

**Town of Otisfield
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Town Office Annex
July 18, 2018**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Hal Ferguson – Chairman, Rick Micklon & Lenny Adler present.

FLAG SALUTE: Audience and Board members saluted the flag.

2. **ACTION ON MINUTES:**

- A. Meeting minutes from June 20, 2018. *Motion to accept minutes. RM/LA – Unanimous.
- B. Town Meeting Minutes from June 30, 2018. *Motion to accept minutes. RM/LA – Unanimous.

3. **SPECIAL EVENTS**

- A. Planning Board: Map R3, Lot 67. (Major Subdivision) Stuart Davis representing applicant. TT sent an email to Stuart Davis requesting additional escrow money to cover the cost of the report from Ross Cudlitz, PE. Applicant has withdrawn the application and is requesting preliminary money back. The 14 acre parcel was sold so there is no longer a need to do the subdivision. A 3rd party review by Ross Cudlitz, PE resulted in a \$419.00 balance due for escrow money. There is a \$2,280 balance left, and Stuart was hoping to call it even because he believes it didn't go through with the full process. RM: I called Karen Turino, PB Chair and discussed this with her and she felt the PB did about 98% of the work. She said there was no more work or review needed and that the PB did the application review, site walk, notices and she feels the board has done their due diligence and that a refund is not supported. All PB members agreed unanimously. LA: It sounds like the PB did what they were supposed to do. HF: based on what I've heard I agree. *Motion that the town retain the funds that were paid based on what the PB has said. HF/LA – Unanimous. Stuart: Would they consider calling it even with the balance due for escrow. LA: I would have no problem with that. Otis Brown: If it's going to set a precedent, I suggest we don't. HF: we are not a precedent setting board, but it can be perceived that way. *Motion that we ask Mr. Siber to pay the \$419.50 balance owed. HF/RM – Unanimous.

4. **BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. **Planning Board:**

- 1) Herb Olson: Term expired 06/30/2018. *TT sent an email to check to see if he would like to remain on the committee and renew his term and he does. *Motion to renew Herb Olson's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/RM- Unanimous. TT will update website.
- 2) Beth Damon: Term expired 06/30/2018. Beth does not wish to renew her term. TT will update website.
- 3) Rick Jackson: Term expired 06/30/2018. Rick would like to renew his term. *Motion to renew Rick's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/RM- Unanimous. TT will update website.

B. Conservation Committee:

- 1) Maureen Howard: Term expired 06/30/2018. *TT sent an email to check to see if she would like to remain on the committee and renew her term and she does. *Motion to renew Maureen Howard's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/LA – Unanimous. TT will update website.
- 2) Lee Dassler: Term expired 06/30/2018. *Motion to renew Lee Dassler's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/LA – Unanimous. TT will update website.
- 3) Two Ponds: Maureen Howard: Dan Peaco will be working on creating a bridge over the stream. Rocks are slippery and could present a hazard. Also would like BOS to consider putting in a 30 x 30 foot parking space down Fox Run so cars can park in there and bring in a canoe or kayak. That's the only body of water that we can't launch from. It's about 200-300 feet away from the water body edge. RM voiced concerns regarding soil erosion due to foot traffic at the water's edge. Asked if CEO Rich St. John has walked this path and approved it. All agree it's a good idea, but requesting Maureen speak to CEO so he can provide input and check with DEP.

C. Board of Appeals:

- 1) Janet Douglas. Term expired 06/30/2018. *TT sent an email to check to see if she would like to remain on the committee and renew her term and she does. *Motion to renew Janet Douglas's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/RM- Unanimous. TT will update website.

D. Finance Committee:

- 1) Tanya Taft: Term expired 06/30/2018. *Motion to renew Tanya Taft's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/LA – Unanimous. TT will update website.
- 2) Sandy Ouellette: Term expired 06/30/2018. *Motion to renew Sandy Ouellette's term for a (3) year period ending 06/30/2021. HF/LA – Unanimous. TT will update website.
- 3) Dianne Olson: Term expired 06/30/2018. Diane does not wish to renew her term. TT will update website.
- 4) Year End Reports: Quen: End of year Finance Reports requested for next Finance Committee meeting. AP will get them to committee, but didn't know they were meeting this soon.

E. Board of Selectmen:

- 1) Hal Ferguson was re-elected for another (3) year term. TT will update website.

5. DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- A. None.

6. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC.

- A. Quen Henderson: Cove Road, water access area; sign says "limited to 3 vehicles". There were 5 vehicles parked there, and his concern is for Emergency Vehicles getting in there. LA: It is not an area we can enforce because it's a civil matter. HF: The people that are parked there most of the time, are those that live there. LA: If the FD needs access, they'll make access at the scene one way or another.
- B. David Hyer: When will Spectrum be up and running? RM talked to Spectrum last week, we have at least 2 problematic areas in town, and it should be addressed tomorrow or Friday (property owner not wanting trees cut). The other is logistical, CMP is looking at easement pole. Hoping to have everything up and running by end of this month or first week in August.
- C. Herb Olson: Can we get Powhattan Road restriped in the warm weather? RM: It's outside this Board's request. Richard Bean said he didn't know which roads he was planning to do next. Perhaps we should increase the striping budget and start playing catch up, but that's the Road Commissioner's decision.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ITEMS

- A. Date for Tax Commitment: HF: The sooner the better. All agree that next Wednesday, July 25th is when the BOS would like to have it or by Wednesday, August 8th at the latest.
- B. Powhatan Road – (2) New speed limit signs went up today. DOT discussed with Road Commissioner. The maximum speed limit posted was 35 mph. RM: I've always been under the assumption that it was 45 mph if unposted until you reach the school zone and then it changes to 15 mph during school operating times. David Hyer: I thought it was 45 mph and found no justification to repost it except for the school zone. Specific items I read on State of Maine website included 1) Reducing the speed limit below what is warranted is detrimental to safety. 2) In Maine, State Law authorizes Maine DOT and chief of police as the only entity to change or post speed limit and 3) If the town creates or changes the speed limit or erects signs without going through proper process there is no legal right and it is un-enforceable. (Submitted into public record) BOS agree that this is what they had been told. LA will check this out with DOT.
- C. Little Free Library: AP: This organization is looking to provide free books to the community. They would put it up and stock it and books would be available 24/7. Anyone passing by can take a book to read or leave one for someone else to find. They requested to put it out front near the mail box at the TO. RM: The Community Hall would lend itself better. It's very congested here and it should be in a safer location. Near the split rail fence at the rear entrance would be the better location. HF to place a stake marking where it can go.
- D. Road Name Change: Request received asking to change Birch Lane to Nappi Lane: Richard St. John says there isn't much of a road there, but there's a fee for making a change like this, because there's a lot of paperwork involved. HF: What was his rationale? AP: He would like it to be his name and he's the only one down there. RM: Still property on either side of it. HF: I don't think it should be changed without notifying other property owners on that road. RM: I'm not opposed to it if there's a legitimate reason, if it doesn't affect anyone, but there should be a name that all property owners agree with. Can we find out who the abutters are? *Tabled until an upcoming meeting.
- F. Update on Otisfield Beach: AP:
- 1) Started with 2 locks being cut a couple weeks ago and we now have a 3rd lock on the gate.
 - 2) Picnic table was destroyed and now we are down to 3 tables and 1 is broken.
 - 3) A small fire was set on the beach where a turtle buried her eggs.
 - 4) Beach sign was stolen.
 - 5) Friday we heard kids were getting sick going in the lake so we sent a sample to the lab and we had to close the lake because coliform tests came back at 584ppm and it should be 0 with a maximum threshold of 250. Typically geese, ducks and very little rain are the cause. We need to test it every day until we get the ok that levels are where they should be. AP will be bringing another sample to Auburn tomorrow. Currently locked and 2 signs stating beach is closed due to contaminated water until further notice. TT has posted on website.
 - 6) Otisfield Beach Parking lot policy: HF: next town meeting we can incorporate the Beach Parking Lot policy into an ordinance. The Beach Policy should also be incorporated into an Ordinance. HF also recommending we make a sign that says "cottages may not use this parking area and vehicles will be towed at owner's expense". RM: I'm all for the sign ASAP. All agree to order signs.
*Motion to put the policy in place. HF/LA – Unanimous. Discussion: Policy can be changed if needed. LA: I would recommend that whoever locks the gate should check to see if there are cars down there and if there is, they should be towed.
 - 7) Gate Keeper: RM: are we accomplishing anything by locking the gate? We are spending thousands of dollars to have someone lock it. If our goal is to stop vandalism, we are not doing a good job at it, if it's to stop beach use, we are.
- G. CMP Pole: Need a pole permit on Ahonen Road. *Motion that we sign a pole permit on the Ahonen Road for Central Maine Power. LA/HF – Unanimous.
- H. Community Hall: LA: The men's room toilet seat is broken at the Community Hall. AP will have this taken care of.

8. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

- A. None.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Transfer Station – Recycling compactor
- B. John O'Donnell – Re-evaluation discussion.
- C. Bishop Adjustment Service – Town Hall Building

10. SELECTMEN'S ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED & VOTED ON

- A. Town Warrant: *Motion to sign Warrants # 60 and Warrant # 1 to pay the town bills. LA/RM - Unanimous.
- B. HF: Memorial Day Flag raising: HF: We had some problems this year with what could have been serious injuries at the corner of Rayville and 121 intersection. This location is an accident waiting to happen. I've looked into any special meaning behind having it at this location and after talking to Jean Hankins, we couldn't determine any reason why it's here other than it's always been done here. Recommending we have future ceremonies at the Community Hall. It's much safer and has more parking. All agree this would be a better location. All agree that placing a flagpole at Hall behind the well would be an ideal location. DP: There is a lot of poison ivy down there that needs to be addressed before next May. All agree. HF: Proposing we put the flag down there with a 2" galvanized pipe, 24' pole and all the necessary accessories for a price of \$475.00 with installation. A solar light can be placed under the flag to shine up at it. All agree to use buildings and grounds money. *Motion that we spend the \$475.00 to have the flag pole installed at the Community Hall. HF/RM – Unanimous. HF will call and get it set up. Annie will get the round up for poison ivy.

11. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

- A. HF: Street Light: Suggesting we use the existing CMP pole, with a street light there to illuminate that beach entrance area. All agree that a light on that pole can have a separate meter controlled by CMP on it. LA: they will just charge a flat rate. That pole is probably 40-50 feet from the gate and a light aimed down there would brighten up that area. LA: That might be good for the FD as well. *Motion that we put the light up. LA/RM – Unanimous. Discussion: Camera system might be a good idea down there too if we continue to have the destructive behavior that's been happening. It's been about 7 or 8 years since we've had any issues down there until recently Hoping that it goes away. All agree that "If you see something, say something" and want that being done out there.
- B. RM: Transfer Station: New recycling compactor equipment is operational and it has been checked out by Atlantic Recycling. Looking to create a screen behind bin to prevent wind from pulling trash debris out. The next phase will be to remove the old broken, tattered wood that's on the trash side and replace it with pressure treated wood. Everything is working well down there. HF: I think we need Field Electric to get back there. When 2 were turned on at the same time, it could cause a problem RM: that's human error and it shouldn't be happening. Atlantic has already said it "would" work if you push two buttons at the same time. This will result in a higher CMP power bill because of it causing a commercial peak demand. Rick & Hal will discuss further.
- C. AP: EcoMaine Update: Complimentary letter received and posted on website. It said "Right from the start Otisfield has had recycling loads that are in the top 5 cleanest of all of our member towns ... It's so gratifying to see a town come on board with us and do such an amazing job with getting the correct materials into the recycling from the start". All agreed this was a nice compliment to Eric and the residents and they hope to keep up the good work!

- D. **HF:** John E. O'Donnell & Associates: An email was sent to AP suggesting an \$8,400.00 increase because we didn't commit to a re-evaluation. All agree it sent the wrong tone. LA: We could always look into other assessor's. HF: We were not on any list and we were going with what the State guidelines suggested. RM: Do we have any time to look into other options? Who does Waterford's? AP will call Waterford to see who they use and do they like it? All agree to sign it for now but to look into other options. No reassessment needed at this time, but we will accept their rebid.
- E. **LA:** Town Truck purchase: Went to Augusta and talked to Scott, he was going to send what he sold the town of Greenwood. I did like what I saw, when looking quickly. They are quoting the best diesel on the market today. AP: Can we try before we buy. LA: I hope so, but I haven't gotten that far yet. HF: we have 3 separate bids for the outfitting. We received bids from; Morrison & Sylvester out of Auburn, Whited Peterbuilt Dealer and O'connor GMC out of Augusta. HF: We should also consider going with someone fairly close in case there is work for maintenance. RM: I want the people who drive the trucks to have a say in what we buy. I personally will not vote to buy a truck without the highway department's / town employees input and approval. The actual drivers. Not the Road Commissioner's, not the Selectmen's and not the public's. Only because none of us are behind the wheel on a daily basis. LA would like to look into it further and call Morrison and see if that price is what they are bidding. RM: Comparison of specs are necessary. All agree more bids would be better. LA will get in touch with Freightliner. *Tabled until an upcoming meeting.
- F. **HF:** Flex time: There needs to be an understanding there is no more than 2 hours of flex time a week and that it cannot be accumulated. It's time for another staff meeting. All agree.
- G. **HF:** Thompson Lake dam: The next meeting is scheduled for August 2nd. Dan Peaco and Hal are on the committee for Otisfield. Poland is choosing not to contribute this year. HF plans to attend and discuss this and town contributions to TIEA at the August 4th meeting of TIEA.

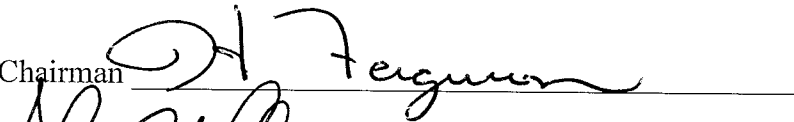
12. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Motion to enter into executive session pursuant to MSRSA §405(6)(A) to discuss personnel issues.
*Motion to close executive session by ___ 2nd ___, All Y-N. Discussion:
***No Executive Session held this meeting.**

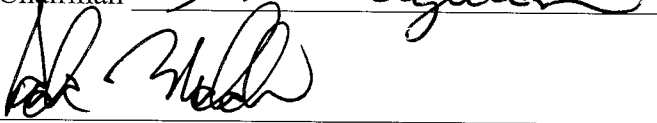
13. ADJOURNMENT. *Motion to adjourn at 9:25 PM. HF/LA-Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Tanya Taft, Secretary
Approved by:

Hal Ferguson, Chairman



Rick Micklon



Lenny Adler

Approved on August 1, 2018

