

Town of Sumner - Select Board Minutes
Held at the conclusion of the
Public Hearing on the Marijuana Cultivation Ordinance
October 22, 2019 at 7 PM

Members Present: Kelly Stewart, MaryAnn Haxton, Ed Hinshaw, CEO John Evans, Town Clerk Susan Runes and secretary to the Select Board.

Public Present: none

The Minutes from October 8, 2019 were read and approved with a motion by Stewart, seconded by Hinshaw and voted.

The Minutes from September 10, 2019 were read and approved with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Hinshaw and voted.

Warrant #8

Checks 13495-13514 \$119,567.31

Receipts #1436-1457 In the amount of \$81,314.02

2019-2020 Tax collected YTD \$87,014.96 = 6%

2018-2019 Tax collection was \$27,033.97 = 2%

Open Session:

A public hearing for the Commercial Marijuana Cultivation Ordinance took place at 7:00 in the Sumner Fire Station. Ordinance committee chair Beth Maddaus had created an overview statement which Charles Maddaus read through section by section. Questions were asked by residents during this review. The draft ordinance at the end of the public hearing will be in its final form or another public hearing will need to be held before the Town Meeting and Vote.

Most questions focused on the four year state residency requirements, the 2 out of last 3 year town residency requirement, the number of permits that will be allowed, security of facilities and the differences between medical marijuana growers and commercial marijuana growers.

Other questions: why so many barriers when tobacco doesn't have them? Why shouldn't medical marijuana patients be allowed to apply for permits? Will inspections be required at the time of renewal? Will abutters be notified of the approval of a permit? Are the setbacks identified in the town ordinance or is that covered by state regulations?

Two changes to the draft ordinance at this public hearing include:

Adding to Article XII -

The Code Enforcement Officer shall conduct an inspection annually and at other times upon request of the Select Board.

Removing from Article XI 2) c)

Typo of and/or tagged onto end of sentence

RSU #10 Report: Charles Maddaus

Maddaus reported to Haxton that the future construction for the Rumford elementary school has been approved.

CEO/LPI Report: John Evans

There is one open pending case with a subsurface water violation on Arthur Allen Road. The Setback for shoreland zoning also needs to be verified. The resident has received a letter outlining requirements.

Roads Report: Andrew Wickson -

Wickson was not present but sent a report that part of Tuelle Hill is to be paved.

Forms, Reports, Correspondence:

Forest Operations : Brian Roderick nearest to Tuell Hill Rd

Abatements and Supplements (5 to sign - two sets) due to a switch in parcel information.

Lloyd Poland - abatement wrong parcel assignment

Lloyd Poland - supplement wrong parcel assignment

Dale Verrill and Milo Washer- abatement wrong parcel assignment

Dale Verrill and Milo Washer - supplement wrong parcel assignment

Maine RSA #1 - abatement - double entry

New Business:

Runes asked the Select Board if they thought we should use additional ways to distribute information about the Marijuana Ordinance vote besides the usual website, email and street-side sign. There was no motion to distribute additional information

Runes is looking at budgeting for the next two years which will include her retirement. The increased business in the Town Office and the retirement of Runes opens several opportunities for staffing and the hours that the Town office is open to residents. The Select Board members asked Runes if she could put together some estimates for various possibilities for job descriptions and costs associated with those options. The staffing discussion has been scheduled for the first Select Board meeting in January at 6 pm with Select Board at 7 pm with a motion by Stewart, seconded by Haxton and voted.

The current office computers and software need to be updated. Some software upgrades may not be possible on the computers we currently have.

A site visit from the shredding company has been set up for the end of the month. Many out of date documents have been culled from the town files.

Old Business:

Update on Broadband / Fiber

Haxton will attend a Broadband summit on the 28th and a panel speaker with Mia Purcell on the Region West area committee. Haxton reported that many old computers have been donated that will be cleaned for use. Programs and speakers through Adult Ed will help make people understand the importance of broadband.

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Stewart and voted.

Upcoming events:

December 10: Special Town Meeting and vote on Sumner Marijuana Cultivation Ordinance

October 22, 2019 minutes

Submitted by Susan Strout

Approved: November 12, 2019