



**OWLS HEAD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
Minutes  
September 08, 2020 @ 4 pm**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

4:00 pm Chairman Thomas Von Malder called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Present were selectmen Linda Post and Gordon Page. Also presented Frank Ross, Lynn Chaplin, Richard Carver, Ken Wexler, Bob Hirsch, Town Clerk Susan Wilson, Assessor Agent Amy Dunn, and Secretary Eleanor Stone

**ASSESSORS AGENT:** Interim Assessors Agent Amy Dunn explains to the Selectman that she would love to stay on as the Assessors Agent. Ms. Dunn's only request is to get paid through payroll at the same rate she is getting now. Selectman Post mentions that as an employee, they would have to consider health insurance. Ms. Dunn states she does not want insurance, her request is more for her Medicare, then the town would pay her share of that. Selectman Post asks if she is considering an hourly rate, Ms. Dunn does yes.

**MOTION: 4:04 pm Linda makes a motion that we hire Amy Dunn for the Assessors Agent position at an hourly rate of \$45 per hour. Gordon seconds that motion.**

**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

Amy's first official duty is for an abatement on a piece of property. James and Carol Genco from 132 Weeks road had a \$50,000 building demolished back in February, but they were taxed for that building.

**MOTION: 4:06 pm Linda makes a motion that we abate the taxes for James and Carol Genco, map 14 lot 027, in the amount of \$608.28. Gordon seconds that motion.**

**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

**4:06 Chairman Von Malder closes as Assessors and opens the Selectman's meeting.**

**APPROVE MEETING MINUTES: MOTION: 4:08 pm Gordon makes a motion to accept the minutes for August 17, 2020, as amended. Linda seconds that motion.**

**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

**OLD BUSINESS:** Thomas Von Malder's term as Chair for the Select Board has expired.  
**Gordon Page nominates Thomas Von Malder to be the Chair for the coming year.**  
**Linda seconds that motion.**  
**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

The sale of 20 Owls Head Lane has been completed. Sherry Stanley paid the amount of \$65,000. Town Clerk Susan Wilson states she gave the deed to Ms. Stanley to be recorded at the courthouse. Ms. Stanley also paid any or all back taxes due.

Secretary Eleanor Stone and Richard Carver reached out to Maine Municipal Association to find out what any rights or public interest the town had at Crescent Beach. During the process, Richard Carver found out some information about a Right of Way Discovery Grant through the Maine Dept. of Marine Resources (DMR). Mr. Carver sent an e-mail to Kathleen Leyden from (DMR) for not only Crescent Beach but also Marsh St down by the waterfront to see if this was what they were looking for. Her reply was that is exactly what they are looking for. Meanwhile, Michael Lichtenstein from MMA and Dick had a lengthy conversation. Michael Lichtenstein stated the issues were too much for them to handle and recommended the town contact a lawyer. Dick asked Mike about the grant, he was familiar with it, but he was uncommitted. Dick also asked what Mike thought the cost of a lawyer would be, and Mike was not sure but said maybe \$5000. That amount is the minimum that is allowed for the Right Way Discovery Grant. The town would pay 25% the grant would pay 75%. Dick then contacted Lawyer Fredrick Newcomb to find out what the cost would be. Mr. Newcomb says that this is a situation the town should not get involved in. If an individual would like to approach this, then they should contact a lawyer. Chairman Von Malder says we have rights to the road and Dick states to the high tide mark. Von Malder says we should leave the beach alone. Dick also mentions that he spoke to Nathaniel Beal with Beal Survey Service, who had done survey work. he seemed to think that the town had some interest in the road, but it was very unclear.

Dick Carver did some research on our parking ordinance. He contacted the Knox County Sheriffs Dept and spoke with dispatch, and they said that the dispatch office would not give out any information in regards to registrations to either the Harbor Master or the Fire Chief, Dick should call the DMV to find out if they would give out info. DMV said that it is the County Sheriffs job to give it to our chosen people. Chairman Von Malder received a call from the Sheriff's Department saying that the Fire Chief or Harbormaster could contact the Sheriff's department and the Sheriff's Department would then contact the registration owner. Dick says that the current ordinance may need to be amended because it states that the Fire Chief or Harbor Master would contact the owner, then a letter would be written within a 24-hour period. Dick believes it is something that needs to be taken care of later. Fire Chief Ross says that the towing companies keep a tow log so when the owner ultimately contact the Sheriff's Dept. the Sheriff's Department will know where the vehicle was towed too. Chairman Von Malder says that the ordinance does need to be cleaned up.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Selectmen Page would like to ask if the town should consider a policy that would result in the invoicing of property owners for multiple false fire alarms with a given pe-

riod, due to faulty commercial alarm systems or homeowner error. Fire Chief Ross says that there has been a lot of thought about this. He says 3-4 calls came from one place, the alarm company was called and then came to supposedly fix the problem which was not the case. Ross says he is afraid that if a price were implemented that the home owner would then turn the alarm off, and we want to avoid that. He goes on to say that insurance companies will pay for the calls, but that is a lot of work. Selectman Page asks if this is a frequent problem? Ross responds once in a great while. Ross mentions that each call cost approximately \$500-\$700. Selectmen Page ask the Fire Chief to come up with some information to draft up a policy for the next Selectmen meeting.

Town Clerk Susan Wilson was unable to take a week of scheduled vacation.

**MOTION: 4:30 pm Gordon Page makes a motion to authorize Town Clerk Susan Wilson, to use up vacation time that is owed within the fiscal year. Linda Post seconds the motion.**  
**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

Secretary Eleanor Stone request taking 4 days of vacation in the month of November.

**MOTION: 4:32 pm Linda Post makes a motion to approve the vacation request by Eleanor Stone. Thomas Von Malder seconds the motion.**  
**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

**ADJUSTMENTS:** Permission to allow Secretary Eleanor Stone write the minutes for the planning board. Maximum pay of up to \$500 per year.

**MOTION: 4:45 pm Linda makes a motion to allow Eleanor Stone to do the Planning Board minutes as part of her Secretarial duties. Gordon seconds the motion.**  
**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

Ken Wexler updates the Selectmen on the Interlocal Agreement as revised from suggestions at the Selectmen's meeting held on August 26, 2020. Only one additional change was made on page 3 Article 3c. They would like to add and the Town of Owls Head Selectmen after the Knox County Commissioners. The final edited copy was sent to Lawyer Ben McCall and a discussion will be done at the next Selectmen meeting being held on September 21, 2020.

Bob Hirsch recommends appointing William George to the budget committee. Hirsch states he has a good financial background and would be good asset to the committee.

**MOTION: 4:50 pm Gordon Page makes a motion to appoint William George to the budget committee. Linda Post seconds the motion.**  
**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Richard Carver updates the Selectmen on the Harbor Park Project. Frank Ross has installed a kiosk and a sign down to Harbor Park. He states the Frank did a wonderful job.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**MOTION: 4:54 pm Gordon makes a motion to enter executive session per 1 M.R.S.A §405(6)  
(A). Linda seconds the motion.  
VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

**An executive session was held from 4:54 pm - 5:37 pm**

**APPROVE AND SIGN THE MUNICIPAL WARRANT:**

**MOTION: 5:41pm Gordon makes a motion to approve the warrants as presented. Linda seconds the motion.**

**VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed**

**ADJOURN THE MEETING:**

**MOTION: 5:42pm Gordon makes a Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Linda seconds the motion.**

**Vote 3 in favor – 0 opposed**