

TOWN OF CUSHING  
SELECT BOARD  
Minutes of Meeting  
Monday, November 8, 2021  
Cushing Community Center

**Selectmen Present:** Chairperson Alton Grover; Selectpeople Tracey Bally, Craig Currie, and Daniel Staples

**Selectmen Absent:** Martha Marchut

**Staff Present:** Town Clerk Lisa Young

**Public Present:** Cheryl Stackpole and Andrew Blanchard

**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:** Selectperson Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Craig Currie, to approve 2021 Warrants 47 and 48

**Discussion:** none

**Motion Carried 4-0-0**

**4. Review and approve the minutes of the October 25, 2021 meeting**

**ACTION:** Selectperson Craig Currie made a motion, seconded Tracey Bally, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2021 meeting as amended

**Discussion:** Lisa said the part Alton had asked about came from the previous meeting about the town truck heading and has been corrected. Alton noted under 7b under the bench discussion, it said Dan said Kristi somewhere, but the word said should be saw.

**Motion Carried 3-0-1 (Dan abstained)**

**5. Additions and Changes to the Agenda:**

**5a. Town Reports**

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion** Craig asked if there was any update on the printing of the town reports. Lisa said she had not heard anymore. Lisa said Tracey could do the pdf part if we do go with him, too.

## 5b. Hoops

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion:** Lisa asked if the tool to raise and lower the hoops, instead of being kept inside, could be pad locked to the hoops outside so they could be used to raise or lower them while still keeping them secure from being stolen. Cheryl Stackpole said that piece did get broken at the school, but she felt it was intentional in that situation not from misuse. She said in Owls Head at the school they are kept the hoop with a cable and secured with a lock. Lisa said Danika had raised it for an adult using the hoops the other day and they just felt that might be a good option. Dan said he didn't see any reason not to. Alton agreed to put them on a cable and lock them to the hoops.

## 6. Unfinished Business:

### 6a. ARPA funds

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion:** Craig said he did not have much of an update except there still has been no final word from the Department of Treasury and their final rules. He said they are still interim final rules at this point. Dan said he did call MMA on using the Amish and he said they don't have insurance and was advised they can't do that. Andrew Blanchard said he was just made aware of this money last week and said a lot of towns are making the money available to first responders. He said he received an email from someone who gave him an outline on what the money could be used for. He asked if they were looking for ways to spend the money. Craig said they were just waiting for final guidelines on how the money can be spent. He said their contact at MMA is kind of an expert on ARPA and felt the rules would expand vs. get smaller but they aren't certain. He said right now they'll only get half, so right now they have \$79,000. He said the other half should come next April or May. He said Andy is right, it does look like EMS definitely is qualified. He said fire is not, but what makes it interesting is doing some repairs to the Fire Dept. building which can now happen because the ambulance is housed in the building, as well. Andy said we do have some new equipment we would like to purchase, about \$16,000, that if we could use some of that money for it, it would help being a small department we don't have that money to spend on our own. Craig said the general consensus is until we get the final guidelines, we aren't really making any decisions. Craig said it is in an interest-bearing account which all interest we do get to keep. Craig said we also potentially would like to bring it up at the March Town Meeting. Dan said he is not against the equipment Andy is talking about but said there are two buildings in dyer need of help, and instead of piece-mealing the projects, this money could just repair the two buildings (Fire Department and Food Pantry) completely. Andy just requested to be kept in the loop as the spending of the money comes up as final decisions are made.

### 6b. Sandy Lane

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion:** Alton said they don't have any more information on Sandy Lane other than numbers if anyone wants to call for more information. Dan had a paper that Martha had typed up and had the contact information for Michael at the DEP. It sounded as if they don't hear anything the project could move quicker, but if they get concerns it could take a little longer. Lisa noted she had posted that information for Martha as well, so the public has the information. Craig said the abutters were also notified. Dan said everyone that has needed to be notified has been, and he feels we've dotted our I's and crossed our T's and there's not much more we can do.

## 6c. Ambulance

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion:** Andy said he has talked to Tom Shook and the new ambulance is looking at possibly being delivered the end of this month or the first of next month. He said it is on the assembly line now and should be delivered to Brunswick by end of the month and then set up to come here. He added it will have a power stretcher with it, too. Andy said he can't speak for the Fire Department but had heard they are looking at possibly the end of next summer before the new fire truck arrives. Dan said he had heard July probably.

## 6d. Bench at Good Neighbor Park

**ACTION:** Selectperson Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Craig Currie, to engrave the bench next spring. They will put Fales and Wales on it.

**Discussion:** Alton said he has got more information on engraving the bench. He said the guy didn't suggest doing a plaque or a post. He suggested the engraving which would be \$300-350. He said he had at first asked for it to be brought over to him, but the guy then said he could go to the bench in the summer to come engrave it in the field (when the field can be driven on). Dan clarified it will come out of the GNP funds.

**Motion Carried 4-0-0**

## 7. New Business:

### 7a. Friends and Family of Cushing Community School request to use the gym

**ACTION:** Selectperson Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Tracey Bally, to approve the Friends and Family of Cushing School to use the gym for their wreath fundraiser and possibly the Holiday shop

**Discussion:** Cheryl said they've always done school fundraisers but unfortunately with the school restrictions, their gym isn't just used for gym anymore and there's no space to have an area for sorting. She said if it's a nice day, outside can work but there are no guarantees with weather and also noted at pick up time the area is pretty congested with parents picking students up. She said if it's a nice day we could utilize the parking lot here, but like last year it was a snow day, so would like to be able to use inside the gym to sort. She added right now we only have the wreath fundraiser scheduled but have thought about possibly doing a Little Caesar's pizza one sometime this winter, too. Dan said the kids are able to come down here and use the library anyway, so he felt being a school function he didn't have any problem with it. He said according to what Sami told him there's just a couple parents inside sorting then people drive up and grab their order and go. Cheryl said her only in addition, that Sami hadn't talked about, was that every year we also do a Christmas Holiday Shop at the school. She said this isn't a fundraiser, this is when the parent group purchases gifts, and the students shop for family, and we wrap it all for them. Cheryl noted again, it's a space issue, we don't have anywhere at the school to now set that up. She said we're not sure if that will even happen this year, but asked if we are able to do it, would this space also be able to be used for that too. She said either the school could walk classes down to shop during the school day, or possibly have an after school from 3-4 pm shopping hour as a second option. Dan said his biggest problem with that right now would be the covid stuff and allowing too many people inside. Craig said they all follow covid protocols and wear masks. Lisa added they were all here using the bathroom when they had the water issue at the school a few weeks ago. Cheryl said we used to do it at the school gym, and they would come by class, bigger classes being split in half, to keep numbers down and keep it from being too chaotic. She said this would potentially be the same thing only

in this location. Dan asked if this is hypothetical. Cheryl said right now it is because she's not sure if this event will even happen this year and how the school would feel about walking them all over. She said there is just no day or space in the school this year to allow it all to be set up so we're either not doing it or trying to come up with an alternate location to bring up with the school as a solution. She said the next meeting is in a couple weeks and she just doesn't want to propose it as an option if it isn't able to be an option. Cheryl said we are just trying to see what our options are as the children really enjoy it and look forward to it. Craig felt as long as the same school protocols are followed, it seems okay as the gym is pretty big. Cheryl said for many of these kids it is the only time they are able to purchase gifts for their parents. She again said we're not sure we can even coordinate it with the school, she is just trying to be proactive to see if it can be an option. Alton feels it could be a good option and he feels okay with it as long as they wear masks. Tracey agreed, too, stating it is a community building. Dan just said we need to follow the proper rules and guidelines. Cheryl asked if she could leave it as an open option, if the school will consider it. Dan said yes, you have permission once we make the motion. Cheryl said her only other question was hoping to do the wreaths on a day the Town Office was open but said we could only do a Tuesday and asked if that should be a problem. Lisa said she is usually here Tuesdays but added Sami can get in if she is still doing it.

### **Motion Carried 4-0-0**

#### **7b. Trees on Killeran Lane**

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion:** Alton said he still hasn't heard back on a price. Said he will try to get more information before the next meeting.

#### **7c. Flags for Veteran graves**

**ACTION:** none taken

**Discussion:** Alton said he was supposed to receive a letter from Gene Grant, which they haven't yet. He said he is unable to get help to do the flags on the Veteran's graves, but he seems to get nervous on finding help to do it every year. Lisa said when she spoke with him he was kind of asking if the Town could create a committee to help take this on every year. Craig asked if there are anymore high school kids needing community service hours. Tracey said she was thinking the same thing. Lisa felt maybe Taylor Stenger, on the cemetery board, might head it as she thinks he is a Veteran. She said Gene would show someone the graves and thought Taylor could head it and get high schoolers to help for community service hours. Cheryl said you can also contact the high school and they put out weekly letters with community service options available.

#### **8. Comments from Citizens: none**

#### **---Executive Session---**

The Select Board entered into Executive Session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E) for consultation with legal counsel at 6:34 p.m. A motion was made by Chairperson Alton Grover and seconded by Dan Staples, to go into Executive Session.

### **Motion Carried 4-0-0**

Selectperson Dan Staples motioned, seconded by Alton Grover, to enter back into the main meeting at 7:01 p.m.

**Motion Carried 4-0-0**

**ACTION:** Selectperson Dan Staples made a motion, seconded by Tracey Bally, to authorize Scott and Kristin to take legal action against the owners and occupants at 35 Cottage Lane, and to go to court if necessary

**Discussion:** none

**Motion Carried 4-0-0**

## **9. Adjourn**

**ACTION:** Selectperson Craig Currie made a motion, seconded by Tracey Bally, to adjourn at 7:03 p.m.

**Motion Carried 4-0-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Jones  
Recording Secretary