

Minutes
Select Board Meeting – Virtual
Thursday, February 11, 2021
6:00 PM

Richard Murray III
Thomas Klinepeter

Kimberly Clarke
Thomas Kingsbury

James Dutton

Klinepeter completed a roll call then called the Select Board Meeting to order and declared a quorum.

Department head reports: Library Director Jennifer Spofford had nothing to add to her submitted monthly report. Kingsbury asked her if parking was an issue due to the snowmobile rental place; Spofford said it has not been. Public Works Director Lester France gave an update on winter work. Police Chief Aaron Mick relayed an email sent to Officer Dahms and Officer Lee thanking them for their work during a recent incident. He also reported that he acquired 15 tactical bullet proof vests for free.

Kingsbury made a motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2021, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Klinepeter opened discussion related to parking fees at Weston's Beach. He started by outlining some preliminary options; to do nothing related to parking, to only allow residents, or to requirement payment for parking. Clarke believes that property owners should be allowed to park for free; Kingsbury agrees and thinks we should charge non-residents. Bob Tagliaferri has submitted a proposal on behalf of the Saco River Rec Council (SRRC) to manage the Weston's Beach property in the summer season. They will collect fees, keep parking orderly, educate users, separate paddlers from beach goers, etc mainly in the months of July and August. He noted that SRRC gives \$18,500 towards river patrols. He presented a draft budget and notes that additional money received over the expenses would go back to the town for property maintenance. The fee proposed is \$10.

Clarke thinks \$10 is a reasonable fee. There was discussion on a potential sticker system for residents, property owners and students. Kingsbury asked if there were any deed restrictions on Westons that would impact the ability to charge fees. Klinepeter noted that town meeting approvals may be required.

Allison Leach expressed concern about the how excess revenue returned from SRRC would be used and asked about the number of spaces and procedures for parking which led to further discussion about number of spaces, situations where people are dropped off and the process for setting a capacity on the number of cars allowed. Dutton inquired as to whether there are only enough spaces for residents or if there are space for residents and visitors, which led to further discussion on that.

Sherri Billings expressed that the town property should not be used to benefit businesses. Nora Schwarz suggested reaching out to other communities across the country to see how they deal with similar situations. She also relayed water test results from Saco River Corridor Commission which included high e coli levels at Weston's and would like to see more education. Nels Liljedahl would like to see only residents be allowed to use the property.

Abby King thinks the town needs to look at this from a cost vs. benefit analysis between user groups and thinks that a restriction on commercial businesses should be considered similar to other public lands that only allow de minimus commercial use. This might reduce many of the issues at Westons to allow residents and visitors but eliminate SRRC membership groups. Tagliaferri offered a rebuttal and provided a history of the SRRC and their mission.

There was discussion on how to proceed. Kingsbury made a motion to table discussion until next meeting, which was seconded by Clarke and passed unanimously.

Klinepeter provided a history of the Boston Post Cane and announced that the next Boston Post Cane recipient is Lillian MacFarlane who was born May 27, 1922.

Kingsbury made a motion to approve a Land Purchase Installment Contract with Burnham Boucher for 172 North Fryeburg Road (Tax Map 25, Lot 62), which was seconded by Murray and passed unanimously.

Kingsbury made a motion to approve a recommended abatement of \$0 for Map 052 Lot 033 – Aspden, LLC c/o David Sweet, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Kingsbury made a motion to approve a recommended abatement of \$0 for Map 052 Lot 031 – Aspden, LLC c/o David Sweet, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to accept a \$25 Dunkin Donut Gift Card from Leona Ward to the Fire Department, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to accept a 68 book/\$538.89 value donation from Believe in Books Literacy Foundation to the Fryeburg Public Library, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to accept a \$5,000 grant from the Mulford Fund for town landscaping and beautification, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously. It was confirmed that this is used for wreaths and spring plantings/mulching.

Clarke made a motion to accept a \$16,000 grant from the Mulford Fund for the Eastern Slope Airport, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to accept a \$25,000 grant from the Pythagorean Lodge #11 for the Fryeburg Recreation Dept. Teen Center Program, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously.

Kingsbury made a motion to authorize certain town employees to contact Maine Municipal Association legal services. It was discussed and determined that the list should include the Select Board Vice Chair. Haley noted that MMA legal services are a free service and that employees need Town Manager approval prior to contacting our paid town attorney. This authorization list is being approved by position, rather than employee name, to simplify the process if there is employee transition. The motion was seconded by Clarke and passed unanimously.

There was discussion on delinquent tax interest rate to be proposed at Town Meeting for upcoming tax commitment. Typically, the rate is set by the state but there is an option for the Town to opt for a rate between 4 and 6 percent. Haley noted that the rate 2 years ago was 9% and is now 8%. After discussion, Kingsbury made a motion to propose a 5% interest rate, which was seconded by Clarke. The motion passed 3-2 (Dutton, Murray voted against).

Clarke made a motion to move the excess of undesignated balance over 15%, as of June 30, 2018, in the amount of \$516,579 to the Fund Balance Reserve Account, which was seconded by Murray and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to move the excess of undesignated balance over 15%, as of June 30, 2019, in the amount of \$370,663 to the Fund Balance Reserve Account, which was seconded by Murray and passed unanimously.

Haley provided a brief overview review of Personnel Policy draft revisions. Some changes were previously suggested by Dutton and some were added by the town attorney as a comprehensive review of the policy. There is also a section added to address the new Earned Paid Leave law (EPL). There was discussion about EPL and the impact on the budget and how it differs from vacation/sick time and who it applies to. Haley is working on determining the budget impact. There was also discussion about the section related to drug use and whether there should be additional language to address police officers and public works employees who cannot use marijuana based on their job. Haley will look into making sure the policy aligns with other procedures and policies. Further review is tabled.

Haley provided her Town Manager Report. Dutton made a motion to accept it, which was seconded by Clarke and passed unanimously.

Other Business: Murray had no comments. Each of the other board members expressed comments and concerns about various aspects of the proposed zoning changes, based both on personal issues/objections and those that have been relayed to them by residents. Kingsbury made note of and thanked Nels Liljedahl for the work he is doing in the South Pacific to improve water quality and protect coral reefs. Clarke stated that the zoning changes as proposed should be tabled until in person meetings can take place.

Public Forum: Daymond Steer inquired about the Planning Board zoning changes.

Kingsbury made a motion to approve Payroll Warrants #63 & 65 and Accounts Payable Warrants #64 & 66, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Murray made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Dutton and passed unanimously.

Date: _____

Tom Klinepeter: _____

Kimberly Clarke: _____

Tom Kingsbury: _____

Richard Murray: _____

Jim Dutton: _____

