

**Town of Sumner - Select Board Minutes**  
**April 23, 2019 7:00 pm**

**Following Buckfield/Sumner Transfer Station**

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm. The Transfer Station meeting scheduled for 6:00 did not take place due to a lack of quorum.

**Members Present:** Select Board members Ed Hinshaw, Mary Ann Haxton, and Kelly Stewart. School board member Charles Maddaus, Road Commissioner Andy Wickson, Town Clerk Susan Runes, and secretary to the Select Board Susan Strout.

**Public Present: none**

**The Minutes from March 26, 2019** were read and accepted with minor corrections with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Stewart and voted. The Select Board meeting scheduled for April 9<sup>th</sup> was canceled due to weather.

**Warrant #19**

Checks 13177-13195 \$87,922.00

Receipts #1095-1111 In the amount of \$21,388.56

2018-2019 Tax collected YTD \$1,150,479.69 84% of the commitment

2017-2018 Tax collection was 84% of the commitment

**Warrant #20**

Checks 13196-13215 \$30,595.73

Receipts #1112-1142 In the amount of \$20,454.28

2018-2019 Tax collected YTD \$1,157,711.04 84.25% of the commitment

2017-2018 Tax collection was 85% of the commitment

**Open Session: none**

**RSU #10 Report: Charles Maddaus**

Maddaus was not at the meeting due to the date change.

Maddaus reported that the school budget was proposed and approved at \$27,899,686.99 with Sumner's responsibility at \$882,234.69 which is a .526% (or \$4,618.79) increase over last year. This amount does not include the budget for Adult Ed yet.

Enrollment in the schools is expected to be about the same. Negotiations start with the teachers on April 24. The budget for salaries paid over the summer months has been placed in the upcoming year and not the end of the current year. The auditors suggest a shift to current year allocating a portion of this \$2.5 million to be shifted each year over the next ten years .

The next school board meeting will be April 29 with the referendum set for the second Tuesday in June.

**CEO/LPI report: John Evans**

Evans was not present but reported that he has again visited the property where a junkyard complaint was received on Upper Sumner Hill. A meeting time has been set with Evans and the owners to create a schedule for the needed clean up.

Through discussions between Select Board members and Evans, it has been decided that a local junkyard ordinance is not needed due to the requirements included in the state statutes.

**Roads Report: Andrew Wickson**

Wickson's report to the Select Board included:

Gravel added on Damon Road to make road usable

Crushing tar in town lot

Patching may start next week

Grading will begin in a couple of weeks

Work on Bonney Road will be in mid-May

ATVs have caused damage to ditching on Tuell Hill

The bridge on Redding Road (which is a state bridge) has been closed due to high water

Posting of roads should be finished by May 15

**Forms, Reports, Correspondence:**

The Sumner contract with Buckfield Rescue is still in the process of being revised by an attorney to reflect the three years duration as well as updating of population numbers each year.

Transfer Station financial reports were made available to Select Board members to review.

Appointment papers for committee members were signed.

Applications for Maine Tree Growth plans were signed for Richard Farrar and Ingrid Ericksson.

A notification for intent to harvest has been received from Bayroot LLC for 2500 acres.

March financial reports were presented by Susan Runes. The activity report shows that the general office account was under budgeted in addition to the winter roads account. The salt budget also needs to be increased next year, perhaps as much as \$20,000.

The budget committee will be meeting in May. Runes suggests the Select Board may want to have an informational meeting about the budget possibilities before the annual Town Meeting.

**New Business:**

Upcoming retirement of Ozzie Hart as Animal Control Officer is scheduled for June 1, 2019. Roni-Sue Vachon has been the deputy Animal Control Officer so the Select Board will discuss with her the requirements and compensation.

**Old Business:**

The metal building inside the other town building still needs to be evaluated for what the best use may be and its condition.

Wickson needs to be asked if the salt shed signs have made a difference and if he thinks we should still be considering a fence to protect people from climbing up the sand/salt pile.

With the snow melting, spring tasks need to include the roof repairs over the Town Office front door, talking to Nickerson's about septic tank pumping, and finish up the generator service contract with Flanders.

Two meetings on technology issues have been held in the last two weeks. Select Board members met with Axiom - Maine West and GWI. Internet and Wi-Fi possibilities for Sumner are being explored for 5G, Fiber Optics, wireless, and hybrid of wireless and fiber.

The Select Board members who attended these meetings think fiber is the better choice. First Light is installing fiber optic in West Paris up to the Sumner line. GWI and Axiom both work with fiber. Another option would be for the Town to own the fiber cable and then the Service Provider could have a lease. Planning grants from ConnectMe and Maine Community Foundation are being evaluated to see if they are a match for our needs. Fiber and/or Broadband services could be paid for through fees, taxes, loans or bonds.

Hinshaw made a motion to put \$10,000 in budget for continuing investigation for broadband, to expand committee and to work with partners for broadband especially with potential grants. Haxton seconded and the motion passes.

A textile bin will be delivered at the Swap Shop this week. Hinshaw suggests we move ahead to decide on a location for a textile bin on edge of the Town Office parking lot.. Hinshaw will meet with Joe of the Textile bin company to finalize location. Haxton suggests use the location as a test site for 6 months.

#### **Upcoming events:**

DEADLINE FOR FILING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS - APRIL 30

Roads Committee, May 14, 2019 at 6:00

Nomination papers for Select Board and School Board members will be available May 15<sup>th</sup> with a return deadline of June 26<sup>th</sup>.

Buckfield Sumner Transfer Station, Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> in Buckfield at 6 pm.

**April 23, 2019 minutes**  
Submitted by Susan Strout

Approved: May 14, 2019