

**Kingfield Selectmen Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025; 6:00 PM Webster Hall 38 School Street**

**Attendance**

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

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

**Public:** Susan Davis, Kathy Houston, Kim Robinson, Mary Nodine, Deanna McClure, Henry Williams, Taylor Jordan, Deanna McClure, Julie Talmage, Jane Daly

**Via Zoom:**

Chairman Browne calls the meeting to order.

The board reviews meeting minutes from July 14<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Jordan makes a motion to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Selectmen Rushton. Motion passes 3 to 2 abstain.

Chairman Browne states that the first item of business is the Election of Officers. He feels that it is time for someone else to step-up and be chairman as everyone should have the opportunity.

Chairman Browne makes a motion to nominates Hunter Lander as Chairman. Selectman Rushton seconds motion. Selectman Lander accepts nomination. All in Favor

Selectman Lander makes a motion to nominate Morgan Dunham as Vice-Chairman. Chairman Browne seconds motion. Selectman Dunham accepts nomination. All in Favor.

Chairing of the meeting was then transferred to new Chairman Lander.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Chairman Lander announces that the first item of business is to Accept MSAD #58 withdrawal petition and set date for first vote to begin process. Board reviews available dates provided by TM, Targett. Following discussion, a motion is made by Selectman Dunham to accept the petition and to set the vote for September 16<sup>th</sup> with the public hearing on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Selectman Browne. All in favor.

Chairman Lander states that the next item is to review and sign Franklin County Unorganized Territory agreements for solid waste and fire protection. TM, Targett notes that there is a discrepancy in the amount for the Transfer Station that she had emailed the county administrator about. This has happened in the past due to timing of budgets and the money has always been corrected by year end. Selectman Browne makes a motion to sign as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dunham. All in favor.

The board then reviews a quitclaim deed for a property that has paid outstanding taxes. Selectman Browne makes a motion to sign as presented. Seconded by Selectman Rushton. All in favor.

The board reviews and accepts a sewer commitment covering July 1, 2025, to September 30, 2025. Selectman Browne makes a motion to sign as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dunham. All in favor.

The board reviews the TM appointment of all necessary officials and board members as well as the additional appointments for Town Manager. Selectman Browne makes a motion to accept and sign as presented on both items. Seconded by Selectman Rushton. All in favor.

Chairman Lander states that the next item is to accept the resignation of Ben Davis from the school board. TM, Targett reads the resignation letter to the board. Selectman Browne makes a motion to accept resignation with regrets and wants to thank Ben for his time and dedication. Seconded by Selectman Rushton. All in favor. TM, Targett is instructed to get notice out on social media as soon as possible that there is a vacancy.

### **Town Manager Updates/Discussion:**

TM, Targett asks that the board consider holding a work session within the next month or so to revisit the local TIF grant process and application forms. She also wants to mention that new transfer station stickers will be available on Wednesday, and the burn pile will reopen for brush only.

TM, Targett says I would like clarification on postings/emails that were discussed at a previous meeting. She would like to clarify the board's intentions as to how this will be used. TM, Targett says I walked away thinking that I was going to send posts for items such as closures, special meetings, maybe even special information that we want to get out to the public. I did not think this was going back to sending agendas and minutes and such as that was a problem in the past.

That very next day after the meeting she says I sent the "Kingfield cares" information that Kathy Houston had provided to us in the meeting. This I thought was a good trial to see how it worked. Our treasurer, Amanda Viles immediately told me she received an email from me.

TM, Targett says I started receiving emails from a resident asking if I had done anything. I responded that I had, and she informed me that she never received anything. I finally took the time to search our website for information. TM, Targett says please understand that I was not the designer of our website, and I did not know how/where things such as this worked. I just knew people could sign up for emails – it was all done behind the scenes. TM Targett says I finally found the list and confirmed that this person had been signed up since April 2, 2023, and told her that.

TM, Targett says I continued to receive emails that she had not received anything,

TM Targett says feeling a little frustrated I decided to do a little more digging. I discovered that 80 people have signed up. I also discovered only 48.39% opened the last email (post) which is about 38 people. TM, Targett says I started looking at the names on this list and discovered that most of them are on the Town Facebook page or the Kingfield Community Forum or both. **The Town Facebook has 604 followers, and the Kingfield Community Forum has 6,100 followers.** TM, Targett says I use both of these for posting our town's notices and Selectman Jordan has been posting agendas prior to a meeting. So, I ask how are we not communicating? TM, Targett says I want to be clear that I

will do as instructed but there needs to be clarification. It is a pain, but I can and will do it. It is not a simple as a cut and paste it takes more formatting. As far as the resident not getting them – I simply do not know, I have confirmed her email address. I can only assume it has gone into a spam or trash folder. TM, Targett says we can have the web designer look into it further, but she charges \$40.00 per hour – which we did not budget for. The board discusses further and states that the intentions were for special notices and not agendas and minutes. The board decides that since there is no money to pay for the web designer this would be placed on hold.

TM, Targett says the last item of discussion is regarding the upcoming school budget referendum vote. TM, Targett says I have concerns with the absentee process not being followed which affects voters rights. TM, Targett says I reached out to the superintendent's office but was basically told to call MMA if I was concerned from a town level. TM Targett says, I continued my research by contacting MMA legal department and was provided with a response that their advice was limited as they cannot advise one municipality in an RSU that could affect other members in the RSU. TM, Targett says I would like board permission to call the town attorney for clarification. Following further discussion, it is agreed that calling the town attorney was in the best interests of registered voters in Kingfield.

### **Selectmen Discussion:**

Selectman Jordan asks about the area located behind Longfellow's that the river has washed away as it was sectioned off during Kingfield Days for safety. TM Targett states that she has been waiting for information on the BRIC grant that would help with fixing the dam in that area. Selectman Jordan wants to thank Nillo for his sweeping and painting. Selectman Jordan asks about the progress in placing benches in town. TM, Targett explains that she has reached out to a few contractors to determine what it will take to make them ADA accessible. She also notes that the agreements that have been signed will need to be revisited due to timing, location, and the fact that there will need to be a concrete base installed. Selectman Jordan asks if these could be discussed at the next meeting. Selectman Jordan states that there really needs to be locations provided for these. TM, Targett says she will create bid docs as needed.

Selectman Browne asks how Brian is coming with street sweeping as he witnessed Niilo sweeping before he painted and this should have already been done by public works and not Nillo.

Following further discussion on rain accumulating at the end of a driveway on Kingfield Road, interviews and how Kingfield Days had a huge turnout Selectman Dunham suggested the board set a date for a work session on grants. The board agrees to August 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.

### **Public Comment/Other (not for new business):**

Kathy Houston wishes to point out that there was an error in some of the materials provided on school withdrawal and wanted to correct that the 40% paid by Kingfield of the school budget was just the cost the local share and not the entire budget. She also states that there is misinformation circulating. Her understanding with Stratton school is that yes, the mil rate may have changed in

Stratton but that was not due to an increase in the school budget as that has remained the same since they pulled from the district.

Jane Daly has received her new sewer bill at her rental property and questions how it is considered commercial vs residential. The board explains that this was discussed at length for three years and because it is a rental property it was considered commercial.

Selectman Browne makes a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Dunham. 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.*