

**Minutes  
Town of Skowhegan  
Regular Selectmen's Meeting  
5:30 P.M.  
Tuesday, April 12, 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.

**Executive Session:**

1. Executive Session in accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 1 § 405 (6)(C) to discuss the reverter agreement for property located at 5 Greenwood Avenue (Map 33, Lot 103).

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to enter into Executive Session in accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 1 § 405 (6)(C) at 5:31 p.m. to discuss the reverter agreement for property located at 5 Greenwood Avenue (Map 33, Lot 103).**

**Vote: 4/0**

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to exit Executive Session at 5:48 p.m.**

**Vote: 4/0**

Paul York said that the property located at 5 Greenwood Avenue is currently controlled or owned by Skills Inc. The Selectmen have decided that if the property is sold to a for profit business then the Town would receive 20% of the sale price. If, however, the property is sold to a non-profit entity, the Town would require a higher percentage of the sale price.

This will have to go to Town Meeting for approval, since the reverter clause on this property was voted at Town Meeting. We would like to have a decision before Town Meeting in June so we don't have to hold a Special Town Meeting.

Tom Davis asked what the percentage might be.

The Selectmen said that it would be a higher percentage because of the taxes on the property...but that exact percentage had not been discussed.

Ken Lexier said that he assumed that we would be going to Town Meeting with a specific sale in mind.

Tom Davis said that they had one interest in the property, but are not that far along.

Ken Lexier said that there isn't anything to take to Town Meeting unless we have a request to sell and release the Town's interest in the property. He said it could also go to Town Meeting to ask to release the Town's interest for a specific percentage in either case without having a specific buyer.

Tom Davis said that he is concerned that he will have a buyer come forward and won't be able to sell because of having to go to Town Meeting.

Ken Lexier asked what effect this would have on marketing the property. The money is coming out of Skill, Inc., not out of the buyer's pocket.

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## 1. Town Manager's Report

We had a meeting with Vision about the revaluation yesterday. We will be working to get educational materials out to the public as soon as possible. The revaluation fieldwork will begin in 2-3 weeks.

Bee Line Cable sent us a notice about rate increases that will be effective May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Maine Department of Transportation sent a notice regarding centerline rumble strips that will be installed on Routes 2 and 201 in areas that speeds are 45 MPH or over. They will update us when they have the construction schedule for this summer.

Reminder: The next budget meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 6:00 pm.

On the April 26<sup>th</sup> agenda, we will have two items for discussion and decision on candidates for the Spirit of America Foundation award and the dedication of the Town Report. Selectmen should think about these items over the next couple weeks.

The CSO Phase 3.4 Bid closes on April 21<sup>st</sup>, the Boiler Replacement Bid closes on April 29<sup>th</sup>, and the Town has a 1990 Aerial Fire Truck for sale. For more information, visit our website.

The Town offices will be closed on April 18<sup>th</sup> in observation of Patriot's Day.

There is a Heroin and Opiates Free Community Forum at the high school on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. being held by Kennebec Behavioral Health, Redington-Fairview General Hospital, and Somerset Public Health.

On April 13<sup>th</sup> there is a Business, Trades & Technology Job Fair at KVCC from 1:00 – 3:00 and Spurwink is recruiting at the Career Center from 10:30 – 3:30.

Skowhegan Area Chamber of Commerce has rescheduled and is holding a Business After Hours/Wellness After Hours at Somerset Public Health on April 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual "Skowpendous" Family Fun Night will be held in the Municipal Parking Lot on April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00 to 7:30.

Recording Time: 11:11

2. Items by the Public

There were no Items by the Public.

3. Selectmen's Items

The Skowhegan Area High School has been hosting some events. There was one last Wednesday on poverty. He encouraged all to attend these.

Betty Austin said that the event at the High School last week was a good event. So many people were interested in how we can make our town better. The event tomorrow night will be a good way to understand these things.

Darla Pickett said that she went to the Hospice event on Saturday. It was well attended.

Paul York thanked the Highway Department for all of the cleanup they have done.

4. Department & Committee Reports

Gail Pelotte said that nomination papers are still available and are due back on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

There will be a Public Hearing on the Somerset County Budget on April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Superior Court Room at 6:30 p.m.

Chief Bolduc said that Officers Gordon and Blakeney are in week 14 at the Academy and doing very well.

This week we will wrap up the Sergeant and Detective promotion process.

Chief Howard said that engine 10 went down to Casco to have some warranty and recall issues taken care of.

We are now doing automatic aid with the towns of Fairfield and Waterville. We respond on second alarm to structure fires in those towns, and they do the same for us.

With construction season coming up...if people need an address they should come to the Fire Station. These are now taking from 2 days to a week before the address is issued.

Jeff Hewett said that the grant application for Broadband will be submitted by Friday. There will be two consultants involved in that project.

There is somebody working at the Renaissance Center that has been going around the downtown picking up trash.

Randy Gray said that the compost was screened this week. This was a combined effort of the Highway Department and the Transfer Station employees, and it came out very well. Just shy of 600 yards were screened and will be available to residents within the next week.

Greg Dore said that his employees have been working on spring cleanup. Two of the seasonal guys have left for the summer. Gearing up for paving and painting.

**Public Hearing:**

1. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Special Amusement Permit (Expiring February 14, 2017) for:

Bigelow Brewing Company  
473 Bigelow Hill Road

Paul York opened the Public Hearing.

There were no comments.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing.

**A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the Application for Special Amusement Permit (Expiring February 14, 2017) for Bigelow Brewing Company.**

**Vote: 4/0**

Recording Time: 19:02

**Presentation:**

1. Kristina Cannon will give the Main Street Quarterly Report.

Amanda Clark, the winner of the Entrepreneur Challenge, has been busy at 134 Water Street. Steve Dionne delivered her new countertop. She has increased her wholesale accounts from 12 to 17. We will be planning a grand opening by the end of April or early in May.

Main Street is wrapping up the Strategic Planning process. They spoke to 500 people to see what people wanted to see for the town. The first draft will be ready for the public to see on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Run of River is making progress. She is reviewing a 36 page document that is part of the economic impact study. We are hoping to schedule a workshop with the Selectmen for April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Main Street bought Skowhegan.com as a domain name to help promote tourism. She is also working on getting some bus tours coming here.

The Department of Tourism is looking at rural places around the state to develop into tourist destinations. Kristina Cannon has been talking with them and Skowhegan is on their radar.

Main Street will be rolling out the welcome mat when new businesses come to town, as a way to make businesses feel more welcome here. This will include ribbon cutting, press release, certificate, etc.

Main Street now has a business news email that goes out monthly.

Rolling Fatties is a food truck that uses a lot of local products in their burritos. They have an interest in coming to Skowhegan. They will be utilizing three parking spaces in the parking lot by the Pocket Park on Fridays for lunch. Greg and Lynette Salisbury have graciously allowed them to use these spaces for the summer from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Paul York said that he appreciates all of the work that Kristina Cannon has done.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approve and sign Minutes for the following:

Special Selectmen's Meeting	March 15, 2016
Regular Selectmen's Meeting	March 22, 2016
Special Selectmen's Meeting	March 30, 2016

2. Accept the resignation of Daniel Swain from the Budget & Finance Committee effective March 30, 2016.

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

**Vote: 4/0**

**Recording Time: 27:31**

**Regular Agenda:**

1. Discussion and decision to rescind the motion made on March 8, 2016 awarding the Industrial Appraisal of the S.D. Warren/Sappi Pulp and Paper Mill to MR Valuation Consulting, LLC.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Paul York to rescind the motion made on March 8, 2016 awarding the Industrial Appraisal of the S.D. Warren/Sappi Pulp and Paper Mill to MR Valuation Consulting, LLC.**

**Vote: 4/0**

2. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Malt, Vinous License for Pak Lee Chinese Restaurant, Inc.  
252 Madison Avenue

**A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the Application for Malt, Vinous License for Pak Lee Chinese Restaurant, Inc.**

**Vote: 4/0**

3. Discussion and decision to decrease the fee for disposing of floor copiers and printers from \$22.00 to \$5.00.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to decrease the fee for disposing of floor copiers and printers from \$22.00 to \$5.00.**

Darla Pickett asked what the reason was.

Randy Gray said that we haven't charged \$22.00 for years. For some reason it has remained on the fee schedule that way. He said he should have brought this to the Selectmen some time ago to change the fee.

**Vote: 4/0**

4. Discussion and decision to approve the Amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Agreement.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to approve the Amendment to the Solid Waste Disposal Agreement.**

Christine Almand said that this is an extension of the contract. Randy Gray was able to negotiate no increase.

**Vote: 4/0**

5. Discussion and decision to approve the License to Enter and Use Land between the Town of Skowhegan and Orris T. Hewett (Map 15, Lots 9 and 10) and authorize Christine Almand to sign the paperwork.

**A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the License to Enter and Use Land between the Town of Skowhegan and Orris T. Hewett (Map 15, Lots 9 and 10) and authorize Christine Almand to sign the paperwork.**

Christine Almand said that Tim Hewett came to her for her signature, so that he could obtain some free cover crop from the USDA. She determined that we did not have any written agreement for the use of that land. Ken Lexier drafted the Agreement. Once that is approved then she will be able to sign the paperwork for the USDA. He has been using that property for about 20 years.

Recording Time: 31:29

**Vote: 4/0**

6. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 from the Highway Department Winter Road Account, Sand/Salt/Cold Patch Designation to purchase an additional 1,500 cubic yards of winter sand.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to expend an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 from the Highway Department Winter Road Account, Sand/Salt/Cold Patch Designation to purchase an additional 1,500 cubic yards of winter sand.**

**Vote: 4/0**

7. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$1060.84 from the Pollution Control Reserve Account, Equipment Replacement Designation to purchase a replacement chemical pump.

**A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to expend an amount not to exceed \$1060.84 from the Pollution Control Reserve Account, Equipment Replacement Designation to purchase a replacement chemical pump.**

**Vote: 4/0**

8. Discussion and decision to award the 2016 Paving Bid to Vaughn D. Thibodeau II, Inc. with a total bid price of \$531,461.69 and expend an amount not to exceed \$532,000.00 from the Public Works Road Resurfacing Reserve Account contingent upon Town Meeting vote.

**A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to award the 2016 Paving Bid to Vaughn D. Thibodeau II, Inc. with a total bid price of \$531,461.69 and expend an amount not to exceed \$532,000.00 from the Public Works Road Resurfacing Reserve Account contingent upon Town Meeting vote.**

**Vote: 4/0**

9. Discussion and decision to expend and amount not to exceed \$55,000.00 from the Public Works Road Resurfacing Reserve Account for additional work contingent upon Town Meeting vote.

**A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to expend and amount not to exceed \$55,000.00 from the Public Works Road Resurfacing Reserve Account for additional work contingent upon Town Meeting vote.**

This is just giving us access to the money for additional work that goes along with paving. Anything over \$5,000.00 would still need to go through the Purchasing Policy.

**Vote: 4/0**

10. Discussion and decision to approve the Letter of Commitment for the SAFER Grant.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to approve the Letter of Commitment for the SAFER Grant.**

**Vote: 4/0**

11. Discussion and decision to allow Denise LeBlanc to apply for the Good Shepherd Food Bank, SFSP Mini Grant in the amount of \$1,200.00. There is no match requirement for this grant.

**A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to allow Denise LeBlanc to apply for the Good Shepherd Food Bank, SFSP Mini Grant in the amount of \$1,200.00. There is no match requirement for this grant.**

**Vote: 4/0**

12. Discussion and decision to accept the USTA New England Equipment Grant, equipment valued at \$579.00. There is no match requirement for this grant.

**A motion was made by Soren Siren and seconded by Betty Austin to accept the USTA New England Equipment Grant, equipment valued at \$579.00.**

**Vote: 4/0**

Recording Time: 35:21

13. Discussion and decision to allow Chief Bolduc to apply for and accept the Bureau of Highway Safety, 2016 "Click It Or Ticket / Buckle Up-No Excuses!" Seat Belt Enforcement and Education Grant in the amount of \$6,509.00. There is no match requirement for this grant.

**A motion was made by Darla Pickett and seconded by Betty Austin to allow Chief Bolduc to apply for and accept the Bureau of Highway Safety, 2016 "Click It Or Ticket / Buckle Up-No Excuses!" Seat Belt Enforcement and Education Grant in the amount of \$6,509.00.**

**Vote: 4/0**

14. Discussion and decision to allow Christine Almand to go out to bid for nine computers.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to allow Christine Almand to go out to bid for nine computers.**

**Vote: 4/0**

15. Discussion and decision to hold a workshop to discuss the Run of River Economic Impact Study on April 26, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Soren Siren to hold a workshop to discuss the Run of River Economic Impact Study on April 26, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.**

**Vote: 4/0**

16. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#80	\$	34,242.02 (Payroll #12)
#81	\$	38,535.91 (Payroll #13)
#82	\$	9,009.50 (State Payables)
#83	\$	33,584.76 (Payroll #14)
#84	\$	7,029.56 (State Payables)
#85	\$	293,437.21 (FY 2016 Accounts Payables)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>415,838.96</b>

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

**Vote: 4/0**

17. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

18. Unfinished Business

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

Paul York said that the Selectmen continue to work on these goals.

19. Sign Documents

The Selectmen signed documents.

**Executive Session:**

1. Executive Session in accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 1 § 405 (6)(A) to discuss duties and compensation.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to enter into Executive Session in accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 1 § 405 (6)(A) at 6:34 p.m. to discuss duties and compensation.**

**Vote: 4/0**

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Darla Pickett to exit Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.**

**Vote: 4/0**

No action was taken.

**Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.**

Approved and signed on April 26, 2016.

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