

**METING MINUTES
TOWN OF ST. ALBANS
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Monday, June 22, 2020 6:00 p.m.**

Roster: Todd Brown, Vice Chairman
Peter Denbow, Selectman
Hiram Weymouth, Chairman
Richard Fisher, Town Manager
Brady Snowman, Road Commissioner
Tim Kuespert, Fire Chief

Chairman Weymouth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

Public Forum

Alyssa Worster - Alyssa Worster had questions about a proposed baseball clinic by the Big Indian League. She explained that each town is handling the clinic in a different way due to COVID-19. She expressed her concern over her understanding that the town would be liable for any injury and wanted to know if our insurance would include Covid- 19.

Manager Fisher asked if the league had insurance. Alyssa stated that the league did not have insurance. They left the little league program partially due to exorbitantly high insurance costs and their current team currently does not carry insurance. She stated that when the children play on Newport's fields if someone gets hurt, Newport is responsible and they assumed that is the same in every town. After further discussion with Ms. Worster, Chairman Weymouth requested the Town Manager obtain legal guidance from the Maine Municipal Association and provide that information to Alyssa Worster and the Selectmen at their next meeting.

1. **Public Hearing- Secret Ballot Referendum for Sunday Alcohol Sales** – Chairman Weymouth opened the Hearing. Chairman Weymouth asked if there was anyone present to testify at the Hearing. Finding no response, the Hearing was closing by unanimous consent of the Board of Selectmen.

New Business

2. **Approve and sign minutes from June 8, 2020 meeting**
The Town Manager requested the minutes be tabled. *Motion by Peter Denbow to table until the next meeting. Seconded by Todd Brown. All in Favor.*
3. **Town Clerk Position**
Manager Fisher introduced the new Town Clerk, Carolyn Bowden. He requested the Board approve the Town Clerk's hourly rate at \$15.00 per hour. *Motion by Todd Brown seconded by Peter Denbow to set the Town Clerk's salary at \$15.00 per hour.*

4. **Truck Bid - Open Bids and Take Action-** There were four bidders

Whited Pbit of Maine 207 Perry Road Bangor, Maine 04401	Automatic Transmission Manual Transmission (Peterbuilt)	\$112,852.00
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Freightliner and Western Star of Maine 10 Terminal Street Westbrook, Maine 04092	Automatic Transmission Manual Transmission (Western Star)	\$117,542
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Portland North Truck Center 110 Gray Rd. Falmouth, ME 04105	Automatic Transmission Manual Transmission (International)	\$104,180.00 \$101,810.00
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Daigle & Houghton 130 Market St Fort Kent, ME 04743	Automatic Transmission Manual Transmission (International)	\$102,768.00 \$100,584.00
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	Automatic Transmission (Western Star)	\$110,000.00
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Colwell Diesel Service 192 Down East Highway Ellsworth, Maine	Automatic Transmission Manual Transmission (International)	\$109,000. \$107,500
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Motion by Peter Denbow to receive the bids and table the bids until they can be reviewed for the next meeting. Seconded by Todd Brown. All in Favor

5. **Appoint Ballot Clerks (retroactive to May 2020)**

Motion by Todd Brown to appoint the ballot clerks as listed by the Town Clerk retroactive to May 1 2020. Seconded by Hiram Weymouth. All in Favor.

6. **Fire Station Repairs**

The Fire Department was represented by Chief Kuespert. The Siding would be replaced on two sides. The best estimate is from Jay's Construction at \$2,763.00 for both sides and a new side door installation. The best estimate for the garage door replacement is PDQ Door at \$5,070.00. Chief Kuespert stated that entire project will cost about \$7800.00. Manager Fisher informed the Board that the town has \$2500 budgeted for the project and that the remainder would come from the Fire Department reserve account. *Motion by Hiram Weymouth to move forward with the repair project at the fire station, Seconded by Todd Brown. All in Favor.*

7. Junk and Abandoned Cars Complaints

There was a long discussion about abandoned cars and illegal junkyards. An unidentified resident complained about the cars and junk on Mason Corner Road, that it is the worst he has ever seen. Manager Fisher agreed to discuss the matter with the Code Officer to see if there was something he could do about the situation.

8. Realtor Requests for Property Cards

Manager Fisher informed the Selectmen that he is considering having the Town Clerk, once trained, scan in the property cards so that the repeated property card requests from Realtors (which the town employees spend 15-20 minutes preparing) for which there is no charge.

Old Business

9. Fire Company SOP

The Selectmen agreed to have their changes ready by the next meeting.

10. Fire Department Report

The Chief reported that everything is going well and that their roster has increased to 28 firefighters. Peter Denbow asked if the Fire Department was planning any fundraisers. Chief Kuespert replied that they are working on a cookbook.

11. IT Contract

After discussion with Gregory Crump [Peter Denbow made a motion to retain Mr. Crump for IT purposes as per his fee schedule. Seconded by Todd Brown. All in Favor.]

12. Pond Rd Tree Removal – Legal Review

Manager Fisher, Road Commission Snowman, and the Selectmen discussed the legal response from Maine Municipal Association of allowing public works vehicles/equipment on private land providing the work is in the public interest. Manager Fisher agreed to prepare a Hold Harmless Agreement, and prepare a Motion that spells out the reasons for removing trees on private property.

13. Condemnation Ordinance Update

Since this was discussed earlier, Manager Fisher discussed the King Property with the Board and provided options. Peter Denbow asked if we could get the money back if we tore it down for ten thousand dollars. Manager Fisher replied that the property would have to have a lien placed on it first. Manager Fisher described the difference between enforcing a local code and using the State law where you can't recover your legal fees. Manager Fisher suggested the town approach Capital One and try to find an amicable solution. Board asked Manager Fisher to contact Capital One.

14. Road Commissioner Report

Grader is broken down. There is brush that stills need clearing off and there is high grass on the road shoulders that he will be cutting back the weeds. There was discussion on road conditions at Melody and Square Road.

15. Committee Report

A. Lake Committee

The Lake Committee met and afterwards they walked to the dam and learned how to use the dam controls. Present for the dam control self-taught lesson was Jamie Cooper, Hiram Weymouth, Richard Fisher, and Dennis Smith. Manager Fisher purchased and picked up seven new buoys and ~~Dennis~~ Dennis and Jamie are coordinating the purchase of the rest of the materials.

B. Recreation Committee

Manager Fisher is concerned that the Recreation Committee does not meet and it is hard to know what their needs are, how they operate, and how our fields are being utilized. Mr. Crump stated he is on the Recreation Committee and would work with Mr. Fisher on reestablishing the committee formally.

16. Selectmen Report

Todd Brown will not be able to attend a Zoom meeting for First Park due to a conflict. Hiram Weymouth – the transfer station is in good shape but the MRC is looking for the 14million dollars to get it back up and operate...they have 60 days until the lawsuits will start. It was only open for a month, Hiram said. Nobody has been paid. It needs some repairs to fine tune it. There are 110 towns contractually obligated for 60 days. Everything is now going to the landfills.

17. Manager Report

Manager Fisher applied for a grant for Covid-19 awareness campaign. The grant amount was for approximately \$7,000.00. Inland Fisheries have provided an updated plan. Their goal is to bid it out in the Fall but construction could fall back until Spring. The mailers went out today. It cost \$147.00 to mail to everyone in town using the Postal Service EDDM.

The Selectmen approved Treasurer Warrants. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Richard Fisher , Manager

Hiram Weymouth, Chairman

Todd Brown, Vice-Chairman

Peter Denbow, Selectman

Date: July 27, 2020