



Town of Baldwin, Maine
SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022 6:00 P.M.



Note: This meeting was recorded and can be viewed on the website www.baldwinmaine.org.

Attendance: Selectmen: Jim Dolloff, and Dwight Warren as well as members of the Public.

1. **Jim Dolloff called the Selectmen meeting to order at 6:02PM.**
2. **Review/ Approve minutes**
Dwight Warren requested a motion to accept and approve March 8th, 2022 minutes as written. Jim Dolloff seconded the motion; no discussion. Selectmen voted 2-0 to accept the minutes.
3. **Review/ Approve warrant**
Dwight Warren requested a motion to accept and approve March 22nd, 2022 warrant. Jim Dolloff seconded the motion. Selectmen voted 2-0 to approve the warrant.
4. **Cumberland County Assessing- 6 month commitment** : Selectmen reviewed and approved 2-0 the abatement and tree growth plan provided by Cumberland County Assessing. Ben Thompson presented and reviewed the 2022 transitional sixth month Certification of Assessment Warrant. The selectmen approved and signed the warrant. The milrate is 0.005800 with a \$13,494.85 overlay. Tax payers will have 180 days to pay before interest is due. Typically taxes are due sixty days after tax commitment, where this was not specifically voted on back in December, 2021, taxes will be technically due 180 days from the date of commitment. Ben stated assessing staff will be out this week to do permit pick-up.
5. **Miscellaneous funding request for Town Report:** Jim Dolloff suggested holding off on making final decisions.
6. **Sign Corrective QuitClaim Deeds:** Ben Thompson stated that he still had questions regarding the Municipal Releases. He requested permission to contact the Town's attorney, David Laurie via email for further clarification. The selectmen consented. Ben stated he realized this issue would not be resolved by April 1st, however, as it's in process, it will be part of 2022-2023 fiscal year commitment.
7. **Bruce Crawford, Fire Chief- radios & pay ranges:** Chief Crawford noted that as part of recent fire department study, he looked at pay ranges of area fire departments. Baldwin is at the lower end of the pay range. He stated that minimum wage has gone up and would like any pay increases made to be retroactive to 01/01/2022.
Bruce discussed proposed radio work on Channel 8 tower. He said Norman Blake reviewed the proposal and was agreeable to it as written. Norman recommended to go with the UPS Power Pack provided by Channel 8. The next step is to have a meeting with Channel 8 to determine who would be doing the work up on the tower. Bruce noted that Jeff Hartford would not be doing the work, and recommended going with whomever Channel 8 uses, as it is their tower.
Jeff Hartford mentioned concerns of Puppet Works Repeater possibly being off frequency secondary to equipment age. The goal is to try to get it fixed by fall. Moving the radio equipment down from the tower to the building below will make it more easily accessible for repair, especially in winter months should the need arise.
Bruce noted a significant increase in cost of new turnout gear. He would like to budget for two new replacements annually to avoid larger one time replacement costs.
He indicated that currently four radios are in need of replacement.



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8. **Community Center Rental / MMA Liability agreement:** Jim Dolloff noted that MMA responded back in regards to Community Center rental liability recommendations. MMA advises the Town to require renters of Community Center to have liability insurance. MMA offers an affordable insurance program (TULIP) for tenants. The tenant would sign up using a code which is specific to Baldwin, allowing them to purchase the insurance at a decreased rate. MMA ultimately advised consulting with the Town's attorney. Selectmen wish to look a little deeper into necessity of requiring such insurance for community center use for small functions or events vs long-term monthly rentals. Discussion of signed waivers for short-term usage maybe adequate. Public discussion suggested thinking about an umbrella policy purchased by the town to cover all usage. The objective of having the Community Center is to draw the public in and not to discourage them from using it. The Selectmen discussed consulting with the Fire Marshall's Office before making any final decisions.
9. **Zoom Account:** Selectmen discussed wether or not to continue with the monthy Zoom account subscription. A decision to keep the account for now was made.

Reminders:


- Budget review 3/23/22 @ 2:00pm

Public Question and Comment

Adjournment: Jim Dolloff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10PM. Selectmen voted 2-0 to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,


Jim Dolloff


Dwight Warren

Robert Flint