

Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Tuesday January 16, 2024; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street

Attendance

Municipal Officers: Wade Browne, Morgan Dunham and Hunter Lander

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

Public: Annie Twitchell, Ryan Reed, Sue Davis, Claudia Diller, Terry Coffin, Rob MacMichael, Polly MacMichael and Tom Hildreth

Via Zoom: Danielle Mathieu, Paul Peck, Dee Menear, David Davol, Shelby Banks, Diane Christen, Kathy Houston, Laura Godin, Sandra Jamison, Karyn Varney, Michelle Beedy and Ralph Parker

Absent: Kim Jordan

Chairman Browne calls the meeting to order.

Board reviews meeting minutes from January 2, 2024. Selectman Lander makes a motion to accept minutes as written. Seconded by Chairman Browne. Motion passes.

Old Business:

Chairman Browne says the first item is to discuss the WHCWMM Contract Zoning and to set a date for vote. Chairman Browne notes that the planning board met last week to discuss and an updated recommendation from the planning board has been drafted. Upon review of letter from the planning board, Selectman Dunham moves that the voting date be set for March 5th to coincide with the State Primary Elections as was previously recommended. Seconded by Selectmen Lander. All in Favor.

New Business:

Chairman Browne states that the board has information on a municipal electronic sign from Clay Bublak from Neokraft Signs however with tonight's weather he was instructed to not be in attendance as this could be discussed at a later date. Claudia Diller asks what the proposal is for as the VEC would definitely not propose such a sign. Sue Davis says we will have a new sign ordinance and that will not be allowed. Isn't there already a moratorium on this? Chairman Browne says no, a few people put in sign permits prior to the sign ordinance and got one – Polly has one. TM Targett says that the Town would be exempt. Chairman Browne says it would go to the people. Polly MacMichael asks what happened to the bulletin board that the VEC proposed. Chairman Browne says for one we don't like the spot that was picked. Polly says what if we ask John and Cynthia Orcutt to put in on their property. Claudia says she was thinking after the last meeting that perhaps installing some acrylic doors would help to keep it safe.

Tom Hildreth asks about the sign on the hill that looks old and beat up. He noticed the winter parking sign is angled and just does not look nice when you are driving into Kingfield.

Chairman Browne states that LeeAnna Lavoie, Director of Healthy Community Coalition of Greater Franklin County will be present at an upcoming meeting.

Board reviews the sewer commitment covering January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024. Selectman Dunham makes a motion to accept. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.

Town Manager Updates/Discussion:

TM, Targett says she does not have any updates to provide the board with.

Selectmen Discussion:

Selectmen Dunham asks how Tufts Pond Road was. TM Targett states that most of the damage was already repaired with the worst spot being worked on last week. Selectman Browne talks about Island Road and the costs to date. He notes that the town has been repairing the same area every six months where a storm hits. He believes a sluiceway is still the best option. Polly MacMichael asks Selectman Dunham if the board was considering discontinuing that road anymore as it was a previous discussion. Selectman Dunham says something permanent needs to be done and then the road could be handed off to the property owners.

Other:

Claudia Diller asks why there is no update listed on the rank choice voting. TM Targett says she received information from Maine Municipal Legal however had additional questions for them. Claudia says it could go to vote in March along with the workforce housing. TM Targett says no, it will require a charter or an ordinance which will need to be approved 180 days prior to its use. Meaning that this year's election cannot be changed as the vote would have needed to take place back the beginning of December. Following a lengthy discussion on this it was determined that Claudia was not interested in the rank choice voting but how it has been necessary in the past for someone running for office to run for an actual seat and how that doesn't seem fair to have to run against someone and it should be just the top two people who get a seat. TM Targett says that is one of her clarification questions. She understands that no matter what changes are involved the town attorney must be involved in drafting the charter or ordinance or any changes that involves elections and voters' rights. Again, the understanding is that everything will take time to complete.

Sue Davis asks for clarification on ZOOM and if individuals are allowed to speak. Chairman Browne says no, not unless we allow it. We set up the zoom with the intention that if you want to be heard then you must attend the meeting in person so that we can look you in the eye.

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