would dictate what hours this can be done and more. Donna says her other item is the right-of-way next to Jordan Lumber she feels that the employees are parking in the right-of way and wants to know why they are allowed to do that, her husband was almost run over in that area. AA, Targett says the speed limits are set by the State of Maine DOT and on approval by the board a request could be submitted for another speed study. As far as Jordans is concerned she believed the parking lot or acreage owned is quite large and the ROW should be looked at carefully as she believes the entire road has shifted some. Selectman McMichael thanks Donna for her input and reiterates that we are aware of these concerns, we wish to move forward with a positive change. Claudia Diller suggest that Donna call all these companies that are speeding and talk to them, that is what she did on Riverside Street, and it has worked well.

Bill Gilmore is recognized to discuss property taxes. Bill says he was asked by Wade to assist him and the town with some assessing issues since we have lost Raymond and Leanna has been struggling these last few months. Billy says I believe Wade will be stepping up into this position and I have completed what I agreed to do which was getting all the transfer taxes and deeds into the computer and then looking at new property and after that I was to look at stuff that may not have been completed before. First off you have way too many non-taxable properties. I have added some value to those under assessed and I did pick up a fair amount of new property. I will stand behind any of my values. One property alone went up over one million dollars. Billy says he is happy to stay and assist however in order to carry his certification he must attend tax school and would like to be reimbursed mileage. Board agrees to pay for Billy's tax school and mileage.

Next item of discussion is on the wastewater truck driven daily. Chairman Dunham says she feels this needs to be looked at. Board is in agreement. AA, Targett will look for funding options.

Next two items are lumped together to include buying a rock rake for Public Works and buying a 1-Ton for Public Works. Board agrees that this should be scoped out immediately.

Next is to begin discussion of having a Town Manager, Selectman Kilbreth says he wanted this on the agenda as the town attorney had mentioned it a few times now. It makes sense to move in that direction for efficiency and he believes it is just a change in title. Leanna is already doing the job; knows all the ins and outs and we don't need someone from the outside. AA, Targett informs them it would be

accepting a new form of government. Which had been discussed many times in the 10 years she has had her position. The board wishes to discuss further on July 18th. AA, Targett will organize some discussion on this after the board is able to read information provided in tonight's meeting.

Administrative Assistant Updates/Discussion:

AA, Targett says she would like to provide an update on Tufts Pond. She and Brian the Road Commissioner met with Wright Pierce two engineers last week and they will be putting a few prices together for the board to move forward with. She was oping to have something in hand, but it might be the first meeting in July.

Other: Selectman MacMichael asks when the work can begin on a new website. AA, Targett says after July 1st. She would like to schedule another roads meeting. The board suggests this waits until after the 27th meeting. Selectman MacMichael asks when department heads will be in attendance again for updates.

Selectman Kilbreth states that he is not impressed with the town attorney and found her to be flighty. AA, Targett said this was not at all the case she was trying her best to act in the best interest of the entire board. Selectman Browne and Chairman Dunham agree.

Kim Jordan asks what the plan will be moving forward after the roads meeting on the 27th. Selectman Browne says if people want tar than that is what we will do.

Selectman MacMichael makes a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Selectman Kilbreth. All in Favor.