

**Minutes**  
**Select Board Meeting – Hastings Community Center**  
**Thursday, August 25, 2022**  
**6:00 PM**

Kimberly Clarke  
Thomas Klinepeter

Jim Tyrrell  
Thomas Kingsbury

Kingsbury called the Select Board Meeting to order and declared a quorum. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Department Head reports: Fire Chief Dufresne reviewed July calls for service, training, and fleet/equipment maintenance. He mentioned efforts to reduce brush burning in light of low water levels and high fire danger. Daymond Steer asked about the Western Maine Firefighters Association Convention which will be held in Fryeburg. Public Works Director France provided updates on work. He noted that he repaired some of the pavement on the Pine St sidewalks and this led to a discussion about sidewalks. Recreation Director Buzzell noted that he has 140 kids signed up for fall sports and conveyed that items were stolen from the rec property including catalytic converters. This led to discussion about security cameras and lighting. Sgt. Small was asked about the panhandlers that have been present at the monument recently. Sgt. relayed that it is not illegal for them to be there, with some exceptions. Property owners can go through a process related to criminal trespass to keep the panhandlers off their private property.

Klinepeter made a motion to approve the August 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes, which was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Kingsbury opened continued discussion on Chris & Mary Whitakers American Legion related requests by commenting that he had viewed the Legion and had concerns about the placement of a pool table there. He also commented that the basement should be cleaned out. Klinepeter also voiced concerns about a pool table and that there may be space in the basement once cleaned out. Buzzell noted that the room in the basement was in useable condition until someone else messed it up. Buzzell also has a need for additional storage space. Clarke stated that if the pool table is moveable then she supports having it located there. After some continued debate about the pool table, conversation shifted to the requested expanded hours of 8 am to 8 pm, 5 days per week. Whitaker outlined the other consistent users of the building (AA, card ladies, Conservation Committee, Water District). Mary Whitaker stated that the debate about the pool table is being blown out of proportion and that there is a need for storage space for PVHI. Buzzell suggested that PVHI use the ice skating warming shed for storage. Tyrrell made a motion to allow PVHI to use the shed for storage, which was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to approve the placement of a pool table at the Legion with a condition that it must be removed if it becomes an issue to other users. The motion was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to allow PVHI's expanded hours subject to existing users of the building being allowed to continue their schedule and that Friday nights, Monday nights and Saturdays and Sundays be available for the general public to rent/use. This will continue until the end of the 2022/2023 school year and if it becomes a problem then it will be revisited. The motion was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Clarke began discussion related to a Letter of Concern regarding LD 2003 – An Act to Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine. She does not support signing the letter of concern; she believes that it stems from towns that don't want affordable housing and that there is a severe lack of affordable housing options in our area. She commented that this will only impact us by solidifying the allowance of accessory dwelling units. Klinepeter agrees that housing is a major issues and concern but he takes issue with the State forcing this; home rule should apply. He noted that there were 30 new houses built last year and that there are 24 new apartment units being constructed by Avesta and that this was completed without mandated ordinance changes. There was a debate about how this will impact allowable lot density. Tyrrell believes that this is not a Select Board issue and that the town should make the decision. Clarke thinks that this is sending the wrong message about the town not supporting affordable housing. After continues discussion, Clarke made a motion to decline signing the Letter of Concern, which was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to allow the Town Manager to sign closing documents for the purchase of land from Clyde & Twyla Watson (Map 43, Lot 35), as approved at Town Meeting, which was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Klinepeter made a motion to use \$938.35 in credit reserve funds for costs associated with the transfer of Map 43, Lot 35 (recording costs, title insurance, 2023 real estate taxes), which was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Tyrrell made a motion to approve and sign the following tax commitment documents:

- i. Assessors Certification of Assessment
- ii. Municipal Tax Assessment Warrant
- iii. Certificate of Commitment
- iv. Certificate of Assessment to be Returned to Municipal Treasurer

The motion was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously. Haley reported that tax rate is 15.3 for FY 2023.

Klinepeter made a motion to approve the 2023 Treasurers Disbursement Warrants Policy, which was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to accept a \$25.00 donation from Donald & Susan Koch for the Fryeburg Library, which was seconded by Tyrrell and passed unanimously.

Haley presented an overview of the drafted Emergency Fuel Fund Policy revisions. There was a discussion about the process to apply for the emergency fuel assistance. There was also discussion about General Assistance income limits. Clarke made a motion to approve the changes to the policy, which was seconded by Klinepeter and passed unanimously.

Haley provided her Town Managers Report. Klinepeter made a motion to accept the report, which was seconded by Clarke and passed unanimously.

Other Business: Tyrrell attended the Fryeburg Water District meeting and noted that the Historical Society has a hand pump well that they are intend to open for public water consumption. Tyrrell suggested using ARPA funds to assist with PFAS water testing of the well at the Historical Society. He noted that the had attended the ESRB meeting with an internet service provider and learned a lot. Clarke asked about the back-up plan for funding Lyman Drive road reconstruction now that the Norther Border grant was not received. There was discussion about getting FAA, MDOT or regional towns (notably Conway) to pitch in. She also noted the availability of Efficiency Maine's EV charging station grant and locations for EV charges was discussed. Klinepeter asked if any board members were going to the county commissioners meeting.

Public Forum: Chief Dufresne offered to assist people whose wells have gone dry. He has spent time researching available avenues for assistance. Vincent Carbone brought up various topics including a proposal to place a monument celebrating the Abenaki's at the Town Forest, the potential of arriving before Select Board meetings to speak about civic engagement, and the claimed lack civics classes on the website. He also brought up complaints about Canal Bridge Campground related to his 9<sup>th</sup> annual family gathering.

Clarke made a motion to approve Payroll Warrants #13, 14, 15, 17 & and Accounts Payable Warrants #124, 16, 18, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously.

Clarke made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Kingsbury and passed unanimously.

Date: 9/8/2022

Thomas Kingsbury  
James C. Dufresne  
James C. Dufresne

