MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

November 25, 2019 6:00 PM

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

Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

Henry Hall, 3rd Selectman

**Town Officials:** Administrator Kenn Ortmann, EMA Director Elise Brown, Fire Chief Gillespie

**Guest(s):**  Richard Calligan, Calligan Dive Service

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:00 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Hall moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the November 18, 2019. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Richard Calligan came to provide the Selectboard an update on the St. George dam repair project. He showed pictures of the work to date and explained the functions of the various repair components.
4. **Officials/Public comments:** EMA Director Elise Brown noted that she has been asked by the Liberty Ambulance Service to research ambulance organizational options, including moving from being a non-profit organization to becoming a municipal entity. TA Ortmann and Fire Chief Bill Gillespie will work with EMA Director Brown to access information and resources available at the Maine Municipal Association. The goal is to have one or several conceptual ideas to discuss at Town Meeting.

Fire Chief Gillespie noted that Montville and Liberty work together on a number of issues and that it might be worthwhile to begin discussing solid waste disposal issues.

1. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** None
   2. **Revaluation project status report:** None.
   3. **Toys for Tots:** TA Ortmann noted that the Post Office was not able to be one of the collection locations this year so we were asked. He will include that information on our WEB site and ask Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds to mention it on the town's Facebook page as well.
2. **Old Business** 
   1. **Snow Shoveling:** TA Ortmann presented a proposal from Jalen Babin. The Selectboard would like more publicity and additional proposals before making a final decision. They asked TA Ortmann to request that Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds publicize our need on the town's Facebook page as well.
   2. **Other:** None.
3. **New Business**
   1. **County Tax Assessment Survey:** TA Ortmann shared an effort by Maine Sheriffs to introduce legislation increasing the property tax cap to allow them to collect more revenue from municipalities to cover the rising cost of unfunded state mandates that increases inmate costs in county jails. The Selectboard authorized TA Ortmann to complete a MMA survey sharing their opinion that these increasing costs should NOT be borne by municipalities who have no control over county jail policies or expenditures.
   2. **FY21 budget issues:** TA Ortmann noted Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds is interested in repairing the Sand shed back wall. TA Ortmann noted he will be suggesting the creation of a capital reserve fund to begin accumulating funds to pay for computer and office equipment replacements and upgrades.
   3. **Review of Tree Growth properties:** TA Ortmann shared his review of Tree Growth properties and noted that no Tree Growth plans will expire next year.
   4. **Other:** None.
4. **"11th hour" items**
   1. **State of Maine, Department of Public Safety, Office of State Fire Marshal - Christmas tree policy:** TA Ortmann shared the Fire Marshall's policy regarding the use of natural greens and living trees in public buildings. The Town has no situations covered by this policy.
   2. **Waldo County FY2020 budget:** TA Ortmann shared the 120 page Waldo County Budget document and noted the final Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for December 6 at 5:30 PM at the County Commissioners Courtroom at 39B Spring Street in Belfast.
   3. **Report of beaver dam blocking culvert in vicinity of 322 McLain Rd (right after it becomes dirt):** TA Ortmann reported he has forwarded this information to Road Commissioner Reynolds.
5. **Adjournment:** 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator