

TOWN OF CUSHING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of Meeting
October 28, 2019
Cushing Community Center

Selectmen Present: Chair Alton Grover; Selectmen Corey Jones, Laurie Haynes, Martha Marchut, and Dan Staples

Selectmen Absent: none

Staff Present: Town Clerk Lisa Young

Public Present: William Smith and Willard Payson

1. Call to Order: Chair Alton Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and a quorum was determined.

2. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Approve and sign the Warrant:

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Selectwoman Laurie Haynes, to approve 2019 Warrants 42 and 43.

Discussion: none

Motion Carried 5-0-0

4. Review and approve the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting

ACTION: Selectwoman Martha Marchut made a motion, seconded by Corey Jones, to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting with three changes.

Discussion: Martha made a request that on page 2 at the bottom of the page, two spots have right away and they should be corrected to right of way. On page 3, where it says Lisa said Dan Staples appointed, it was not accurate as he was not appointed, it should be changed to Dan made a motion that was later rescinded. In discussion about snow plow, a certain language word should not be included in the minutes. On the last page, Laurie talked about single stream recycling and Hampden having opportunity to make a lot more money because they pay less in tonnage, she [Martha] doesn't feel that's accurate, they have an opportunity to get a lot more money because they pay less in tonnage in recyclable material than they do for trash but she doesn't think it follows Hampden getting a lot more money as a result. Martha summarized they [Hampden] just pay less for recyclable than trash.

Motion Carried 4-0-1, Dan Staples abstained

5. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:

5a. Cushing Community Center use application

ACTION: Selectwoman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Martha Marchut, to approve allowing the M.P.H.A. to use the CCC meeting room on November 16.

Discussion: Lisa gave the Board an application submitted by the Meduncook Plantation Homeowners Association to use the CCC meeting room to hold their annual meeting on November 16, 2019 (time to be determined). Lisa added that if approved they will provide proof of insurance for use of the room.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

6. Unfinished Business:

6a. Salt Pond Road ditching

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Alton told the Board it will be done. Laurie asked if it was going out to bid or what was decided. Alton said no we're just going to do it. Laurie then asked about the culvert. Alton replied we have to wait on that because there's too much water going through it right now.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

6b. Good Neighbor Park parking lot

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Corey asked about the new parking lot at Good Neighbor Park, if Meklin was going to come back and address the puddle in the middle. Alton said he discussed it with them this morning, they have been down to look at it and know they have to come back and fix it.

6c. Discuss appointing an Appeals Board Member

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Laurie Haynes, to appoint Robert Stackpole and Jonathan Harrington as members of the Appeals Board

Discussion: Alton asked if anyone wants the job. Corey said he talked to Bobby Stackpole and he will take one of the positions. Alton asked if there was more than one. Lisa said there are two open and one alternate available, and that Brooke Harrington also applied. Corey said Ray Meservey resigned, and one was already open. Laurie said she has a new neighbor that is trying to be more involved in the community and they may be interested in one of the positions. Dan asked if those were the only two that applied, Lisa confirmed it was. Lisa asked about the terms as in who was replacing who as far as which positions were available. She said they're usually 5 year terms, and Arthur Kiskila's former position expires in 2019 and Ray's expires in 2020. Dan suggested giving Brooke [Jonathan] Arthur's position and Bob the longer one.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

7. New Business:

7a. Fire Chief Clarence Flanders addressed the Board

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Laurie Haynes, to allow the Fire Department and Rescue Squad to purchase a door with a keypad at the Fire Station

Discussion: Clarence said they've had some times where people were in the building that shouldn't have been because they had a key. Clarence said he has talked with Danny and he feels if the Board is

okay with a keypad, the two departments would like to split the cost of a new door. Clarence said that way when someone is no longer on one of the departments, they can change the code and not worry about people having keys to the building. Alton asked if that account was close on the budget, and said they have to be careful. Lisa said the accounts he is talking about aren't. Corey said Viking should be able to set them up with everything, pad and door. He said if you give measurements of the door and tell them what you want for a keypad you should be able to get a price on it all right through them. Clarence asked if the Town has an account there, Alton said they do. Alton and Clarence also informed the Board that Thomaston was going to be bringing a ladder truck down to help repair the flagpole. Lisa added that during the last storm, the Town had a good Samaritan who drove by and noticed the flag was laying on the ground and he picked it up and folded it up correctly and set it in the flower box by the door.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

7b. Open bids for annual audit

ACTION: Selectman Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Martha Marchut, to accept the bid of \$4,900 from Maine Municipal Audit Services, PA for the Town's annual audit

Discussion: Lisa said she mailed out to four audit firms and put it in the paper and all they got was one response. She added no one even called to ask about it. Alton opened bid, received by Maine Municipal Audit Services in Levant, ME and read, "with the option of renewal at the same fee until December 31, 2023 is \$4,900." Alton asked what it was last time. Lisa said she thought it was around \$4,000, may have been \$4,500 but she would have to double check. Dan added that since there are no other options, we should take it.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

7c. Annual Town Meeting

ACTION: none taken

Discussion: Dan Staples mentioned the possibility of moving the Town Meeting up a couple weeks to make the March elections one day instead of two, since the Primaries are an election this year instead. Dan said it is all depending on the printing of the town report. Lisa said they have been talking about it some, but she is a little nervous because that means everything has to be done earlier. Lisa said she spoke with Good Impressions and to have the reports ready for an earlier Town Meeting, the latest he could receive everything would be by February 3, 2020. Lisa said if you move it up, it also moves up the times the nomination papers are taken out and when they are due back so many days before the election. She said if it's something we decide to go, nomination papers would be available starting November 22, 2019, and due back by January 3, 2020. She said it also means that the budget committee would also have to have all the numbers and articles done to be approved by the Selectman. Martha asked what the reason for wanting to do this. Dan said he feels it would be more efficient. Lisa said it will voting 8-8 on a Tuesday, so Town Meeting would be a Wednesday night. Dan reminded it is just a suggestion. Laurie said she doesn't understand what is what, she understands the why, but not what would be what days. Lisa said typically Town Meeting begins with voting 2-8 on a Monday, the 3rd week of March, and Town Meeting is the following Tuesday night, she said this year if they decide to change to make Town voting the same day as the Primary voting, it would make voting 8-8 Tuesday the first week of March, and Town Meeting Wednesday night. Dan said it just makes the Primary election and Town meeting election all in one week instead of one being one week and another the next week, again saying it seems more efficient for the girls. Martha said in exchange for it being more efficient, she feels it sounds like it could be a real push and a hassle to get everything pulled together sooner. Lisa agreed that does concern her because they often wait for everyone to get their reports in on time. Alton asked if it would be real complicated to keep it the same as it is. Dan said no, you just have two elections back to back instead of one. Corey said it cuts election time and costs in half, the first year it might be

harder but after that it would be normal. Lisa said the only thing is that Primaries aren't every year, so then do you go back to the regular way or leave it as changed. Martha asked if deadlines would be moved up just a week or more than a week. Lisa said print deadline would be February 3rd and it's usually around February 17th so it would be two weeks. Lisa added the paper stuff isn't an issue, it's just moving up the date's papers can be taken out and returned in time to print ballots and such. Alton felt it should be kept the same and be less confusing. Dan just thought it would be condensed and save money, one election instead of two. Lisa said she would also have to check with Mindy to see if the audit would be done in time. Alton thought they should be able to see if everything can be lined up and decide at the next meeting. Laurie said she saw both sides, the positives and the concerns, but she feels if it does get changed, it should be consistent and follow the same every year despite being a Primary year or not. Martha said she felt that working election Tuesday, being up late counting ballots Tuesday night, then work Wednesday and Town Meeting Wednesday night seems like a lot on the staff, too. Lisa said she isn't totally sold on it, but she isn't totally against it either. Alton thinks it'll confuse everyone, and no one will come to the meeting.

8. Comments from Citizens: Nick Smith asked when is Town Meeting, Lisa answered normally the 3rd week of March, voting Monday and meeting Tuesday, but will be decided if that changes next meeting. He also asked about the mud puddle in the parking lot, pointing out he finds it funny that it was put there when it was already a low spot and wet so many months out of the year. Alton said that's where the State wanted it. Nick asked if the State approved that. Alton answered yes, the Town got a permit for it, and they're [Meklin] going to come back and fix it.

---Executive Session---

The Select Board entered into Executive Session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(F), to discuss a confidential record, at 6:39 p.m. A motion was made by Selectman Alton Grover and seconded by Daniel Staples to go into Executive Session.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Selectwoman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Dan Staples, to enter back into the regular scheduled meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

ACTION: Selectwoman Laurie Haynes made a motion, seconded by Martha Marchut, to have Lisa get a documentation request for Dan Staples to hand deliver requesting verification of all income and expenses (copies of bills) for two months, along with the three-page application.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

9. Adjourn

ACTION: Selectman Corey Jones made a motion, seconded by Laurie Haynes, to adjourn at 7:09 p.m.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Jones
Recording Secretary