

REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF MAY 11, 2021

Note: These are not official minutes -- -- just notes taken by me. Official minutes will be available from the Town Office and will be posted on the Town web site following Board approval at the next meeting. If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

THE MEETING: The meeting was conducted as a hybrid in-person and Zoom meeting. SelectBoard members Rich Donaldson, Jon Collins, and Bronwen Tudor plus administrator Amanda Campbell were present. Members of the public attended via Zoom.

The minutes of the meetings of April 26 and 27, 2021 were approved. They will be posted on the Town website.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEMS: In my judgment, the following items were the most important things covered during the meeting.

- **Liquor License:** The Board approved a license for a Qualified Caterer for Robinhood Ventures, LTD.
- **Solid Waste Budget:** Dave Polito came to the meeting to discuss concerns of the Solid Waste Committee, primarily the need to raise starting pay for attendants in order to be competitive with other nearby towns. He asked the Board to add \$5,000 to the budget to address this issue if/when there is another new hire situation. Sharon Trabona pointed out that we do not want the Transfer Station to go away. Many residents would not be able to bring refuse to the nearest curbside location. Bronwen said she believes that working conditions are also an issue. She suggested the Board and Solid Waste Committee should look into how conditions can be improved. Rich asked if pay rate was an issue with other Town employees. FAC recommended 3.5% increase for all Town employees. Bill Webster (Treasurer) recommended that the \$5,000 be added to the budget as a contingency but hold off discussion of specific details until the new hire situation arises. Bronwen proposed adding the \$5,000 without designating how it will be spent and then fix salary specifics after the Town Meeting.
- **County Emergency Communications:** Representatives from RCM (company who will provide the temporary tower), Sagadahoc County, Chris Wilcoxson (CEO) and Amanda met at the Center Station 4/29 to firm up the location of equipment. They expect the new equipment in June. Rich noted that the process seems to be moving reasonably fast now.
- **Town Meeting:** The Board agreed to hold the Town Meeting starting at 10 am on June 26. They also agreed upon June 27 as the rain date. Rich agreed to arrange for the PA system as he did last year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Amanda reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda on the Town website. The most interesting items were:

- Amanda received a Mass Care Course Certificate from MEMA.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Budget:** Amanda indicated she is scheduling a meeting with FAC for Monday 5/24 for final approval of the budget after the two budget hearings.
- **Broadband:** Awaiting legal response from Town counsel. Amanda noted that the LLC is willing to pay for legal work but they want to use their own attorney. Rich mentioned holding a public meeting to discuss proposed terms in the agreement.

- **Blessing of the Fleet:** Bronwen brought up the lack of a permit for this event. She questioned who is taking responsibility to organize the event?

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Solar Working Group requested usage and cost data. Amanda said CMP was very helpful in providing it for all Town accounts.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

Date & Time	Event	Place	Comment
Wednesday, May 12, 7:00 pm	Ordinance Hearing	Zoom	Review proposed changes to various Town ordinances
Tuesday, May 18, 7:00 pm	School Budget Hearing	Zoom	
Wednesday, May 19, 7:00 pm	Town Budget Hearing	Zoom	
Tuesday, June 15, 1:00 – 8:00 pm	Local Election	School	
Saturday, June 26, 10:00 am	Town Meeting	Behind the School	Outside. Bring your own chair. Rain Date: Sunday, June 27

The next regular meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 25 . The public is welcome to attend on ZOOM. Contact Amanda Campbell or Alex Neese at the Town Office to get the Meeting ID and Password.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe