

**Minutes
Town of Skowhegan
Regular Selectmen's Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Municipal Building – Council Room**

****Anyone wishing to view this meeting may also do so from the
Town of Skowhegan Facebook page****

Board of Selectmen:

Todd Smith, Chairman
Charles Robbins, Vice Chairman
Harold Bigelow
Steven Govoni
Paul York

Town Manager:

Christine Almand

Executive Secretary:

Cara L. Mason

Call Selectmen's Meeting to order.

Todd Smith called the meeting to order.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Town Manager's Report

Today, Jason and I spoke with the Maine DOT about the new traffic pattern trial project. The MDOT feels that this trial did not work effectively to increase safety and reduce truck traffic in the downtown. We are waiting to hear back about which day next week the project will be removed. We will soon schedule another meeting to discuss next steps.

This year we had 31 Tax Club enrollments. This is 2 more than last year. The Clerk's Office staff was very busy receiving tax payments during absentee voting, and I thank them for all of their hard work.

The Portable Radios Bid closes on October 19th at 10:00 am. For more information visit our website or contact Ty Strout.

The Half-Ton Pickup Truck Bid closes on October 19th at 10:00 am. For more information visit our website or contact the Town Manager's Office.

The Forklift Bid closes on October 19th at 11:00 am. For more information visit our website or contact Bryan Belliveau.

The Cemetery Fencing Bid closes on October 19th at 11:30 am. For more information visit our website or contact Gail Pelotte.

3. Items by the Public

No items by the public.

4. Selectmen's Items

Steven Govoni: Out of town beginning of November.

Harold Bigelow: Traffic Trial

Todd Smith: Traffic Trial

5. Department and Committee Reports

Gail Pelotte: Busy in the Clerk's Office
Dog licenses available October 17th
Absentee ballots available through November 3rd

Recording Time: 07:41

Jason Finley: Plows on today
Leaf pickup begins next week

Chief Bucknam: Reminder – black ice
Thanked Sam Hight - First Responder BBQ
Thanked highway – dealing with the traffic trial

Brent Dickey: Update on sludge – building is pretty full – trying to get rid of it
Six-month agreement with Waste Management
Potential cost of \$40,000.00
Waste Management will not take our compost – higher PFAS
Possibly could truck compost to Canada

Recording Time: 29:36

Public Hearings:

1. Public Hearing: Discussion and decision to approve the General Assistance Ordinance, Appendices A through I.

Open – 5:58 p.m.

Close – 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to approve the General Assistance Ordinance, Appendices A through I.

Vote: 5/0

2. Public Hearing: Discussion and decision to approve the Application for an On-Premises Malt, Wine and Spirits License for:

New Garden, Inc. d/b/a New Garden
6 Main Street

Open – 6:00 p.m.

Close – 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to approve the Application for an On-Premises Malt, Wine and Spirits License for New Garden, Inc. d/b/a New Garden.

Vote: 5/0

Presentation:

1. Sarah Davis from Consolidated Communication will give a broadband presentation.

Recording Time: 01:07:54

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve and sign Minutes from the following:

Regular Selectmen's Meeting – September 27, 2022

2. Accept the resignation of Jon Kimball from the Opera House Committee effective immediately.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

Vote: 5/0

Regular Agenda:

1. Discussion and decision to appoint Ron Blaisdell as a member of the Board of Assessors with a term expiring on election day in June of 2023.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to appoint Ron Blaisdell as a member of the Board of Assessors with a term expiring on election day in June of 2023.

Vote: 5/0

Recording Time: 01:09:05

Todd Smith moved item #5

5. Discussion and decision to excuse two absences from the calculation of the attendance provision of the Planning Board Ordinance, for each Planning Board member over the last year. Recommended by the Planning Board.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Steven Govoni to excuse two absences from the calculation of the attendance provision of the Planning Board Ordinance, for each Planning Board member over the last year.

Vote: 0/5 (motion failed)

Recording Time: 01:26:55

2. Discussion and decision to appoint Dan Luce as a member of the Planning Board with a term expiring June 30, 2024.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to appoint Dan Luce as a member of the Planning Board with a term expiring June 30, 2024.

Vote: 5/0

3. Discussion and decision to appoint Bryan Belliveau as Addressing Officer with a term expiring June 30, 2023.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to appoint Bryan Belliveau as Addressing Officer with a term expiring June 30, 2023.

Vote: 5/0

4. Discussion and decision to appoint E. Gene Rouse as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring June 30, 2027.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to appoint E. Gene Rouse as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term expiring June 30, 2027.

Vote: 5/0

5. Discussion and decision to excuse two absences from the calculation of the attendance provision of the Planning Board Ordinance, for each Planning Board member over the last year. Recommended by the Planning Board.

Discussed and voted above.

6. Discussion and decision to approve the fee increases for tire disposal at the Transfer Station.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to approve the fee increases for tire disposal at the Transfer Station.

Vote: 5/0

7. Discussion and decision to accept the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant in the amount of \$2,050.00. There is a 50% match for this grant.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to accept the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership grant in the amount of \$2,050.00.

Vote: 5/0

8. Discussion and decision to approve Change Order #2 from Benchmark in the amount of -\$9,125.00 for the Public Safety Building.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Steven Govoni to approve Change Order #2 from Benchmark in the amount of -\$9,125.00 for the Public Safety Building.

Vote: 5/0

9. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$6,500.00 from the Mary C. Brainard Trust Fund to assist Skowhegan residents who do not qualify for General Assistance for the period of October 2022 through April 2023.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to expend an amount not to exceed \$6,500.00 from the Mary C. Brainard Trust Fund to assist Skowhegan residents who do not qualify for General Assistance for the period of October 2022 through April 2023.

Vote: 5/0

Recording Time: 01:37:23

10. Discussion and decision to award the Municipal Tractor Bid. The following bids were received:

Central Equipment Co.	\$115,160.00
	\$76,182.00 (attachments)
	\$7,500.00 (warranty)
	\$198,842.00 (Total Bid)
H.P. Fairfield	\$156,630.00
	\$93,327.50 (attachments)
	\$8,500.00 (warranty)
	\$258,457.50 (Total Bid)
Chadwick Baross, Inc.	\$182,750.00
	\$96,350.00 (attachments)
	\$279,100.00 (Total Bid)

Jason Finley recommends awarding the Municipal Tractor Bid to Central Equipment Co. with a total bid price of \$198,842.00 and expending that amount from the Highway Department Reserve Account, Equipment/Vehicle Purchase Designation.

A motion was made by Steven Govoni and seconded by Paul York to award the Municipal Tractor Bid to Central Equipment Co. with a total bid price of \$198,842.00 and expend that amount from the Highway Department Reserve Account, Equipment/Vehicle Purchase Designation.

Vote: 5/0

11. Discussion and decision to award the Half-Ton Pickup Truck Bid. The following bids were received:

Hight's	\$42,600.00	\$10,000.00 trade-in	\$32,600.00
Varney	\$51,945.00	\$8,000.00 trade-in	\$44,070.00 (\$125.00 doc fee)

Jason Finley recommends rescinding the motion made on September 27, 2022, awarding the Half-Ton Pickup Truck bid to Hight's with a total bid price of \$42,600.00 and expending that amount from the Highway Department Reserve Account, Equipment/Vehicle Purchase Designation. The trade-in truck will be transferred to Code Enforcement to replace the SUV.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Steven Govoni to rescind the motion made on September 27, 2022, awarding the Half-Ton Pickup Truck bid to Hight's with a total bid price of \$42,600.00 and expending that amount from the Highway Department Reserve Account, Equipment/Vehicle Purchase Designation. The trade-in truck will be transferred to Code Enforcement to replace the SUV.

Vote: 5/0

Recording Time: 01:46:59

12. Discussion and decision to approve the letter of support for the Garden Club's grant application to Plant America in the amount of \$1,000.00.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to approve the letter of support for the Garden Club's grant application to Plant America in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Vote: 5/0

13. Discussion and decision to waive the building permit fee for the American Legion.

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Charles Robbins to waive the building permit fee for the American Legion.

Vote: 5/0

14. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#116	\$	55,267.33 (FY 2022 Accounts Payable)
#27	\$	65,982.90 (Payroll #39)
#28	\$	57,242.06 (Payroll #40)
#29	\$	11,392.10 (State Payables)
#30	\$	6,319,269.81 (FY 2023 Accounts Payables)
#2	\$	11,442.15 (FY 2023 PSB Accounts Payables)
Total	\$	6,520,596.35

A motion was made by Paul York and seconded by Harold Bigelow to approve the Treasurer's Warrants as written.

Vote: 5/0

Recording Time: 01:54:37

15. Unfinished Business

- DEP PFAS Investigation
- Fire Station
- Hilton Bridge
- Marketing/Celebrating Skowhegan
- Non-union Pay Scales
- Policies and Ordinances
- Public Safety Building
- Skowhegan River Park/Economic Development
- Solar Power
- Village Partnership Initiative

PSB update

VPI Planning Services RFP opened today - two proposals received.

16. Other Business

17. Sign Documents

The Selectmen signed documents.

Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.

Approved and signed on October 25, 2022.

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