



Town of Baldwin, Maine
SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2023, 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 6:03PM.**
2. **Review/ Approve minutes.**
Robert Flint moved to accept and approve September 05th, 2023, minutes as written. Dale Miner seconded the motion. The selectmen voted 3-0 to accept the minutes.
3. **Review/ Approve warrant.**
Robert Flint moved to accept and approve the September 19th, 2023, warrant. Dale Miner seconded the motion, no discussion. The selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the warrant.
4. **Appoint General Assistance Fair Hearing Authority:** Robert Flint stated as Fair Hearing Authority, the Select Board would have the authority to hear a request for review any general assistance applicant that does not feel fairly treated by the General Assistance Administrator. Robert Flint moved to appoint the Select Board as the General Assistance Fair Hearing Authority for the Town. Dale Miner seconded. The Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor.
5. **Maine Department of Labor Audit:** There was an unannounced visit from the Department of Labor. The inspection was more focused on the Fire Department and the Town Garage. It was noted that once the auditor's report is received, it is customary to have sixty- ninety days to correct deficiencies. Corrections of violations will then help negotiate any fines attributed. Chief Sanders reported that the inspector recommended building a new fire station, as it is easier to comply with one building than with three that are significantly out of compliance. All life-saving equipment and tools were found to be in good shape and the inspector was pleased with that. Record keeping, housekeeping and a few small things were pointed out at the Town Garage. It was recommended that the Town Administrative Assistant take courses on record keeping helping assist Town Departments with documentation compliance.
6. **WMTW Scholarship Policy – Review Amendments:** The WMTW Scholarship policy written in 2017 was revised for clarification. The policy states eligible students must be enrolled in either a two- or four-year college or vocational technical school. The term Liberal Arts was eliminated. "High School Seniors are encouraged to apply, but Scholarships will only be paid after completion of a first or subsequent semester and the student must be currently enrolled students at the time funds are provided. Recipients must provide a copy of the previous semester's transcript and verification of enrollment for the current semester". The process of how applicants are awarded scholarships initially was laborious; ranking by need and accomplishments; most recently the funds have been distributed evenly amongst applicants. Dale Miner said all applicants were taxpayers and thought it would be most fair to award scholarship money evenly between the applicants. The scholarship is to be advertised in the Shopping Guide for two weeks and posted on the Town's website and Face Book page. Bob Flint moved to accept the revised policy. Dale Minter seconded the motion. The selectmen voted 3-0 in favor.

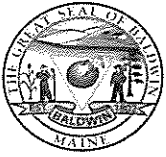


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7. **CEO Permit Fee Schedule:** Bob Flint asked if the permit fee schedule had a second page. In different locations on the schedule, it notes to see definitions. Don Kent, CEO explained that the schedule was provided by former CEO. Bob Flint recommends changing the Solar Farm permit fee from twenty-five cents per square foot to a maximum of thirty thousand dollars. This considers permit fee charged in relation to inspections and duties performed by the Town. Further discussion to continue. No decision was made.
8. **79 Pigeon Brook Road – Disorderly House Violation Letter/How to Proceed:** Bob Flint confirmed that there has been more than a sufficient number of violations in a sixty-day period at 79 Pigeon Brook Road to meet the criteria of the Disorderly House Ordinance. The Town's attorney has been in contact with the attorney representing the mortgage company foreclosing on the house. Dale Miner recommended, and Jim Dolloff agreed to forward information to Town Attorney, David Lourie for further review and advisement. Robert Flint to send draft to Attorney, Lourie.
9. **Burn Rally Complaints:** The Select Board received another email complaint. People are hearing the noise around Sand Pond. Robert Flint looked at what other towns do, and State law noting that Baldwin could write an ordinance addressing sound levels and smoke. He is working on an ordinance.
10. Road Crew, Steve Thorne Jr. said work continues culverts and ditching. The Rented excavator is helpful. Trucks and grader down. Estes hired to do grading on Saddleback Road.
11. Fire Chief Steve Sanders said the fire service is researching best practices for how to handle fires associated with solar farm panels. He suggested or questioned whether it was possible to use permit fees or delegate tax revenue to invest in specific firefighting equipment. It was agreed that it would be advisable to have both the Planning Board and Fire Chief involved in discussions with solar farm developers. The Select Board encouraged Chief Sanders to build needed equipment into his budget for Town meeting warrant consideration.
12. Selectman, Dale Miner raised question about 2019 Town meeting warrant article approval of the Baldwin Active Kids program. The selectmen confirmed that there was a lot of discussion on this article at the Town meeting.

Reminders: Senior Lunch, Wednesday, September 20th at noon and Town Office closes at 1:30pm for computer software training.



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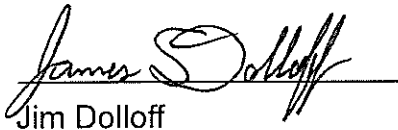
Public Question and Comment: Calista Cross presented regarding her goal to rename the Baldwin/Cornish Station Bridge to the Veterans Memorial Bridge. The Town of Cornish voted against renaming the bridge at a recent Special Town meeting. She reports that Cornish changed the date of the special town meeting after the petitions had been signed. Ms. Cross placed an advertisement in the Shopping Guide to inform as many as possible of the date change one week prior to the meeting. She stated the meeting was to be on just the bridge, two other articles were also included. Calista noted that there were information flyers provided which could potentially influence voters. Ms. Cross stated that Senator Ben Chipman advised her that needed was Cornish select board signatures to proceed with renaming the bridge. Dale Miner said he does not feel comfortable making such a decision on behalf of Baldwin residents. Jim Dolloff agreed. Dale suggested that she obtain a petition from Debbie, Town Clerk and confirm the number of signatures required. Ms. Cross agreed.

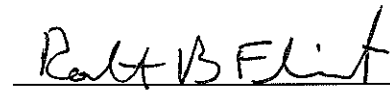
Planning Board Chair, Jo Pierce expressed concern for parking at the Community Center with discussion of adding a central fire station. The CUP would need to be reviewed.

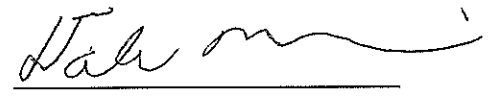
Adjournment:

Robert Flint moved to adjourn the Select Board Meeting at 7:50pm Dale Miner seconded the motion. The selectmen voted 3-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Jim Dolloff


Robert Flint


Dale Miner

