

Town of Sumner
Select Board Minutes March 26, 2019 7:00 pm
Executive session per 1 M.R.S.A -405(4)- Committee appointments 6:30 pm

Members Present: Select Board chair Edwin Hinshaw, members Mary Ann Haxton, Kelly Stewart, Susan Runes, Road Commissioner Andy Wickson, School board member Charles Maddaus and secretary to the Select Board Susan Strout.

Public Present: Beth Maddaus and Shellie Leger from the Advertiser Democrat

The minutes from the Select Board meeting of March 12, 2019 were read and approved with corrections with a with a motion by Stewart , seconded by Hinshaw and voted.

Warrant #18

Checks 13144-13176 \$52,260.86

Receipts #1068-1094 In the amount of \$36,751.97

2018-2019 Tax collected YTD \$1,138,800.55 83% of the commitment

2017-2018 Tax collection was 83% of the commitment

Open Session: none

RSU#10 Report: Charles Maddaus

Maddaus reported that most of the schoolboard business has been related to the budget process. The School Board has been given the resignation of Ethan Wright, music teacher BJHSH effective at the end of the school year.

The school committee is looking at an increase of 2.1 % which would result in Sumner's commitment to go over \$900,000 - an increase of \$20,000 from last year. School District will receive \$850,000 more from the state. Therefore the increase for Sumner is \$33,000 but part is coming from the State. The biggest budget increase is insurance costs for staff members.

The school board is also looking at an accounting issue that over the past years, summer salaries earned in the current year are coming out of the new fiscal year. This amounts to about \$2.5 million. Auditors suggest shifting that to the current year budget over 4-6 years at about \$400,00 per year. The shift would increase the budget request about 3% for a total of 5.1% .

Maddaus has asked the school board to limit the budget to 0 increase. There is a budget workshop tomorrow (March 27) . The School board budget meeting is April 1 with school board vote April 8.

The question was put to the Select Board as to what would we not be able to put in budget if school budget increases? The answers: were many: roads and bridges, public safety, accounting software, and building maintenance. State mandates with public safety and roads need to be met as well as accounting procedures and building/roads repairs.

Maddaus reported that there is a cap on school funding for special ed. A district can only have 15% of student population in special education funding. Our district currently has 27%, meaning that 12% of

the Special Ed budget is not getting funding by the state. There were around 25 new special education students this year.

Maddaus feels the school district needs to get more creative with the budget such as using PC products in the school instead of Apple and perhaps even instituting a “pay to play” plan. The Sumner Select Board supports 0% increase.

CEO/LPI Report: John Evans was not present. Evans had met with Hinshaw and Planning Board chair Jim McCarthy to discuss the need for a junkyard ordinance and permit. The Planning Board suggests we use the state statutes.

Roads Report: Andrew Wickson

Wickson presented a proposed budget for next year to the budget committee. He says the focus will be 1200 feet replacement on Tuell Hill before gravel. Also ditching on Bradeen, Arthur Allen, Hadley, Labrador Pond Road, and Russell Road. There will be blasting on Valley Road and perhaps Pond Road and tree cutting.

Wickson was also asked by the Budget Committee what he would propose if the budget was \$20,000 to 50,000 bigger. He suggests to take out Paris Hill wooden bridge and replace with 2 culverts. (not a state bridge used more in summer than winter). We will need to redeck Andrews Road bridge this year or next year. Wickson estimates \$20,000 to do both of these projects.

An additional \$30,000 would shim coat Gammon Road Projects for next year's

The current figure of \$160,000 with a recommendation of \$180,000 for next year will go to the budget committee.

Forms, Reports, Correspondence:

Building & Personal Property Schedule - signed with motion by Hinshaw and seconded by Haxton
AVCOG Executive Committee nominations and General Assembly Meeting 4-25-19 noted
Buckfield rescue contract – to be reviewed for a three year contract and signed next meeting
Letter from DOT: Scott Cook contact during paving Greenwood Road will be paved from 219 to 108
Maine Marijuana Statutes info sheet from Maine Town & City (MMA) -discussion postponed but
Appointment for Diana Tolman for the scholarship committee was approved with a motion from Haxton, seconded by Stewart. Appointments of Diana Tolman and Beth Maddaus for scholarship committee were signed.

Other documents noted:

Intent to Harvest -Steve Elsman

Pole permit on Redding Road with bridge projects - signed

Stuart and Sherry Abbott shifting property from Tree Growth to Farmland application signed.

New Business:

Fire Department Door needed repairs that have been done for \$1,100. Next year's budget will need to include funds to do other two doors.

Wickson suggests the parking lots may need crack coating and seal coating work to be in next budget.

The budgets of the next two years will need to anticipate the budget impact of Runes' retirement. This year needs software purchase for accounting. Next year's budget needs to cover three employees from September to December 2020 for transitional training.

Textile – placement for bins for next meeting. 4-9-19

The appointment of a Fair Hearing Authority for General Assistance needs to be appointed. Joe Roach, Buckfield Town Manager, is suggested for this position of moderator of hearings. Haxton made the motion, Hinshaw seconded and so voted for this appointment until April 30, 2019.

Old Business:

Action Plan from MMA - roof Septic

Tank Pumping - Spring

Upcoming events:

DEADLINE FOR FILING EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS IS APRIL 1ST

Assessors (Select Board Members) will be in session on Tuesday April 9, 2019 from 7-9 pm for the purpose of revising lists of taxable estates.

Meeting with representative from AXIOM to discuss broadband internet service, Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 9:00 at Sumner Town Office 5G possibilities

Buckfield/Sumner Transfer Station meeting with Textile Company, April 23 at 6:00 at Sumner Town Office

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:32 with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Stewart, and voted.

March 26, 2019 minutes

Submitted by Susan Strout

Approved: April 23, 2019