

## Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Monday August 21st, 2023; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street

### Attendance

**Municipal Officers:** Wade Browne, Morgan Dunham, Hunter Lander and Kim Jordan

**Municipal Staff:** Leanna Targett (Town Manager), Travis Targett (Wastewater Superintendent)

**Public:** Barbara Sergio, Sue Davis, Henry Williams, Terry Coffin, Valarie Cheimis, Gary Cheimis, Jeff Maget, Aaron Hansen, Annie Twitchell, Patty Veayo, Julie Bouwsma, Bob Lightyear (2 unknown individuals)

**Via Zoom:** Heidi Murphy, Savannah Merrill

**Absent:**

Chairman Browne calls the meeting to order.

Board reviews meeting minutes from August 7th, 2023. Selectman Dunham makes a motion to accept as written. Selectman Lander seconds motion. All in favor.

Board reviews financials for July. It is determined that the public works budget balances are incorrect. TM Targett states that she will provide the board with a corrected copy.

### Old Business:

Chairman Browne recognizes Julia Bouwsma and Patty Veayo to discuss the story walk plans. They show the board a sign that has been built. Julia says these have been designed to be for a year-round story walk. The previous ones that were put in the park and wastewater fields were temporary and only good for spring and summer use. These ones would be more permanent and would allow them to switch the stories around. They would like to ask the board if it would be acceptable and where the best location would be. Should they plan for the park and down by the river again, or somewhere else? Patty stated that they were nice and rugged and also adjustable. Selectman Jordan asked if they were interested in leaving them up all winter. She is agreeable to the rest of the year but not winter. Chairman Browne states that he is concerned with ATV's seeing them down in the field. Patty states that they would be willing to paint the posts fluorescent orange and explains that they have been designed for easy mowing. Following the discussion board agrees to a story walk in the field and that the library could use the park provided they work with Wastewater Supervisor Travis to know where the beds and tanks are. The board agrees that they must be removed prior to winter.

Next Item of business is to review proposal for engineering services for Riverside Street and West Kingfield Road. Bob Lightbody states that he is proposing services to include collecting field survey data and preparing civil engineering documents suitable for the re-construction of Riverside Street and West Kingfield Road. Construction documents will be developed to fully reconstruct and pave approximately 1.3 miles of Riverside Street and 3.4 miles of West Kingfield Road. The cost to do this is a total of \$125,000.00.

Review proposal for Island Road research. Following a discussion with the Town Manager he understands the road conditions on these roads and discussed the possibility of milling them both immediately to leave for the winter. With a plan that construction would begin in the spring. He did get rough estimates from Manzer with a cost for West Kingfield Road of \$95,500.00 and Riverside Street \$35,500.00. Chairman Browne says that he feels Tufts Pond held up well over the winter when this was done, and it preps the area for the next step. Bob says he believes it

would take a week to do both roads and could happen in early November. Following discussion Selectman Jordan makes a motion to hire Manzer to complete West Kingfield Road for \$95,500.00. Seconded by Selectman Lander. Selectman Jordan makes a motion to hire Manzer to complete Riverside Street for \$35,500.00. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor. Before a vote is taken motion and second is withdrawn following recommendation by Bob to get additional specifics for the board on length of road/tar and cost.

Selectman Jordan makes a motion to hire Residential Engineering Services and to move forward with design and plans as indicated in the proposal for West Kingfield Road and Riverside Street. Seconded by Selectman Dunham. All in Favor.

The board then reviews a proposal to provide a assistance with flooding on the Island Road. Bob states that he would do a Streambank Analysis Report that would describe the existing streambank conditions, approximate resources utilized within 10 the past years on streambank and Island Road rehabilitation. Bob says he would also help to identify possible permitting requirements and provide action items for the Town's consideration. Bob says this is what the Town Manager had discussed needing assistance with. This would be the first step in a permitting and rehabilitation effort. The cost would be \$1,500.00. Selectman Dunham makes a motion to accept the proposal. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.

### **New Business:**

Barbara Serigo is recognized to provide the board information with the Franklin Community Health Network critical access hospital. Barb states that a Critical Access Hospital is a hospital that is located in a rural area, operates a 24-hour emergency department, and is located no less than 35 miles from another hospital and has no more than 25 inpatient beds. The average inpatient length of stay is less than 96 hours and is paid at 101% of reasonable costs by Medicare/Medicaid.

Barb says that a regulatory change in late 2022 expanded the distance criteria from 35 miles to another hospital. Franklin will not discontinue any services and decreasing the licensed bed count from 65 to 25 will not impact access or limit services. Barb says that the majority of patients will not see an increase. However, there could be a change in copays that a small portion of our traditional Medicare patients will see.

Barb says that no positions will be eliminated due to this change in status, as they are already staffing appropriately. It will take effect October 1, 2023.

Board opens sealed bid for 1984 Detcon Mixer. Selectman Jordan moves to accept the bid in the amount of \$250.00. Seconded by Selectman Lander. The vote passes 3 to 1 abstain.

Board reviews the Tax Commitment for 2024 Covering July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Following discussion, Selectman Dunham makes a motion to accept option one presented with an 18mil rate<sup>4</sup> and taking \$300,000.00 from surplus. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor

Board reviews a Real Estate abatement that was an account billed in error. Selectman Dunham makes a motion to accept abatement. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. All in Favor.

**Town Manager Updates/Discussion:**

TM, Targett says many of her items are a work in progress such as staff insurance, wildflowers, picnic area, grants, comp plan, TIF redistribution planning. She will inform the board when there are updates.

**Selectmen Discussion:**

Selectman Dunham asks that we look into the churches with exemptions and send another letter regarding holding services in order to be tax exempt.

Selectman Lander asks that the big hole at the end of Freeman Ridge Road and the area on Maple Street receive cold patch.

Chairman Browne says he received the photos of the recent work completed at Shiloh on the gate and wanted to thank all involved. Although it is a longer walk-in it came out nice. Selectman Lander asks if the town has a key. Selectman Browne says we will have one. Annie Twitchell is recognized she indicates that the town office has a key to the gate and there is a sign out sheet. The other individuals to have a key are Brent West and the Fire Department. Selectman Jordan asked who made the decision on the gate location. Chairman Browne says the Shiloh Pond committee.

**Public Comment/Other:**

Annie Twitchell is happy that the grinding/grading of West Kingfield Road is being considered as it may fix the giant pothole.

Sue Davis says she was unable to get the agenda as she received a 404 code and perhaps the site wasn't working. The board looks for this and finds no error however TM Targett has offered to look into further.

Selectman Lander makes a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) Simmons Fund Request(s). Seconded by Selectman Dunham. All in Favor.

Selectman Dunham makes a motion to fund request 1 for \$2,500.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. Motion passes 3 to 1 abstain.

Selectman Lander makes a motion to fund request 2 for \$600.00. Seconded by Selectman Jordan. All in favor.

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