

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 10, 2021**

Present (remotely): Chair, Ladleah Dunn, Vice-Chair, Keryn Laite, Jr., Josh Gerritsen, Mike Ray, Jordan Barnett-Parker, and Town Administrator, David Kinney

Chair Dunn read portions of the opening of the agenda regarding the provision for remote meetings during the current state of emergency, including how the public could view and participate in the meeting and that all votes taken during the public proceeding would be taken by roll call.

Selectman Ray read the quote.

1. Citizens' Forum (6:30 PM +/-, televised and public Zoom session starts):

There were none submitted via email or on the chat.

2. Administrator's Report:

David Kinney, the Town Administrator, noted:

- Absentee Ballots: Absentee Ballots are now available, for the June 8th election; please stop by the Town Office or call during regular business hours.
- Paving: The paving contractor that didn't finish the work last fall plans to be here this week to commence and if weather permits, they should be able to finish the work.
- Gravel Roads: The gravel road grading contractor should also be in town this week.
- Floats: The floats are in at Breezemere Park.
- Sidewalks: Kinney spoke to Patrick Adams, Active Transportation Planner with the Maine Department of Transportation regarding sidewalks. He will be attending the next Select Board meeting on May 24th.
- Department of the Treasury: Today the Department of the Treasury issued their interim final regulations regarding the American Rescue Plan. Kinney will be including more information at the next meeting on May 24th.

3. Meetings & Announcements:

Chair Dunn read the meetings and announcements.

4. Upcoming Community Events:

There were none.

5. Meeting Minutes – April 26, 2021:

Laite made an amended motion, seconded by Ray, that the Board approves the April 26, 2021 meeting minutes with changes to lines 93, 228, & 262. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

6. (6:30 PM) Public Hearing – Inn at Sunrise Point Liquor License:

Laite made a motion, seconded by Ray, that the Board opens a public hearing concerning the liquor license application being sought by the Inn at Sunrise Point. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Laite made a motion, seconded by Barnett-Parker, that the Board closes the public hearing. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

No public input was offered.

Laite made a motion, seconded by Gerritsen, that after having held a public hearing that the Board grant the liquor license requested by the Inn at Sunrise Point. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board thanked the applicant for attending the meeting.

7. Board, Committee, and Commission Appointment(s):

Ray made a motion, seconded by Gerritsen, that the Board appoint John Williams to the Broadband Committee as a regular member with a term expiring June 2021. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Laite made a motion, seconded by Gerritsen, that the Board appoint Terry Moulton to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee as a regular member with a term expiring June 2023. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Gerritsen made a motion, seconded by Barnett-Parker, that the Board appoint Susan Silverio to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee as an alternate member with a term expiring June 2021. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board thanked everyone for volunteering their time.

8. Request for Resolution Supporting Consumer Ownership of Electrical Delivery Systems:

Gerritsen requested that the Board have a conversation regarding Our Power, which is starting a push to have Central Maine Power and Versant be bought out and converted into a non-profit consumer-owned utility called the Pine Tree Power Company.

Gerritsen pointed out that there are a lot of benefits. One is that this would be owned by Mainers and he recommended that the Select Board send a letter in support of moving towards a consumer-owned utility.

Barnett-Parker was behind this request and as a consumer, he felt this was the best way to protect our grid and make sure that prices don't spiral out of control.

Ray wanted clarification on whether or not the Board had the authority to do a resolution on supporting a consumer-owned electrical system.

Gerritsen explained that if you look at the end of the resolution, it says, that we strongly urge the Maine Legislature and Governor to pass legislation to replace Central Maine Power and Versant.

Dunn spoke in favor of the concept but preferred that the Town Attorney take a look at this and she requested that the Board invite a representative from Our Power to attend the next meeting on May 24th to help answer questions from the Select Board.

The Board agreed to have a representative attend the next meeting and have a conversation.

9. Consideration of Road Salt Bid Award:

Laite made a motion, seconded by Barnett-Parker, that the road salt bid for FY 2022 be awarded to New England Salt Co., LLC at the delivered price of \$52.50 per ton and the picked-up price of \$55 per ton and that the Town Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with New England Salt Co., LLC under these terms. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

10. Set Public Hearing – June 8, 2021:

Kinney explained that the State Statute requires that certain referendum ballot questions require a public hearing at least 7 days before Election Day.

Barnett-Parker made a motion, seconded by Laite that the Board conducts a public hearing on all referendum ballot questions in accordance with the remote participation requirements on Monday, May 24, 2021, at 6 PM and that the Board's regular meeting commence immediately thereafter. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

11. Establish a method for disposition of surplus town-owned items:

Kinney explained that during the May 6th Special Town Meeting, the voters approved the sale of the surplus items from the Fire Department with all proceeds to go into the Fire Truck Reserve Funds.

Fire Chief, Don Fullington, III, recommended establishing a fair market value for the tractor, The Board recommended setting the minimum bid price for the John Deere 200 CX Loader with moving deck at no less than \$8500.

The Board recommended no minimum bid price for the air compressor.

Ray made a motion, seconded by Laite, that the Town Administrator advertise and seek bids for the sale of the town-owned surplus items and that all bids received be presented to the Board of Selectmen at a future meeting for approval of the sale. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The Board thanked Chief Fullington for attending the meeting.

12. Continuation of Clean Energy Discussion – Next meeting date:

Kinney explained that the Thomaston Select Board is looking to put together another Clean Energy discussion via Zoom for either Tuesday, May 25, Tuesday, June 1, or Wednesday, June 2nd.

The Board decided on June 2nd at 6:30 PM.

13. Authorization for Town Administrator to sign land exchange documents:

Laite made a motion that the Board authorizes the direct the Town Administrator to execute and deliver the quitclaim deed to Coastal Mountains Land Trust (CMLT); to accept delivery of the quitclaim deed with a covenant from CMLT; to execute and deliver the conservation easement to CMLT; and to execute any and all necessary paperwork reasonably incident to the land swap between the Town and CMLT authorized by Article 5 of the July 14, 2020, Town Meeting. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

14. Selectmen Update(s):

Laite: The Mid-Coast Solid Waste Board of Directors held an executive session for the purpose of conducting a performance appraisal for the new MCSW manager, which he felt went very well.

Gerritsen: Gerritsen testified on April 27th on LD1432, which he explained went very well.

He mentioned that he and Barnett-Parker met last week with the Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition, which consisted of four towns (Palermo, Liberty, Freedom & Montville) are exploring what to do with their Broadband situation. There was a great exchange of where their Coalition is and the possibility of working with them in the future.

One of the representatives went before the Waldo County Commissioners, which said they could use some of the funding from the county for the ARP for the future for some of their projects.

On May 5th and May 7th, Gerritsen met with Marketing Sub-Committee, which he is on, and discussed strategy for talking to residents and spreading the word about what's on the June ballot for Camden, Rockport, and Thomaston.

There was an article in the Bangor Daily News a few days ago regarding the Coalition, which gave the lay of the land of what's going on and a great explanation of the Coalition's work to date.

Today, the leadership of the Coalition announced they are moving forward with working with Axiom for the feasibility study on Phase 1 Towns. The current Phase 1 towns are Camden, Rockport, Rockland, Thomaston, Owls Head, and South Thomaston. If a town thinks they are ready to join Phase 1 and are willing to provide the financial contribution to pay for their share, that town should let them know.

He explained that Owls Head and South Thomaston are each paying \$5,000 for the feasibility study for their town and the other four larger towns are each paying \$15,000.

He felt it was important for the Town of Lincolnville to join Phase 1 because, without the study, there isn't any hard data on what it will take for Lincolnville to build their network or buy out Lincolnville Communication's.

A number of the towns in the Coalition wrote a letter to the Knox County Commissioners urging that they spend all the county money to go towards the Coalition, once it's a utility for Broadband. Counties and Towns can use the ARP Funds for Water, Sewer, and Broadband.

Therefore, Gerritsen suggested that the Board consider asking our county commissioners to put our percentage of the county funds towards the Coalition, specifically for Lincolnville.

Ray: At the last Select Board meeting, Ray offered to contact the former Lincolnville Broadband Committee members and schedule the first meeting. Ray offered to connect with Kinney tomorrow to see what date and time would work for the first meeting.

Ray suggested that the Lincolnville Broadband Committee may want to focus on how the County funds work.

Kinney recommended contacting all those whose terms have expired, and see if they're still interested in serving again and reappoint them.

Barnett-Parker: No updates at this time.

Dunn: No updates at this time.

15. Treasurer's and Payroll Warrant(s)-Approve & Sign:

Barnett-Parker made a motion, seconded by Laite, that the Board approves the Treasurer's and Payroll warrants. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

16. Adjourn:

Laite made a motion, seconded by Barnett-Parker, to adjourn. Vote: Laite – Yes, Gerritsen – Yes, Ray – Yes, Barnett-Parker - Yes, Dunn – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Geary
Administrative Assistant