

Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 17th, 2024; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street

Attendance

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

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

Public: Terry Coffin, Annie Twitchell, Chris Rushton, Jeffrey Maget, Diane Christen, Josh Nunes, Dee Meneer, Claudia Diller, Susan Davis, Lynn Burnell, Dennis Burnell, Audrey Tague, Linda Manning, Melissa Hoisington, Julie Swain, Don Aubrecht, Stacy McCluskey, Monique Poulin and William Jeffries

Via Zoom: Rebecca Richards

Absent:

Chairman Browne calls the meeting to order.

Board reviews meeting minutes from June 3, 2024. Selectman Dunham makes a motion to accept all minutes as written. Seconded by Selectman Lander. All in Favor.

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

Board moves into opening bids for the Community Swimming Access. (river property). Bids are as such: JR Nunes \$19,750.00 and Jordan Excavation \$19,590.00. Selectman Lander makes a motion to accept the lowest bidder Jordan Excavation. Seconded by Selectman Dunham. Motion passes 3 to 1 abstain.

The next item is further discussion on VEC responsibilities. TM, Targett explains that there is a need to rewrite the committee establishment. Jan Royall had pointed out that there are two words that contradict each other which were advise and guide. TM Targett says I think we need to tighten up the language. Jan also spoke of the binder the VEC uses which has the VEC plan that was accepted at Town Meeting in 2011 which outlined seven projects and the committee's purpose is to guide the expenditure of TIF funds for this plan. This plan is now 13 years old. They also have a comprehensive plan that we all understand needs to be updated which is 17+ years old, a survey that very few people completed in 2015 and traffic studies that are 20 years old just to name a few. TM Targett says I think we need to determine if the committee should wait until a new comp plan is drafted. Sue Davis says the committee is unable to do anything until the joint work session. Upon further discussion it is agreed that a joint work session will be held July 22nd at 5:30 to talk about how the committee should move forward and to have a training session on TIF funds.

Further discussion on benches with VEC. TM Targett explains that the board has received signed agreements from Skowhegan Savings Bank, the Post Office, Jordan Lumber (Ware Butler), Longfellow's, and Polly and Rob MacMichael at this time. Chairman Browne asks Sue Davis what this plan was to anchor them, remove them if necessary etc. Sue says the town will install them, as far as anchoring them we purchased anchors. Claudia says we looked into it and someone in a

wheelchair just needs to be able to roll up to someone that may be sitting on a bench. We looked at ADA accessible benches, but they were too expensive. Sue Davis says they have planned some landscaping after they are in place. Melissa Hoisington questions if the town would like benches in the dam area, and the gateway parking lot. Melissa says she may ask the bank if they are interested in 2 instead of one. TM Targett is directed to look into the anchors that were purchased. Claudia states that the VEC would like to formally apologize to those individuals that were upset about the painting of the barrels, and she would like to personally call them to apologize. Selectman Jordan says that is not possible as many of these people contacted selectmen and not the Town Manager.

Selectman Jordan is recognized to provide the board an update on the conversation with Department of Education (DOE). Selectman Jordan says the conversation began with a discussion on Raymond and Windham school districts. Selectman Jordan says I had an enjoyable conversation with Paula Gravel who is a finance director with the DOE. She explains that the ED279 is not as cut and dry as it is written. Each town portions/local state allocation is 6.2%. They worked to get the local share more equitable. Kingfield's valuation increased 21 million, so they are paying the lions' share but in the big picture Kingfield is not doing that bad. Selectman Jordan says Paula would be more than happy to attend a zoom meeting to explain it. Board agrees this is a great idea and suggests meeting August 5th or 19th with a light agenda.

New Business:

The board then moves into discussion on speed table survey results. TM Targett explains that the vote is almost 2 to 1 against. 129 No to 69 Yes. TM Targett explains that Maple Street and High Street did have more people in support than against and a call to the sheriff's office may be effective on a frequent basis. Selectman Browne asks if there are any other options. Claudia Diller asks about flashing signs like the one that is in New Vineyard. Selectman Browne says the sign ordinance would need to be rewritten first to allow flashing signs and the one in New Vineyard is on Route 27 owned by the State. Linda Manning asks when the speed was increased from 25 to 30. TM Targett explains that the 25 was never a legal sign. Linda Manning asked if the speed limit sign could be moved so that people could see it better. Julie Swain mentions that she is guilty of speeding, one day a parent shamed her for driving too fast and that really affected her. Perhaps we should piggyback on something like this. Linda Manning says she flagged someone down recently and they apologized for driving too fast. Claudia says she has called companies to slow down and asked them to please help observe our speed limits in town. She does not feel she is getting any backing on this and feels that people that work for the town laugh at her especially on Facebook. Chairman Browne says we cannot control Facebook. Following further discussion TM Targett is tasked with looking into moving the sign a few feet.

Diane Christen is recognized to discuss Sidewalk Lights/Christmas lights. Diane explains that she has been part of Christmas lights since 1998 when the Kingfield Business Association started it. She says I would like to see some lights go up on the new sidewalk lights and wonder if the streetscape fund could pay for it. She says I would like lights, or trees with lights or something and if it can be paid for that way then can they pay for flags or banners. Claudia Diller explains that the VEC has been looking into banners that would depict various aspects of town. Melissa Hoisington says that the TIF does not allow Christmas decorations. TM Targett says that is correct and the TIF always mentions permanent items. TM Targett explains that the streetscapes were funded by

TIF. TM, Targett says she will look to see if there is another fund that might be able to pay for these things.

Town Manager Updates/Discussion: None

Selectmen Discussion: Selectman Dunham notes that the ramp way leading into Webster Hall needs to be fixed. She also wonders if the public comment is a waste of time. Wonders if it should be moved back to the end of the meeting where it used to be. It is agreed that moving to the end is more sensible.

Selectman Jordan says she met with some individuals from CMP about power at the bank for Kingfield Days and it would have involved a pole and easements and such. Skowhegan Savings was more than willing to allow it. A few days passed and the bank called her and offered to pay for everything to include installation on the bank building itself and Kingfield Days will be the only one with a key.

Selectman Browne asks how the assessing is going and if Audra is providing TM Targett with updates. TM Targett says it is going well and yes she is provided updates. Selectman Browne mentions that he is on vacation July 1st so he will not be here, and this is when the board decides upon Chair and Vice Chair which he is fine with whatever decision is made. Chairman Browne reminds everyone of pops at the end of the month and how the newest selectmen will begin July 1st.

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

*The minutes provided above are a summary. The Town meets record management requirements and retention schedules by maintaining permanent records of electronic recordings of meetings to satisfy the requirements of §403-A. Minutes by Leanna Targett.