



**OWLS HEAD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Minutes
December 07, 2020 @ 4 pm
ZOOM (COVID-19)**

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

4:00 pm Chairman Thomas Von Malder calls the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. Present were selectmen Linda Post and Gordon Page. Also present are Lynn Chaplin, Richard Carver, Ken Wexler, William George, Airport Manager Jeremy Shaw, Kathryn Pardo, Sophie Gabrion, Bob Hirsch, Katheryn DerMarderosian, Lauren Swartzbaugh, Dorothy Meriwether, Katie Shaw, Susan Wilson, Steve Betts, Kerry Hadley, and Secretary Eleanor Stone.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: 4:03 pm Linda makes a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting on **November 02, 2020 with the changes. Gordon seconds that motion.**

VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed

OLD BUSINESS:

Dale Martin with Fox Fire Real Estate LLC updates the Selectmen on the sale of 371 Dublin Road. Mr. Martin says that he received an e-mail from Melissa Reynolds saying they were ready to close on Wednesday, December 9, 2020. They decided to have the Quit Claim Deed brought to the Town Office for the Selectmen signatures. Bob Hirsch asks what the final cost may be regarding what we had budgeted. Mr. Martin says his fee is 6% plus what Fred Newcomb's charge may be for writing the deed.

Ken Wexler from the Owls Head Airport Committee would like the Selectmen to send a letter to the County formally requesting a 90-day extension of the termination so both parties can work out a mutual, acceptable Interlocal Agreement. Chairman Von Malder mentions that the County will be discussing the Interlocal Agreement at their meeting being held the next day, and the town should wait to see how their meeting goes. Mr. Wexler believes that the County should be aware of his request at their meeting. Selectmen Page states that the town has worked for months trying to come up with an acceptable document and at this point, he believes it is now up to the town people to vote on. Selectmen Page asks the question on behalf of the town, "if the committees should come up with a working document, that document would then have to go through our attorneys and the County's attorneys, who will be paying for the new extra work." Mr. Wexler states that he believes the citizens of the town would like to have a better, more fair agreement and believes it should be the expense of the town. Chairman Von Malder states he does not believe there needs to be an extension; we would just have a

period where there would be no agreement. Selectmen Post says she believes the County, through the Airport Manager, will not give an extension. She is not sure if it should be in writing or not, but the town should wait until the meeting tomorrow.

Dorothy Meriwether, speaking entirely on her own behalf and not for the County, says that there have been endless conversations on the Interlocal Agreement, and she says it is fair to say that on behalf of the County, they have a continuing interest to collaborate with Owls Head, if they can come up with an agreement suitable for everyone. The current Interlocal Agreement violates FAA requirements for the County to receive the money they need annually to support the airport safely and responsibly. She believes that an extension would be a waste of time.

Sophie Gabrion from the Owls Head Transportation Museum gives a request for a liquor license permit. The event is being held on December 15, 2020.

MOTION: 4:37 pm Gordon makes a motion to approve the BYOB permit for the Owls Head Transportation Museum for an event being held on December 15, ,2020 from 4:30pm-6-30pm. Linda seconds that motion.

VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed

Sophie Gabrion extends an invitation for the Selectmen to attend the event so they can chat with local educators and see how the functions are held

NEW BUSINESS:

Owls Head Cemetery Committee members William Gay and Michael VonCannon asked to be removed from the agenda. They requested to be on the agenda in the future to talk about hiring a Sexton.

Brian Kvorjak sent an e-mail questioning the issuance of centennial silver and/or bronze medallion for the Owls Head 100th anniversary as done in 1971 for their 50th anniversary. Unfortunately, Mr. Kvorjak had a problem attending the ZOOM meeting, so he was not available for the discussion. Chairman VonMalder requests that Secretary Eleanor Stone pass along the request to the Mussel Ridge Historical Society for further discussion.

The Town of Owls Head was having trouble with mail delivery following the departure of a long-time postal worker, Charlie Chase. Complaints were done at the Rockland Post Office. Bob Hirsh says that he and his wife did not receive mail for almost a week and the same was happening in his neighborhood. He says his wife went to the Post Office and was treated badly there because they did not believe there was a problem. Bob says that when enough people went to the Post Office to file complaints, they finally started to take it seriously. The group was able to get in touch with Pingree's office, and they also were able to get in touch with Susan Collin's office. He says that within the past 10 days (about 1 and a half weeks), everything seems to have been restored. The hiring for that position is not done locally, and they gave the bid to someone from out of state.

MOTION: 4:45 pm Linda makes a motion to approve the vacation days for the Town Clerk Susan Wilson. Gordon seconds that motion.

VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed

MOTION: 4:47 pm Linda makes a motion to approve the Holidays for 2021 as presented. Gordon seconds that motion.

VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed

The decision to not have a Facebook page was made due to the lack of staff able to support it.

ADJUSTMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ken Wexler says he thought he heard the County Commissioners office would consider a new agreement and are hopeful to have a new one prior to June 1, 2021 and asks Selectmen Page if the committee should put some time and effort into writing something up and present it to the Selectmen for their review, then go the County. Mr. Page believes that Dorothy Meriwether was referring to the already presented Interlocal Agreement that was supposed to be voted on at the Special Town Meeting. Selectmen Page would like to clarify his motion at the Special Town meeting as follows. "Mr. Moderator, in consideration of the current restrictions on public gatherings related to COVID-19 and our inability to include more voters in this process, I move to postpone warrant article number 2 and warrant article number 3 until Monday the 19th of April 2021 at 6pm." He says that nothing in the motion had anything to do with redoing the document in any way.

Kerry Hadley makes the comment that she believes this is a larger issue then what was presented to the residents.

Selectmen Post states that the current agreement should be voted on before any other agreement is discussed. Chairman VonMalder states that if the current agreement fails, he will certainly consider another.

Selectmen Post would like to discuss a potential bonus for the 3 office workers. She spoke with the Treasurer Pam Curtis, and there was \$3000 that was budgeted for elections. Approximately \$700 was spent on the Primary that was held in July instead of June. She proposes that the 3 office workers receive a bonus of \$500. Say that should leave enough money for the school vote in June and the towns part in paying Medicare and Social Security for the employees.

MOTION: 5:14 pm Linda makes a motion to give to the 3 office employees a \$500 bonus to be given on the next payroll in two weeks. Gordon seconds the motion.

VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed

Selectmen Page says this bonus is not intended to be a holiday bonus but rather more of an appreciation bonus for the work done during the COVID-19 pandemic and the Presidential Election that was held in November of 2020.

OTHER BUSINESS:

APPROVE AND SIGN THE MUNICIPAL WARRANT:

MOTION: 5:17 pm Linda makes a motion to approve the municipal warrants as presented.

Gordon seconds the motion.

VOTE 3 in favor – 0 opposed

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

MOTION: 5:17 pm Gordon makes a motion to adjourn.

Linda seconds the motion.

Vote 3 in favor – 0 opposed