MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

December 16, 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, CEO Don Harriman

**Guest(s):**  None

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:00 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the December 9, 2019 minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Meeting with Annette Naegel, Director of Conservation, Georges River Land Trust:** Ms. Naegel introduced herself and shared how the Trust has been working with Jenness and James Robbins, who own about 40 acres on Quigg Island in Stevens Pond. The Robbins have been harvesting the property for many years and have let individuals and various groups, like scouts from the Waldo District of the Katahdin Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, hike and enjoy the area. The Georges River Land Trust is planning on submitting a grant request to the Community Forest Program to purchase the property and continue the tradition started by the Robbins family. Ms. Naegel will submit a sample letter of support from the Town that TA Ortmann will bring to the Selectboard for review next week.

Ms. Naegel also noted she has been working with Bob Kohl to see if there might be interest by the Davis family in doing the same thing with property they own off Water Street that includes a trail along the St. Georges River. The major concern of the Selectboard is the need to provide adequate parking.

1. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
2. **Officials/Public comments:** See New Business below.
3. **TA informational items**
	1. **Media stories:** None.
	2. **Budget Committee meeting Wednesday:** TA Ortmann reminded the Selectboard the budget committee's organizational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday. He will share the Selectboard's request that the presentations by Fire Chief Bill Gillespie and Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds be scheduled at a time when the Selectboard can also attend. He will also share the Selectboard's appreciation of the Budget Committee's willingness to have a meeting devoted to hearing Social Service and Recreation requests.
	3. **Aging well application:** TA Ortmann stated that he has met with Barb Rehmeyer and Joan Tax and expects to have a draft Membership application to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities at the meeting next Monday.
4. **Old Business**
	1. **Assessing Agent Contract:** TA Ortmann presented the Maine Assessment & Appraisal Services contract revised to reflect the six-month period of January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. The Selectboard signed the contract.
	2. **Problematic Subdivision:** TA Ortmann explained that he is still working on this project. As he drafts the letter to be sent to the two property owners, his research has revealed two information gaps. One is the lack of versions of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance adopted in 1992 and the 1985 Ordinance that was updated. The other is why the subdivision approved by the Planning Board seems to have allowed the creation, or continued existence, of a lot with frontage less than that apparently required by the 1992 Ordinance. While the Planning Board minutes do not address this mystery, he and Gail Philippi are attempting to contact several residents who were Planning Board members at that time to see if their recollections might help.
	3. **Snow Shoveling:** TA Ortmann noted that he will be working Wednesday instead of Tuesday so he will plan to do some plowing when he arrives Wednesday morning. Town Office staff will have to try to keep the entrance way clear during the storm on Tuesday.
	4. **Other:** None.
5. **New Business**
	1. **Question regarding development of Map 3 Lot 3B, 322 McLain Road:** During the past several weeks the Town Office has received correspondence about a problem with a culvert under McLain Road purportedly being blocked by beavers. Road Commissioner Reynolds explained that the actual problem was culverts that froze during the recent dramatic temperature swings. She reported the frozen culverts were replaced by larger culverts, and, while the roadway was still soft from the construction, we recently received another large rainfall. Both she and the local Warden noted no evidence of any beaver activity blocking the old or new culverts.

During the road and culvert construction activity and the research associated with the beaver complaints it was noted that an adjacent property appears to have structures that are not included in TRIO, that dogs appearing to live on the property are not listed in the 2019 or 2020 Dog License List, and there is no evidence of a permit for, or existence of, any waste water disposal system on site. TA Ortmann was asked to send a certified letter to the property owner asking for information about the lack of dog licensing and about the waste water disposal system being used. He was also asked to check with Maine Assessment & Appraisal Services on the TRIO entry.

* 1. **Other:** None.
1. **"11th hour" items:** None.
2. **Adjournment:** 7:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator