MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

May 20, 2019 6:00 PM

**Selectboard Attendance:** Melinda Steeves, 1st Selectman

Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

Henry Hall, 3rd Selectman

**Town Officials:** Administrator Kenn Ortmann, Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds

**Guest(s):**  None

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:05 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the May 13, 2019 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments**
   1. **Correspondence regarding Marshall Shore:** TA Ortmann shared a third email he received from an individual outside of Liberty not pleased with the new parking restrictions. TA Ortmann sent our standard response explaining that our neighbors are still welcome to enjoy the Marshall Shore recreation area but they have to find another way to get there other than their own motorized vehicle.
5. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** None.
   2. **Revaluation project status report:** In response to numerous constituent questions, the Selectboard asked TA Ortmann to see if we can narrow in on a timeframe when Maine Assessment & Appraisal Services will be sending out the draft property cards for property owners to review.
   3. **2018 State inspection report for municipally owned bridge structures in Liberty:** TA Ortmann reported we have received what is supposed to be our 2018 annual report, but that it is dated 9/1/16. He has sent an email to see if the report date is incorrect or if the incorrect report was attached to the email.
6. **Old Business** 
   1. **Update on lots on Belfast Augusta Road with two structures:** TA Ortmann reported he has heard nothing yet from either party. The Selectboard asked TA Ortmann to have CEO Donald Harriman check out the new fence that was installed within the Shoreland protection zone.
   2. **ATV Club roadway use permission request:** Road Commissioner Reynolds confirmed that the ATV club has been using a section of Back Palermo Rd. for years and she has no problem with its use as long as the ATVs stay off of the shoulders. She also noted that there are State regulations governing how roadways are used by ATVs.
   3. **MMA guidance regarding activities benefiting a specific property owner:** TA Ortmann reported that he had asked MMA about the request we received about the Town paying for the extension of electricity for about ½ mile along Back Palermo Rd. The response was that they do not think that the Town can pay to extend power to allow a private residence to connect to the electrical grid, even if voters appropriated the money at a Town Meeting. To do so would, in their opinion, violate the Maine Constitution’s “public purpose” clause, which requires that public funds be expended only for public purposes (see Opinion of the Justices, 560 A.2d 552 (Me. 1989)).

This is important guidance that is applicable to any situation where an individual asks the Town to take action that does not benefit the public as a whole.

* 1. **Other:** None.

1. **New Business**
   1. **Sign warrant and notice of election for RSU 3:** Done.
   2. **Other:** None
2. **"11th hour" items:** None
3. **Adjournment:** 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator