MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

June 3, 2019 6:00 PM

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

Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

***Excused:*** *Henry Hall, 3rd, Selectman due to a vacation*

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

**Guest(s):**  Linda Breslin, President, C.A.L.L., Robert Kohl, C.A.L.L. Board Member

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:05 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Peavey moved and Selectman Steeves seconded approval of the May 20, 2019 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments:** See Lake St. George dam update below
5. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** TA Ortmann shared an article about the Liberty Library art series, an article about the concert series at Liberty Craft Brewing, and a letter to the editor from Liberty resident Dana Philippi about the Garry Owen House. It is nice when the media covers positive events.
   2. **State revenue sharing & Homestead update:** TA Ortmann shared information about the legislature's actions with respect to increasing the revenue sharing percentage from 2% to 2.5%, closer to the 5% it is supposed to be and about proposed changes to the Homestead Exemption that will increase the exemption and increase the State support to keep the burden on local communities the same.
   3. **Revaluation project status report:**
      1. **Lot combination requests dated after April 1:** TA Ortmann asked for guidance about how to handle lot combination requests received after the April 1 deadline. The Selectboard agreed that we need to adhere to the State's mandate to value property as it exists on April 1 each year.
      2. **Draft property cards expected out July:** TA Ortmann shared Maine Assessment & Appraisal Services commitment to send out the draft property cards in July to provide enough time to meet with property owners who want to challenge or question the new values.
6. **Old Business** 
   1. **Lake St. George dam update:** Linda Breslin, President, C.A.L.L., Robert Kohl, C.A.L.L. Board Member and Tammy Reynolds, Road Commissioner discussed the latest correspondence from Kathy Davis Howatt, Hydropower Coordinator, Bureau of Land Resources, Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). There are questions about some of the information in her correspondence and there are questions about where the Department of Transportation (DOT) plans to locate borings and what information they hope to find. Based on an observation of considerable interaction between DEP and DOT, there is a feeling we should deal with each independently. Pursuant to the discussion, the Selectboard stated its support for C.A.L.L. and Commissioner Reynolds to continue to work with Peter Tuell, CES, Inc., to refine the questions we want to ask DEP and DOT.
   2. **Update on lots on Belfast Augusta Road with two structures:** TA Ortmann noted that the owners of 360 Belfast Augusta Road (Map 26 Lot 2, Account 704) have registered their trailer, addressing the concern the unregistered trailer is considered a second structure on their property pursuant to our Shoreland Zoning Ordinance.

TA Ortmann informed the Selectboard the owner of 366 Belfast Augusta Road (Map 25, Lot 1, Account 148) has received the letter we sent June 3, 2019 and has not contacted us about resolving the issue. Code Enforcement Officer Don Harriman has followed up with an official letter setting a deadline for resolving the problem.

* 1. **Other:** None.

1. **New Business**
   1. **Certificates of Appointment:** TA Ortmann distributed and the Selectboard signed multiple "Certificates of Appointment". He noted this item has now been added to March items on our Yearly Task list.
   2. **Swimming program insurance issues:** The Liberty Selectboard discussed this situation at length last evening. In the end, after considering the potential confusion with our insurance carrier, the Selectboard decided they felt uncomfortable with acting as a "pass-through" for Montville. TA Ortmann will inform Kat Newcombe and the Montville Selectboard.
   3. **Other:** The Selectboard asked TA Ortmann to arrange for the FY19 audit.

The Selectboard also indicated a desire to begin the process of selling property owned by Liberty through foreclosure.

1. **"11th hour" items**
   1. **Budget vs. actual 92% of year:** TA Ortmann shared a report prepared by Treasurer Hatfield showing line item actual compared with budgeted. Our total expenses are about 90% of the budget at 92% of the year with no known major outstanding items.
   2. **Library door update:** TA Ortmann reported on his research on why the reimbursement from MMA was reduced by the $1,000 deductable. When MMA receives reimbursement from the insurance carrier of the individual who backed into and damaged the door they will send us the remaining $1,000.
2. **Adjournment:** 7:36 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator