

Town of Baldwin, Maine
SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 09th, 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. **Jim Dolloff called the Selectmen meeting to order at 6:00pm.**

2. **Review/ Approve minutes.**

Robert Flint moved to accept and approve December 12th, 2023, minutes as written. Dale Miner seconded the motion. The Selectmen voted 3-0 to accept the minutes.

No Select Board Meeting held on December 26, 2023.

3. **Review/ Approve warrant.**

Dale Miner moved to accept and approve the January 09th, 2023, warrant. Robert Flint seconded the motion. The Selectmen voted 3-0 to accept the warrant.

4. **Schedule Budget Meetings and Set Deadline for Annual Town Letters/Budget Requests for**

Town Report: The Select Board agreed to hold weekly budget meetings on Wednesdays, as needed, beginning January 24, 2024 at 3:00pm. Robert Flint suggested that department heads start building a list of what is needed for the coming year as well as the next five years out. Notice of meetings is to be placed in the Shopping Guide, Town website and Facebook page.

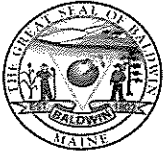
A firm deadline date to receive letters and funding requests for Town Report publication was set for April 12, 2024.

5. **Schedule Meeting Date with Cumberland County Regional Assessing Agent, Rob Sutherland:**

The Selectmen agreed to ask Cumberland County Regional Assessing Agent, Rob Sutherland to present for a public information/assessing question and answer session to be held during the regularly scheduled Select Board Workshop on January 30th, 2024. Public notification in advance, as well as the time held, will help provide opportunity for those with assessing questions to attend.

6. **Fire Chief, Steve Sanders-Security Updates, Pay Scale Changes, Recent House Fire:**

Chief, Steve Sanders reported the fire department recently had a third alarm structure fire in Baldwin. The department has also assisted with mutual aid fire calls and a large-scale rescue in Steep Falls. Additional security cameras have been purchased for the fire stations. Security cameras have been installed on the outside of the West Baldwin fire station. Cameras have been revitalized at the East Baldwin fire station. Internet installation required for cameras is planned at all three locations. A report was filed with the Sheriff's Department, and an insurance claim has been started with MMA for missing items and damages. Chief Sanders proposed new pay rates due to an increase in minimum wage and qualified membership deficiencies. The new pay scale would be based on certification/level of training. The goal is to have pay rates which are more desirable when seeking to hire qualified members. The Select Board is in support of the pay rate changes, as Chief Sanders is confident it can be successfully achieved within the fire department's current budget. Chief Sanders plans to advertise using the new pay rates.



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7. **Final FEMA Maps/Flood Insurance Rate Maps-Cumberland County. Updated Floodplain Management Ordinance:** Robert Flint noted that per email received from the State, the Town is required to have a new ordinance in place by June 20th, 2024, for FEMA flood insurance rate maps. The ordinance would be to approve the maps and how to implement them. The email did not include a flood plain map to inspect but implies that there is a map to be published. It had been noted that if the Town does not have an approved flood plain map, people that might have a house in what is considered a flood plain area may not be able to insure or sell the house, as it may impact mortgage qualification. Should someone wish to build in a flood plain area, it requires either the CEO or Planning Board to make determinations. Bob Flint found preliminary maps from 2013. He will research further.

8. **Attorney Request for Administrative Appeal, 73 Sand Pond Road (Map 14 Lot 33A):** Josiah Pierce, a property abutter to 73 Sand Pond Road, provided a letter from his surveyor. Mr. Pierce's surveyor indicates that the surveyor which provided a new survey of the property for the owners of 73 Sand Pond Rd. could be reported for unethical conduct. The letter is to be forwarded to the Town Attorney, David Lourie, for review.

9. **Community Center Basement Drain:** A recent rainstorm caused water to back up two feet deep in the Community Center basement, flooding the hot water heater. Bob Flint stated that there is a four-inch floor drain that appears to be plugged. A company specializing in drain cleaning will be called to access.

The Selectmen agreed to post a \$1000.00 reward for information leading to the prosecution of those responsible for the vandalism of town signs, theft of generators and other items taken from Baldwin's Fire Departments.

The Selectmen agreed to The Baldwin Axillary using Community Center space for a thrift store.

Reminders: Senior Lunch 1/17/24 @ noon.

Public Question and Comment: Kathy Pierce confirmed that the library is looking to find help with snow shoveling.

Executive Session. I move the Selectboard go into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA Section 405

(6)(A) to discuss personnel matters.

Jim Dolloff moved the Select Board into executive session at 7:05pm. Robert Flint seconded the motion. The Select Board is all in favor.

Robert Flint moved the Select Board out of executive session at 7:25pm. Jim Dolloff seconded the motion. The Select Board is all in favor.




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Adjournment: Jim Dolloff motioned to adjourn at 7:35pm. Dale Miner seconded. The Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Jim Dolloff


Robert Flint


Dale Miner