

Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 19th, 2022; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street

Attendance

Municipal Officers: Morgan Dunham, Wade Browne, Polly MacMichael, and Hunter Lander

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

Public: Susan Davis, Henry Williams, Kim Jordan, Les Jordan, Donna Miller, Jeff Maget, Bob Carleton, Billy Gilmore, Brian Twitchell Danielle Mathieu and Hailey Fenwick and Kathy Houston (via Zoom)

Absent: Walter Kilbreth

Chairman Dunham call the meeting to order.

Meeting minutes from August 15th and 22nd, 2022, are reviewed. Motion to accept meeting minutes as written by Selectman Browne. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.

Chairman Dunham states that the first item of business is to hold a Public Hearing for the new General Assistance Ordinance Maximums.

Motion by Selectman Browne to recess Selectmen's meeting to open a public hearing for General Assistance. Second by Selectman MacMichael. All in Favor

Selectman Dunham reads that they have Appendices (A-C) for the period of Oct. 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023 with Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in compliance with Title 22 M.R.S.A. §4305(4). Chairman explains that there are income guidelines to follow and recites the differences in Franklin County income limits if approved. Chairman asks for any public comment.

Hearing no public comment, she deems the public hearing closed and the Selectmen's meeting is reopened.

Selectmen Browne makes a motion to approve and sign the new GA Appendices 2022-2023 as provided. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in favor.

Chairman Dunham states that she will be rearranging the agenda to hear from those in attendance first.

New Business:

Chairman Dunham recognizes Bob Carlton (District 3) Franklin County Commissioner. Bob says he has been in office since June 14th taking the seat vacated by Clyde Barker who resigned and then passed away. He has been active in the work force housing efforts. He will be on the ballot this fall for a two-year term and then following those two years the board will go from three commissioners to five.

Board then reviews a proposal submitted by Jordan Excavation. Les says he contacted AA, Targett and asked if he could submit something that could be provided to the engineers to speed up the process. One of the important items would be to put a cap on the cost for Tufts Pond Road so that it leaves funding for the other roads. Board discusses further. Selectman Browne and Lander agree that if the other parties were to look at this and provide their thought and opinions they would support sending to the engineers. Selectman MacMichael did not agree and though that the reason we hired the engineers were to do all this work. Chairman Dunham did not take part in the discussion.

Chairman Dunham recognizes Brian Twitchell who explains that the office has had numerous issues with networking and cables due to them being in the basement. He has put together a proposal that AA, Targett has requested that would move everything upstairs into the closet for \$6,000.00. AA, Targett explains that recently they have had no computer access and have had to send customers away which is not acceptable. Upon further discussion a motion is made by Selectman Browne to use ARPA funds to complete this. Seconded by Selectman MacMichael. All in Favor

Old Business:

Chairman Dunham moves into the field use discussion. AA, Targett says she has spoken with everyone that has shown interest in haying in the past and the Chases are interested in taking over the contract. Actually, they might like a longer contract as they are figuring they will spend possibly \$20,000.00 in the fields. Everything they do is organic. Mr. Chase did say that the Flood brothers are good people to, and the only difference is that they are commercialized, and he is organic. Selectman Browne says he would like to see it remain a hay field. Selectman MacMichael asks is they should consider other proposed uses. Chairman Dunham says she would like to keep and local and would go with the Chases. Selectman MacMichael is concerned with the financial benefit and feels the board should consider other options that are more financially viable. Billy Gilmore reminds the board of the field ordinance that was passed that is for the area to remain an open field for agriculture. He says the scenic by starts in that area. Selectman Browne says he would like to see a music area behind Valley Gas.

New Business:

Board reviews a tree growth supplemental tax bill and other supplementals and abatements. Selectman Browne makes a motion to accept and sign as presented. Seconded by Selectman MacMichael. All in Favor.

Chairman Dunham states that the board is in receipt of a letter where the regional housing/workforce housing committee seeking voting representative for Kingfield. Selectman MacMichael explains that they are looking for an active board member to be on their nonprofit board. Selectman MacMichael says they are looking for someone that would have great connections with fundraising and land use development. She was thinking one of the Orcutt's would be a good fit. Selectman Browne suggests that we put something out to see if anyone else is interested first.

Chairman Dunham moves in discussion on ARPA Funds. She indicates that she had a few ideas such as paying Brian, David, Leanna and Travis for the time they were working, gym membership for all employees, new desk for Leanna's office and some sort of a system for people to use cards at the transfer station. Selectman Browne does not agree with paying employees, the gym membership, or the credit card idea at the transfer station as there is no internet and feels the money should be spent for things such as culverts and such, for the community but does agree with the office equipment. Following further discussion Chairman Dunham says she wants to keep this under work in progress.

AA, Targett says there has been a request for more frequent mowing by river on the piece of property the town recently purchased. It is agreed that if we have personnel that is not allergic to poison ivy to have this done more often. To tell the caretaker to add this to his duties.

AA, Targett says she has been approached by the AA group about using the hall again on Wednesdays for at least the winter months however Wednesdays have been the day that work sessions are held. She explains that if work sessions are held for one hour being 5:30 to 6:30 it would not interfere with AA wanting to use the hall. The board agrees that is a good idea.

Board review the appointment of Susan Davis to the VEC and resignation from the EAC. Selectman MacMichael makes a motion to accept her resignation and to appoint her to the VEC. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.

Administrative Assistant Updates/Discussion:

AA, Targett says Heating Fuel Bids invitations sent out. Opening October 3rd. She says she has spoken with Tash from Central Maine Power recently and it would be in the boards best interest to move forward with this now while they still have all the on-demand crews on staff. Tasha assured me that we could pick lights, or sections of roads to skip over if needed. Upon further discussion Selectman Browne makes a motion to move forward with the installment of LED lights. Seconded by Selectman Lander. Vote passes 3/1.

Claudia Diller indicates that she wants her light removed in front of her house. Selectman MacMichael says there was a list of lights discussed prior that could be removed. Board instructs Claudia to get in writing from nearby owners that they are in support of this removal.

Other:

Chairman Dunham asks for any other. Selectman MacMichael asks about rescheduling a work session for roads for things such as the rock rake, painting lines on depot street and crosswalks. Board agrees to meet October 19th 5:30 to 6:30. Selectman MacMichael says she feels that the board should have evaluation forms at the beginning of the year so that they can write down stuff as needed to make the process easier at year end. She also asks if a labor policy meeting can be scheduled. Board agrees to October 26th 5:30 to 6:30. Selectman Lander asks about speed limit signs near the Dollar General. Travis Targett says has spoken with the DOT guys on the project and they will investigate it. AA, Targett explains prior to the project there was a request to move the signs further back to slow people down sooner. Chairman Dunham says she has heard there will only be two DOT drivers from Kingfield to the boarder which makes her think that the board should be discussing the bridge again.

Selectman Browne makes a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) A – Personnel Matters. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.

Selectman Browne makes a motion to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.