

**TOWN OF SANGERVILLE
SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Beginning @ 4:00pm
Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

Item 1. Open Meeting: Chair called meeting to order at 4:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

- A. Selectpersons Present: Mike Wark (Chair), Dale Gray, and Jody Cabot
- B. Employees Present: Patrick Lewis, Michelle Nichols, Matt Blockler
- C. Public Present: Diane McCarthy Clark, Travis Labree, Priscilla Johnson, Dennis Campbell
- D.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes:

- A. Special Select Board Meeting: 01/03/2023

Tabled until next meeting.

Item 3. Review of the Treasurer's Warrants:

- A. Payroll – #2, #3, #4
- B. Accounts Payable – #5

Selectperson Gray made a motion to approve, Selectperson Cabot 2nd, all approved.

Item 4. Open Session: Limited to 2 Minutes – Extension per Chair:

Dennis Campbell mentioned that the old town hall building has records that are in need of preservation, and without heat and power they are in danger of being destroyed. Patrick said that there is a plan in action that is being put in motion to remove and preserve the records in air tight and waterproof containers and remove them from that environment. There are also plans to catalog the records digitally. Dennis Campbell asked why the heat and power were shut off. The Select Board replied that the insurance wouldn't cover the building if it were still on. Diane McCarthy Clark is concerned about a curtain with an image of Venice on it that's in the old building. She offered up the East Sangerville Grange as a place to store it safely. This curtain has monetary and historic value, and Diane wants to make sure that it's in safe keeping. She also asked if the budget committee or the board has any line item for maintenance dollars for the town hall building. Patrick agrees that there should be a line item where it's municipal property.

Item 5. Old Business:

- A. **Town Hall Building:** There is an action plan to remove the records from the old building, and storing them in safe containers and a safe space.

Item 6. New Business:

- A. **Policy Updates** – Michelle and Patrick are hoping to update some more policies. They want to move to personnel and accountability policies.
- B. **2024 Mowing Contracts** – Patrick sent out 4-6 bids each for mowing for cemetery, town, and roadside mowing. Patrick received one bid for each of the categories. For the town, Nick Easler sent in the only bid. Last year he was contracted for 20 weeks, but went over an extra month, so Patrick would like to contract him for 24 weeks to be on the safe side. The only bid for cemetery mowing came from PJ's Lawn Care, with the bid of \$13,000. The only bid for roadside mowing came from Vance Lambert, who also put in a quote to do the dump, for \$2,750. Patrick is going to move forward with the contracts. He's going to send out bids for next year's mowing as well to get started on next year's budget as well.
- C. **Town Office – Rent** – The town office's landlord, Lee Lorigan sent a letter, stating the rent would go up \$39.00 in response to the 3% inflation over the year. He's contacted the selectboard and Patrick about other opportunities for the town office. Lee spoke to Jody Cabot about the apartment above the town office. It is currently vacant, and he wanted to know if the town manager would like to use that as an office. Patrick and the select board discussed the different possibilities of what the town office could do with the extra space, and record storage. The select board told Patrick to get in touch with Lee to see the upstairs space and find out the pricing.

- D. **Assessor's-** The county taxes went up 22% since last year due to bridges. .
- E. **Other** – The Bank of America has reached out in regards to dissolving their handling of the Marjorie Smart Trust Fund. The Universalist Church would like it to transfer over to the Portland Trust Company to handle.

Item 7. Town Manager Report:

- A. **Rabies Clinic:** Michelle and Sam did a rabies clinic this past weekend for citizens to come in for rabies vaccinations. The weather did hinder the clinic, so we only had three people come in, but Dr. Dubois is more than happy to come back. A resident asked if the clinic can be done before tags were due. Michelle explained that residents have until February 1st to license their dogs. The clinic was held in January because it was after Christmas.

Item 8. Road Commissioner Report:

- A. **Road Salt:** Chris talked to Patrick about purchasing another load of road salt. The select board agreed that we should do it despite being in a new budget cycle. It's necessary for road safety.

Item 9. Select Board Concerns:

- A. **Other Concerns** – The Democratic Caucus is coming up on February 4th, 2024 from 2pm to 4pm at the Piscataquis Community Secondary School (PCHS, the high school).
- B. **Executive Session** – Chair Wark made a motion to go into Executive session at 4:47pm under personnel. Chair Wark made a motion to come back into session at 6:20pm, Selectperson Cabot 2nd. Action taken. The select board is giving the town manager permission to speak to the attorney about personnel matters. Selectperson Gray, 2nd. All in favor.

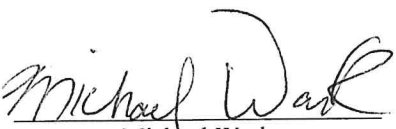
Adjourn.

Selectperson Cabot Gray a motion to adjourn at 6:20pm, Selectperson Cabot, 2nd. All in favor.

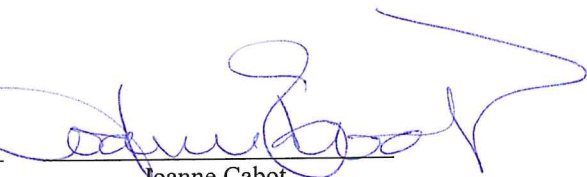
THE NEXT MEETING IS February 7, 2024, at the Fire Station (*Agenda subject to change without notice*)

Respectfully submitted,

Town Manager


Michael Wark


Dale Gray


Joanne Cabot