MINUTES

LIBERTY SELECTBOARD

March 9, 2020 6:00 PM

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

Carrie Peavey, 2nd Selectman

Henry Hall, 3rd Selectman

**Town Officials:** Administrator Kenn Ortmann, Fire Chief Bill Gillespie

**Guest(s):**  Bob Kohl

1. **Open Public Meeting:** 6:05 PM
2. **Approve Minutes:** Pursuant to review Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded approval of the March 2, 2020minutes. Unanimous.
3. **Warrant Review and Approval:** Done.
4. **Officials/Public comments:** Bob Kohl informed the Selectboard about an AARP grant application opportunity. He is working with a group that is exploring improving access to Lake St. George at Marshall Shore and access to Stevens Pond near the boat launch area. In addition to the possibility of adding vandal/theft proof benches and tables, one focus is to look at the possibility of stairs or a ramp that would provide more stability and safer access to the water for elderly/frail users of those resources. A parallel aspect may be better separating the swimming and boat launch areas at Stevens Pond. The Selectboard is supportive of these ideas and is willing to support the application process. TA Ortmann will check with Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds about whether the State owns the Stevens Pond boat ramp, and, if so, who to contact regarding some necessary improvements.
5. **TA informational items**
   1. **Media stories:** None.
6. **Old Business** 
   1. **Problematic Subdivision update:** TA Ortmann shared feedback from Attorney Kelly that he is working on this issue.
   2. **Ambulance Service:** Selectman Peavey noted that the article addressing this issue is fairly late in the Montville Town Meeting warrant. Fire Chief Gillespie said he will be discussing this with Montville Selectperson Kathy Roberts to insure he can be at the Liberty Town meeting to address all Fire Department related issues.
   3. **Liberty school funding formula research update:** TA Ortmann shared an email from Superintendent Brown addressing the process of creating a school funding sharing agreement. He has not yet provided information about how or when the current cost-sharing option was adopted nor other possible options. TA Ortmann was asked to contact Richard Frost, School Board Representative, RSU #3 and invite him to a Selectboard meeting to see if we can speed up the flow of information.
   4. **Other:** None.
7. **New Business**
   1. **Waldo County FY20 assessment:** TA Ortmann provided the Selectboard with correspondence stating our share of the County budget is increasing from $260,463 last year to $292,765 this year. This is a 12.4% increase. TA Ortmann will do some further research to see how this compares to previous years.
   2. **Town Administrator job description:** TA Ortmann reflected on how the Town has now had 3+ years of experience with a Town Administrator. He noted that one aspect of having a paid professional taking care of many daily tasks means the Selectboard know less about the minutiae of Town operations. He expressed his opinion that if the Selectboard wants to change the Town Administrator's role or responsibilities, it is important to be clear about who is responsible for what. The Selectboard asked TA Ortmann to prepare an advertisement to be placed in the newspaper.
   3. **2021 Revenue Sharing projection:** TA Ortmann shared some good news that the FY21 Municipal Revenue Sharing projection for Liberty is $82,023 compared to $61,381 last year.
   4. **Coronavirus preparation issues:** Fire Chief Gillespie reported that both the Fire Department and Ambulance service are being proactive in following recommended procedures (protective clothing, masks, gloves, etc.) when responding to a situation where coronavirus contagion is a possibility. TA Ortmann discussed posting information on our WEB site advising folks they can conduct most   
      Town business over the phone or on-line.
8. **Non-public session pursuant to Maine Revised Statues Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, §405, 6. A. (1) (Hardship abatement request):** At 7:34 PM Selectman Steeves moved and Selectman Peavey seconded entering non-public session. A roll call vote was held and the vote was unanimous.

The Selectboard reconvened the public meeting at 7:44 PM

1. **Other:** None.
2. **"11th hour" items:** None.
3. **Adjournment:** 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenn Ortmann

Town Administrator