

SELECT BOARD MEETING: VIA ZOOM

Date: Feb 9, 2021 6:30 P.M.

In Attendance: Selectboard- John Fenner (chair,) Lorie Costigan, Peter Beckett, Charles Garrigan, Danielle Gould

Town Clerk Elizabeth E. Dickerson

Kay Neufeld, Camden Herald

1. Call Select Board meeting to order

Chair Fenner called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M.

2. Meetings are recorded

Selectperson Fenner reminded attendees that Zoom meetings are recorded.

3. Approve the minutes of February 2, 2021- Selectperson Beckett so moved, second Selectperson Gould

Discussion- Selectperson Fenner: in section 3, second paragraph, vote tally should have been 4-0-1. Under the Town Clerk section town charges 25 cents per copy in relation to the IVL report requested. Selectperson Fenner said that he thought clarification could be useful so that people realized it was 25 cents per page, not per the whole IVL.

Vote: Beckett: yes, Costigan: yes, Fenner: yes, Garrigan: abstain, Gould: yes 4-0-1 the motion passes.

4. Public Comment: none

5. Road Commissioner- Jake Boyington – not present

6. Town Clerk- Elizabeth Dickerson-

A resident has stepped forward to be appointed to the CSD school board, Jennifer Guilfoyle. Ms. Guilfoyle will serve on the board for the remainder of the term, and may choose to run for election if she chooses at the end of the term. The AVS board will vote to appoint Ms. Guilfoyle Feb 22.

Notice has been published in the newspaper and on the town website that nomination papers will be available at the town office on February 11 for 2 regular planning board members for a term of 3 years, 2 associate planning board members for 3 years, 1 Five Town CSD school board member for a term of 1 year, 2 Selectboard members for 3 year terms each, and 1 Appleton Village School board member for a one year term.

7. Select Board-

A. Committee reports: Selectperson Beckett: attended the Appleton Village School Safety Committee Meeting, along with the health officer Rob Wall. The school is currently not in session because there were two COVID cases on Friday.

Selectperson Garrigan- the TCSWMO subcommittee has been postponed to next week.

Selectperson Fenner saw an article about Mr. Leeman in the Pen Bay Pilot.

There was general discussion concerning observations that Mr. Leeman may take less time to dump out his truck if he could use the dump body. Mr. Stanley, the facility director, believes it would take more time if he were dumping using the dump body.

Selectperson Costigan mentioned that she thought it was fabulous that Mr. Stanley was concerned about time being tied up in the transfer station, perhaps this meant that he might be interested in

opening up the facility on Sundays so that residents would have more weekend access in light of work schedules. Selectperson Beckett said that many people commented to that effect in the Comprehensive Planning Committee Survey.

B. Street Lights – Selectperson Fenner- contact at CMP did send some information today to selectmen’s email. They corrected some street names. She also provided information. The LEDs provide the amount of light as other fixtures but use less electricity, as shown on a spreadsheet. Selectperson Fenner looked through the Powerpoint. A new fixture would cost \$188 apiece. Selectperson Beckett said that if the town wanted new ones, the town would pay for them through the lease cost, not installation. Selectperson Fenner said that the board needs to give a sense if they are interested in converting to LEDs.

Vote: Pursue LED Streetlight Conversion: Motion: Selectperson Fenner, Second, Beckett Vote: Beckett: yes, Costigan: yes, Fenner: yes, Garrigan: yes, Gould: yes, 5-0-0 the motion passes. The board will continue to look at adding or relocating lights and costs associated.

The list of streetlights that was sent to the clerk to add to the minutes by Selectperson Beckett is as follows:

Ones to remove:

1. Half way up the hill on Sennebec Road
2. One on Town Hill Road

Ones to add:

1. On 105 and Peabody road
2. Opposite entrance to Appleton Village school
3. Corner of 105 (Burkettville road) and 131
4. Fishtown and Burkettville road
5. Guinea Ridge Rd. and Burkettville Rd.

C. Animal Control Ordinance and Associated Violation Ordinance – Selectperson Fenner said that this item pertains to the board deciding whether to put this item on the June 8 ballot. Heidi Blood, the Animal Control Officer (ACO) made a presentation about adding an ordinance to the town’s ordinances concerning dogs. Last year, when she attended recertification for animal control, a new animal control violation ordinance had been adopted by some communities - Searsport, namely- they have enacted a violation citation that mirrors Maine animal state laws. The fines on the violation sheet adopted mirror the state fines minimums and maximums. 3 of the 7 towns the ACO works for have adopted this ordinance and it is making her job a lot easier. It is also increasing voluntary compliance with livestock and dogs at large.

During COVID, ACO can’t issue civil violations for dogs at large or dogs attacking livestock because it’s tying up the court system. The form that the ACO sent to the Selectboard for review has a warning notice that she sends out to people first. They get this warning before any financial fine is levied. It’s working really well in the 3 out of 7 towns that have already implemented.

Questions:

Selectperson Beckett none, but thinks it’s a good idea if it helps Heidi do her job.

Selectperson Fenner is supportive, any fixes needed can be made.

ACO said that the three towns that have adopted the ordinance had their attorneys look at the ordinance, and she would be willing to send those versions so the board could see those edited versions.

Selectperson Gould- question- as far as the fine range, where there is a minimum and a maximum- who decides that? The ACO said that is in animal control law book. Maine Animal Welfare Department determines the fines.

Selectperson Fenner- is there discretion on the part of the ACO? The ACO said that there is. One town decided to put in the ordinance that there would need to be selectmen approval in the event of the levying of a financial fine.

Selectperson Fenner- this is similar to a traffic ticket- you can send in a payment, or you can contest.

Selectperson Costigan- because of that option, she does not see the need to have another layer of oversight over the ACO and sees no need for the board to act as the adjudicator.

The ACO finds that she is issuing fewer violations because people are now seeing on paper when she issues the warning what it would cost if they don't keep their animals home, so they are being more diligent about not letting their animals wander.

D. Sign on town property concerning boat wake: The Sennebec Lake Association has asked the town to place signs to regulate boat use. Selectperson Fenner says that this is a function of IF and W, and that the town shouldn't be in the position to regulate. If the pond association wants to put up a sign on the property of one of their members, identifying that they put it up and it's on private property, that would be a different thing. Selectperson Fenner says that no boat according to state law is allowed to exceed headway speed within 200 feet of the shore. Headway speed is defined by minimum amount to maintain steerage and forward motion.

Selectperson Gould: does this concern jet skis as well? Selectperson Fenner believes it would. The sign that the association wants to post says "No Wake Area".

Selectperson Beckett spoke to Nakia Cramer of the Association and said she needed to find out who regulates lakes and ponds. He also said that that the pond is 2,000 feet wide in some places. Selectperson Fenner said that Ms. Cramer mentioned specifically the narrow bend in the river. The area in question is town owned property near the river inlet.

Selectperson Costigan said that it comes down to enforcement and the town has no enforcement arm. The Sennebec is a water body that also falls in two towns.

Selectperson Beckett said that he was not opposed to placing a sign. He also said that Ms. Cramer might consider going to the campground and talk to them about regulating out of state users of jet skis etc.

Selectperson Fenner: Motion- To allow the Sennebec Lake Association to place a sign on town property on the Georges River- Selectperson Costigan second

Vote: Beckett: yes, Costigan: no, Fenner: no, Garrigan: no, Gould: no 1-4-0 the motion fails.

E- Request to place an article on town warrant – Selectperson Fenner said that it involved carbon taxes. It would require the Selectboard to send letters to the legislature and congress asking them to implement a carbon tax system. Selectperson Beckett read the email from Sharon Pree including the proposed article into the record.

Warrant Article, Town of Appleton, Maine: Maine Resolution to Take Action on Climate Pollution

To see if the town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey to Appleton's state legislators, Members of Congress, Governor, and President of the United States that the town hereby calls upon our Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect Maine from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support Cash-Back Carbon Pricing that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis with monthly dividend checks. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to the above mentioned parties by the Board of Selectmen within 30 days of this vote.

Selectperson Fenner- do we want to add this to the warrant? Selectperson Beckett asked whether Ms. Pree is with an organization. Selectperson Costigan said that it is written for a more general audience. Selectperson Costigan would be supportive of discussion on reducing carbon footprints, something more granular to the town level but that this seems more general and on a national level. Selectperson Gould would like more information.

Selectperson Fenner said that it seemed like a generic item that is being put forward in a lot of places. Also, since there will not be a town meeting but a ballot instead, it might be hard to have a forum to explain or debate. It's possible to do as an up and down vote. Further clarification is needed, Selectperson Costigan will reach out to Ms. Pree.

8. Other- Selectperson Beckett- The Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) Dave Schofield mentioned that there is an option for renovations on the application for building permits. The CEO said that the town is missing potential revenue. Selectperson Beckett said that he had reached out to the Planning Board. Early 2019 the PB looked into it, but decided not to move ahead because no other towns around Appleton did it. A general discussion concerning the difficulties of regulating building permits for home renovations or whether to have them at all for small towns ensued. The Planning Board is looking at this issue; the Selectboard will wait to see what they come up with.

9. Executive Session: Friday at 10 am to discuss town policies concerning health insurance at the Fire Station

10. Adjourn 7:56 pm, adjournment is by unanimous consent

A True Copy Attest,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Dickerson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elizabeth Dickerson
Appleton Town Clerk