

Town of Baldwin, Maine SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024, 6:00 P.M.



Note: This meeting was recorded and can be viewed on the website www.baldwinmaine.org. Attendance: Selectmen: Jim Dolloff, Dale Miner, Robert Flint as well as members of the Public.

1. Review/ Approve minutes.

Dale Miner moved to accept October 29th,2024, minutes as written. Robert Flint seconded the motion. The Selectmen voted 3-0 to accept the minutes.

2. Review/ Approve warrant.

Dale Miner moved to accept and approve the November 12th, 2024, warrant. Robert Flint seconded the motion. The Selectmen voted 3-0 to accept the warrant.

- 3. <u>Cumberland County Regional Assessing Abatement and Supplement:</u> Robert Flint moved to approve the Abatement and Supplement as presented. Dale Miner seconded the motion. The Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor.
- 4. Planning Board Funding for Remainder of the Year: Robert Flint confirmed that the budgeted year goes to June 30th. The Planning Board is running out of funds with work remaining to be done on the Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Completion. A Mass Gathering Ordinance is currently in process, the Land Use Ordinance needs cleaning up and CEO, Mike Lee, has raised concerns with Shoreland Zoning. Funds will also be needed for clerical help/note taker for the Planning Board. Robert Flint suggested requesting the \$5,000.00 previously offered by the State, to municipalities for work toward LD2003 compliance. He noted that the work was done by the Town regardless of whether it was passed at a special town meeting. Dale Miner expressed concerns about a particular Town having to refund the State money due to the State not in agreement with how the funds were used.
- 5. <u>Certification of an Updated Land Use Ordinance:</u> Planning Board Chair, Josiah Pierce gave his approval of the Land Use Ordinance received from Southern Maine Planning and Development which retains the original Land Use Ordinance, but splices in the Marijuana amendment approved by Special Town Meetings. The ordinance is to be printed and attested/certified by the Town Clerk, sent to Town Attorney, David Lourie and posted on the Town website.
- 6. <u>Next Years Budget:</u> Robert Flint looked at the Municipal Evaluation Report from the State database. The valuation impacts the Town's revenue sharing and balance of school funding. The Town's municipal valuation increased by 21% in 2024 compared to minimal increase in 2023.
- 7. Status of Draft Audit Report for 2024: Robert Flint said it would be nice to have a draft of last year's audit and have a better indication of the Fund Balance. The Fund Balance has been utilized in the past to reduce the tax mil rate. The Town Clerk said a draft may be available/received by the end of the year.
- 8. <u>Propane Tank and Installation for Generator</u>: Lake Region Energy will need to come out to do a site evaluation. A trench will need to be dug for gas and wiring. Administrative Assistant Robyn Anderson anticipates a return call to schedule the site visit.



Town of Baldwin, Maine SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024, 6:00 P.M.



- 9. Road Commissioner, Chris Harrington Equipment: Chris Harrington reviewed options for purchasing and/or leasing an excavator. Options and pricing vary depending on manufacturer. Chris to forward estimates to Selectmen. Additionally, Chris will include a draft of equipment to put out for bid or sale and a letter to be sent to a resident regarding parking concerns during storms.
- **10.** <u>CEO Alternate:</u> The Selectmen agreed to advertise for a back-up Alternate/Deputy CEO to cover the CEO position if necessary.
- 11. <u>Town Clerk, Deb Wakefield</u> Deb noted that a Baldwin resident lost a Widows Veterans Exemption due to Cumberland County Regional Assessing misplacing exemption form. Assessing requires completion of a new form to reinstate exemption. Debbie requests the Selectmen grant an abatement.

Robyn Anderson to contact assessing to further inquire about the abatement process.

Administrative Assistant, Robyn Anderson – Jen Lewis, Selectboard Member and EMA administrator from Parsonsfield, called and emailed to ask Baldwin's EMA representative or an EMS/Fire Department member to join a meeting tomorrow evening, November 13th, at the Cornish Fire Department. The group is focusing on emergency preparedness for the Sacopee Valley area.

<u>Reminders</u>: Planning Board Public Hearing and Meeting – Thursday, November 14th. Town Office Closed Mondays for the remainder of the month for administrative catch up. Tri-Town meeting – Monday, November 18th.

<u>Public Question and Comment:</u> Kathy Pierce – Library and tree lighting in December. Volunteers will be needed.

Mary Cobb - Sacopee Singers concert rescheduled from December 3rd to December 17th.

<u>Adjournment:</u> Jim Dolloff motioned to adjourn at approximately 7:00pm. Robert Flint seconded. The selectmen voted 3- 0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Flint

Dale Miner