

**Minutes
Town of Skowhegan
Regular Selectmen's Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Tuesday, February 23, 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

Reminder: The second property tax payment is due on March 15th.

Reminder: There is a pay scale workshop scheduled for March 8th at 4:30 pm, prior to the Regular Selectmen's Meeting, and there is a joint meeting with the Budget Committee following the Regular Meeting.

The Revaluation Bid Opening was on February 16th. The Board of Assessors will have a recommendation for the March 8th Selectmen's Meeting.

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

A Madison Area Job Fair is being held at the Somerset Abbey in Madison on February 24th from 3:00 to 6:00. The event will include Skowhegan employers.

Bob Marley will be performing in the Opera House on March 5th at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$24 and are available in the Town Manager's Office.

2. Items by the Public

Kristina Cannon from Main Street Skowhegan asked the Selectmen when and where they could hold a Strategic Planning Public Forum.

Christine Almand asked if she had checked to see if the Council Room was available. March 29th and 31st were suggested in the Council Room.

Kristina Cannon said she would check with Cara Mason tomorrow for availability of the room.

3. Selectmen's Items

Betty Austin said that the FAB Fair was fabulous on Saturday.

Paul York said that Donald Skilling is with Chief Howard in Wisconsin going over our new ladder truck. We should have that by the end of the year.

The new windows are in at the Community Center. It looks really nice.

4. Department & Committee Reports

Greg Door said that some of the parts and labor were discounted on the International repairs. The reason the repairs ended up being over the \$10,000.00 was because of the timing cover that was \$957.00, and was not included in the original quote. He needs approval for an additional \$733.13.

A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Soren Siren to expend an additional \$733.13 from the Equipment Maintenance account for the repairs to the International.

Vote: 4/0

Soren Siren said that the Malbons Mills Road is bad.

Greg Dore said that we maintain to the yellow farm. That is a State aid road. He has notified DOT. The Middle Road, where the beaver dam was, is also a bad spot. DOT replaced the culvert. The culvert seems to be staying in place, but the road has heaved up around it.

Denise LeBlanc said that the windows at the Community center were replaced a couple weeks ago. They look great.

The ice rink is back and forth, open and closed with the weather.

There were lots of activities during February school vacation. Currently working on Spring and Summer programs. Brochures should be out the first week in March.

We were selected for the New Balance SparkStart initiative. May 24th and 25th will be the days that they will be working on the selected projects. The New Balance factories will shut down, and their employees will be working on the projects. It is all paid for and completed by New Balance. More information about this will be coming out later once it is publicized.

Chief Bolduc said that Officers Gordon and Blakeney are in week six at the academy and doing very well.

Chief Bolduc and Officer Blakeney attended the arson fire investigation training on Saturday.

We are still waiting for a contract from RFGH for a full-time officer at the hospital.

We will be starting the promotion process for a Sergeant and a Detective.

We will be training on Narcan at our meeting tonight and reviewing the policy. We will start carrying Narcan next week.

The new AEDs should be here any day.

Recording Time: 16:45

Jeff Hewett said that there was a broadband meeting in Madison last week for southern Somerset County. The next meeting will be held in Canaan. We will also be holding meetings in Skowhegan and a few other towns.

The TIF Committee would like to hold a workshop at the April 12th Selectmen's Meeting and a Public Hearing at the May 10th Selectmen's Meeting.

Public Hearing:

1. Public Hearing regarding the proposed revisions to the Cemetery Ordinance.

Paul York opened the Public Hearing.

Gene Rouse said that the ordinance used to be in bits and pieces, with each cemetery having their own. Some definitions have been added.

Darla Pickett said that the definition for an urn is not correct.

Gene Rouse said that the definition is not what is in the Webster dictionary as the definition. An urn according to Webster and Funk and Wagner does not have to be closed. Our definition of urn says that it has to be closed. It must contain the ashes.

The Sexton duties are outlined. We added that the Sexton is responsible for opening all graves. People are not allowed to dig their own.

Any refusal or denial may be appealed to the Selectmen. The Selectmen's decision is not appealable.

The fee structure has been updated, and perpetual care has been revised to make it clear about what happens with the perpetual care fees when there is a private sale of a cemetery lot.

Some changes were made to the penalties for violations as well.

The fee schedule was updated. It is now comparable to surrounding towns. The cost has gone up to hire people to help Mark Bossie, the Sexton.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve and sign Minutes for the following:

Regular Selectmen's Meeting February 9, 2016

2. Approve and sign Quit Claim Deeds for:

Alexander L. Goldstein and Hillary A. Cox (Map 14, Lot 46)

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

Vote: 4/0

Regular Agenda:

1. Discussion and decision to appoint Don E. Avery as a Police Officer with a term expiring June 30, 2016.

A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to appoint Don E. Avery as a Police Officer with a term expiring June 30, 2016.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 26:29

2. Discussion and decision to approve a RLF Loan in the amount of \$20,000.00 for The Maine Barkery owned by Amanda Clark and to expend an amount not to exceed \$20,060.00 from the RLF Reserve Account.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to approve a RLF Loan in the amount of \$20,000.00 for The Maine Barkery owned by Amanda Clark and to expend an amount not to exceed \$20,060.00 from the RLF Reserve Account.

Jeff Hewett said that this business was the winner of the Main Street Entrepreneur Challenge.

Darla Pickett said that because of the Entrepreneur Challenge, this business was asking for less of a loan than they had originally asked for.

Vote: 4/0

3. Discussion and decision to award the Foreclosure Sale Bid to Job Fitzgerald with a total bid price of \$10,000.00. This will pay off the past taxes and fees, with the excess being deposited into the Sale of Town Owned Property Account.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to award the Foreclosure Sale Bid to Job Fitzgerald with a total bid price of \$10,000.00. This will pay off the past taxes and fees, with the excess being deposited into the Sale of Town Owned Property Account.

Vote: 4/0

4. Discussion and decision to allow Chief Bolduc to apply for and accept the Bureau of Highway Safety, 2016 Speed Enforcement Program Grant in the amount of \$2,842.00. There is no match requirement for this grant.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to allow Chief Bolduc to apply for and accept the Bureau of Highway Safety, 2016 Speed Enforcement Program Grant in the amount of \$2,842.00.

Vote: 4/0

5. Discussion and decision to allow Denise LeBlanc to apply for the Carrabec High School, JMG program, Jumpstart Our Youth Grant in the amount of \$1,000.00. There is no match requirement for this grant.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Sore Siren to allow Denise LeBlanc to apply for the Carrabec High School, JMG program, Jumpstart Our Youth Grant in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Denise LeBlanc said that she was contacted by an employee of Carrabec High School who used to work for us about this grant opportunity.

Vote: 4/0

6. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#67	\$	36,144.40 (Payroll #6)
#68	\$	36,741.22 (Payroll #7)
#69	\$	20,259.68 (State Payables)
#70	\$	31.04 (Payroll #7 Pay Run 2)
#71	\$	351,278.83 (FY 2016 Accounts Payables)
Total	\$	444,455.17

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

Vote: 4/0

7. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

8. Unfinished Business

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

There will be a workshop at the March 8th meeting to discuss Job Classes/Pay Scales.

9. Sign Documents

The Selectmen signed documents.

Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.

Approved and signed on March 22, 2016.

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_____	_____

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