

**Minutes
Town of Skowhegan
Regular Selectmen's Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Tuesday, January 26, 2016
Municipal Building – Council Room**

Board of Selectmen:

Donald Skillings, Chairman - Absent
Paul York, Vice Chairman
Betty Austin
Darla Pickett
Soren Siren

Town Manager:

Christine Almand

Executive Secretary:

Cara L. Mason

Call Selectmen's Meeting to order.

Paul York called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

1. Town Manager's Report

The January Maine Townsman magazine has a wonderful article on Randy Gray and his Transfer Station team's composting program.

The foreclosure sale bid notice has been updated to exclude properties that have been paid in full. The advertisement will be posted in the newspaper twice so that Selectmen may bid on the properties.

I signed the contract for next fiscal year's heating oil with Snowman's Oil for a fixed price of \$1.399 per gallon. The current year's rate is \$2.119. The town budget will be reduced by approximately \$25,000.00.

The Town has a 1990 Arial Fire Truck for sale. For more information, visit our website or contact Chief Howard.

The Lake George Annual Winter Carnival and Ice Fishing Derby is on Saturday, February 6th from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The Skowhegan Area High School Music Boosters are holding their 3rd Annual Mattress Fundraiser Sale on Saturday, February 6th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This year's sale is being held at the middle school.

The next Business After Hours will be at The Old Mill Pub and co-sponsored by the Skowhegan Lions Club on Tuesday, February 9th from 5:00 to 7:00.

The Main Street Skowhegan Savings Entrepreneur Challenge winner will be announced on Monday, February 8th at 6:00 pm at the Skowhegan Savings Bank Elm Street branch. The public and Board of Selectmen are encouraged to attend.

2. Items by the Public

Harvey Austin asked why the fire truck that is for sale hasn't been placed where it can be seen.

Chief Howard said that the truck that is going up for sale is still in service.

Harvey Austin said he wanted to talk about appointed versus elected. He said that the Chairman seems to think that the Town is big business. The Town of Skowhegan has shrunk in the past 15 years; our departments have less employees. We have trusted the Selectmen to hire a few Fire Chiefs and Police Chiefs and it didn't work out very well. The last two people voted in are still here. He said he doesn't know what makes the Selectmen think that they are any brighter than the average public. When people are appointed everything is a secret. The last Fire Chief was a thief...if he had been elected, that would have come out. There was an issue at the County with an elected official...the Commissioners stepped up and took care of it. He said he is not pleased that the Selectmen want to take away another right.

Recording Time: 08:42

3. Selectmen's Items

Betty Austin said that KVCAP will be showing Paper Tigers at the High School on February 4th at 5:00 p.m. This is part of a Somerset Initiative to prevent child abuse.

Darla Pickett said that there were some really good applicants for the Entrepreneur Challenge.

Darla Pickett also said that she rode with Greg Dore and has a new understanding of what he does and what it takes to do his job.

Betty Austin said that there was a broadband meeting last Thursday. She is looking forward to more people being able to do their business in town.

4. Department & Committee Reports

The fire department has been very busy with fires. Chief Howard reminded people to make sure that they have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the home. The fire department is glad to come inspect wood stoves or other heating appliances to make sure they are safe. The fire department will also install smoke detectors and make sure they are in the right locations.

Darla Pickett asked if the fire department would help with the emergency buttons that people wear around their neck.

Chief Howard said that people should contact the Somerset Communications Center for help with that.

Denise LeBlanc said that the Ice Rink is finally open. She thanked Doug Harlow for the article in the Morning Sentinel.

Discount tickets to ski areas are available to purchase at the Community Center. February vacation schedule will be coming out soon. The great outdoor weekend is coming up.

Brent Dickey said that there is a meeting on Friday with Olver to go over the plans for Phase 3.4 of the CSO Project. Joyce Street, Mt. Pleasant Avenue, and the cross country run from Waterville Road, past New Balance to Joyce Street.

Greg Dore said that the truck is back from Daigle & Houghton. The warranty tech has not given us a bill yet. He is working with International to see what they can do about reducing the cost.

This is the first time in a while that the Highway Department has had a full crew and extra help. We have barely had a winter this year.

Harvey Austin said it sounds like it is time for layoffs.

Jeff Hewett said that the broadband meeting took place last Thursday. There were 47 people there. Several providers were there. The next meeting will take place on February 18th. He hopes to hear from ConnectME soon as to when the planning grants will be coming out.

Chief Bolduc said that Jacob Boudreau started yesterday. James Gordon and Ryan Blakeney started week two at the academy. We will have oral boards tomorrow for the 15th Police Officer position.

Gail Pelotte said that Joan Farnsworth and Patricia Horine have been working on State petitions for the June Elections. Tonja Lary and Jennifer Tenan are taking on additional duties and things are going well. We are getting ready for the Primary Election on June 14th.

Trisha Austin said she has been working on Audit. The Auditors will be here next Tuesday. She also has affordable care act paperwork to work on.

Randy Gray said that the Police Department is looking good, with the flooring and the fresh paint.

Public Hearing:

1. Discussion and decision to approve the Special Amusement Permit for:

The Kel-Mat Café
147 Madison Avenue

Bigelow Brewing Company
473 Bigelow Hill Road

Paul York opened the Public Hearing.

Pamela Powers asked if she was going to have to renew this after her Liquor License was renewed.

Cara Mason said that the Special Amusement Permit runs with the Liquor License, so this approval would only be good until the current Liquor License expires on February 14, 2016.

Pamela Powers said that her renewal for her Liquor License has already been sent in. She wanted to know if that came back, if she would be able to get the Special Amusement Permit on the Agenda for the next Selectmen's Meeting.

Cara Mason said that Liquor Licenses come to the Town to be approved by the Selectmen before they are approved by the State, even for renewals. For instance, when Bigelow Brewing applied for their expansion of their serving area...that came before the Selectmen. If the Liquor License is renewed prior to the deadline for the next Selectmen's Meeting...then the Special Amusement Permit could go on that next meeting.

Gail Pelotte asked if that meant that the Special Amusement Permit to be approved tonight would only be good for two weeks.

Cara Mason answered, yes. This was explained to Pamela Powers when she dropped off the application.

Pamela Powers said that she can only renew her tap room license when it is due, and she did not know that she needed a Special Amusement Permit until recently.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to issue a temporary Special Amusement Permit to Bigelow Brewing Company.

Vote: 4/0

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to approve the Special Amusement Permit for The Kel-Mat Café.

Vote: 4/0

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve and sign Minutes for the following:

Regular Selectmen's Meeting January 12, 2016

2. Approve and sign a Quit Claim Deed for:

James Kitchin, Sr. – Map 24, Lot 9 – ON33

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

Vote: 4/0

Regular Agenda:

1. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$1,370.00 from the Pollution Control Reserve Account, Equipment Replacement Designation to purchase a Thermolyne Muffle Furnace.

A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to expend an amount not to exceed \$1,370.00 from the Pollution Control Reserve Account, Equipment Replacement Designation to purchase a Thermolyne Muffle Furnace.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 26:14

2. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$130.00 from the Police Department Reserve Account, Cruiser Replacement Designation to purchase and install window bars in the new cruiser.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to expend an amount not to exceed \$130.00 from the Police Department Reserve Account, Cruiser Replacement Designation to purchase and install window bars in the new cruiser.

Vote: 4/0

3. Discussion and decision award the Community Center Window Replacement Bid to TNT Auto Glass with a total bid price of \$8,265.20 and expend that amount from the Recreation Department Reserve Account, Building Repairs Designation.

A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to award the Community Center Window Replacement Bid to TNT Auto Glass with a total bid price of \$8,265.20 and expend that amount from the Recreation Department Reserve Account, Building Repairs Designation.

Vote: 4/0

4. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 from the Highway Department Roads and Sidewalks Resurfacing Account for our portion of upgrades necessary to designate the Island Avenue Parking Lot as a Park and Ride and authorize Christine Almand to sign the agreement.

Darla Pickett mad a motion to table this until it could be discussed at the TIF Oversight Committee regarding funding.

Paul York said that he did have some questions. He would like to get this on the floor for discussion.

Greg Dore said what he needs is to agree to do the work and to sign the agreement. How it is funded is really something to decide in house. As far as DOT is concerned, if we don't say we are going to do this...they will put the money someplace else.

Darla Pickett withdrew her motion.

Paul York asked if the State was going out to bid on this project.

Greg Dore said that we do all of that, but we have to follow their guidelines. Everything has to meet State specifications. We cannot piggy-back this on our paving contract.

Paul York asked about the cost of electricity for these additional lights.

Greg Dore said we can get an estimated cost based on the electric bill for the lights on lower Madison Avenue and Commercial Street. They are the same lights. There are no lights in this parking lot right now.

Harvey Austin said we put thousands of dollars into the other Park and Ride. He asked if there are commuters that actually use it. He said it is full of police cars.

Greg Dore said that we needed more parking for the Municipal Building. We were going to build a parking lot. Because it is located right at the intersection of Route 150 and Route 2, it was the perfect spot for DOT to put in a Park and Ride. This is a state program where they bring a parking lot up to grade and they get a ten year contract for a Park and Ride. We pay 20% of the cost.

Now the DOT is looking to put in another Park and Ride in this area. We have a parking lot that is way over due for paving and needs some maintenance. They are going to come in and bring this lot up to grade. This is work that we need to do anyway, but we will get it done for 20% of the cost.

Recording Time: 34:28

Betty Austin said that she does know people that use the parking lot to commute together to Bath Iron Works. The Municipal Parking Lot and the Indian Parking Lot are also working out well. Those lots are full because people are using them to go to businesses.

Christine Almand said that the State promotes the Park and Ride lots on their website. A new sign was put up just a couple of weeks ago.

Paul York said he is for the Park and Ride. He just doesn't think that we can afford to take that money out of the money used for paving our roads. He would like to look at getting this money from someplace else.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to expend an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 for our portion of upgrades necessary to designate the Island Avenue Parking Lot as a Park and Ride and authorize Christine Almand to sign the agreement; the funding source will be decided at a later meeting.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 38:59

5. Discussion and decision to approve the Municipal Partnership Agreement (WIN 225516.12) and authorize Christine Almand to sign the agreement, contingent upon Town Meeting vote.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to approve the Municipal Partnership Agreement (WIN 225516.12) and authorize Christine Almand to sign the agreement, contingent upon Town Meeting vote.

Vote: 4/0

6. Discussion and decision to accept the 2015 Automatic External Defibrillator Equipment Grant in the amount of 4 Defibrillators (\$2,700.00) for the Police Department.

A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to accept the 2015 Automatic External Defibrillator Equipment Grant in the amount of 4 Defibrillators (\$2,700.00) for the Police Department.

Vote: 4/0

7. Discussion and decision to accept Naloxone (Narcan) from RFGH and to authorize Chief Bolduc to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to accept Naloxone (Narcan) from RFGH and to authorize Chief Bolduc to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Paul York said that this is fairly new. He hasn't heard of any issues with it. He wants to make sure that if we use it, and there is an issue, that we are covered.

Chief Bolduc said that it is under the job description of a Police Officer to render first aid. He said he would keep the Selectmen apprised of any issues that arise.

Darla Pickett asked how often there are incidents where this could have been used.

Chief Bolduc said that there was one incident in the last couple of months where this could have been used.

Josh King said it could have been used yesterday. She did come around, but it was an opiate overdose.

Chief Bolduc said that this allows people to begin breathing again after an overdose.

Lisa Caswell from RFGH said that it blocks the receptors in the brain that the opiates bind to. It displaces the opiates.

Chief Bolduc said that it is a nasal mist that is squirted up each nostril.

Lisa Caswell demonstrated how to assemble and use it. She said that if it was used on someone that did not have opiates on board, it would have no effect.

Josh King said that he did some research and reached out to the insurance company, when he was putting this proposal and policy together. It is fairly new around here, but Massachusetts has been using it for a while. There has not been one lawsuit filed.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 44:30

8. Discussion and decision to approve the Industrial Wastewater Discharge User Agreement renewal for Gifford's Dairy, Inc.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to approve the Industrial Wastewater Discharge User Agreement renewal for Gifford's Dairy, Inc.

Vote: 4/0

Harvey Austin asked why we couldn't come up with an agreement like this for the hospital.

Brent Dickey said that the reason we have this agreement with Gifford's is that have discharge a high strength wastewater. There is no reason to believe that the wastewater from the hospital is high strength.

Gifford's was initially sewerage ice cream which is high in sugar and fat. This put an extremely high load on the plant.

9. Discussion and decision to approve the Controlled Drugs Ordinance, and schedule a Public Hearing for that ordinance and the Parades & Gatherings Ordinance on either February 9th or February 23rd.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to approve the Controlled Drugs Ordinance, and schedule a Public Hearing for that ordinance and the Parades & Gatherings Ordinance on February 9, 2016.

Vote: 4/0

10. Discussion and decision to allow Christine Almand to place the foreclosed properties out to bid to be sold.

A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to allow Christine Almand to place the foreclosed properties out to bid to be sold.

Soren Siren said he had questions about the property on Elm Street, and whether we may have a use for that with Run of River in the future.

Darla Pickett said she had the same questions.

Betty Austin asked if we could not put it out to bid.

Christine Almand said that the motion could be amended.

An amended motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to remove Map 26, Lot 98 (Elm Street) from the bid specs and place the remaining property out to bid to be sold.

Vote: 3/1 (Paul York opposed)

11. Discussion and decision to write off the following taxes:

Victor Pomerlow (Map 29, Lot 223A – ON)	\$182.50
<u>Pauline Salley & Donald Wing (Map 37, Lot 77 – ON1)</u>	<u>\$107.10</u>
Total	\$289.60

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to write off the taxes in the amount of \$289.60 as written.

Vote: 4/0

12. Economic & Community Development Warrants to be approved:

#110	\$	3,950.00
Total	\$	3,950.00

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to approve the Economic & Community Development Warrant as written.

Vote: 4/0

13. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#59	\$	33,140.64 (Payroll #2)
#60	\$	37,904.69 (Payroll #3)
#61	\$	8,549.00 (State Payables)
#62	\$	199,034.06 (FY 2016 Accounts Payables)
Total	\$	1,507,192.83

A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Soren Siren to approve the Treasurer's Warrants as written.

Vote: 4/0

14. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

15. Unfinished Business

- Job Classes/Pay Scale
- Run of River/Economic Development
- Utilizing Outside Services
- Town Charter

There will be a Workshop at the Renaissance Center on February 2, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss Job Classes and Pay Scales.

16. Sign Documents

The Selectmen signed documents.

Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.

Approved and signed on February 9, 2016.

A True Copy Attest: _____
Cara L. Mason, Executive Secretary