



**Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2021  
6:00 PM  
Mill Stream Elementary School Gymnasium**

APPROVED  
03/03/2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ronald Frederick, Chair  
James Lyman, Vice Chair  
Matthew Everett  
Lindsey Lynch  
Sara "Sallie" Wilder

**STAFF PRESENT**

Richard LaBelle, Town Manager  
Sharon Dodge, Deputy Town Clerk  
Peter Lyman, Bookkeeper

Also present for all or parts of the meeting were Taylor Abbott, John Ames, Lisa Ames, Charlotte Curtis, John Keister, and Ruth Keister.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Frederick.

**2. Pledge to the Flag**

**3. Public Hearing on *Town of Norridgewock Building and Property Maintenance Ordinance***

Chairman Frederick opened the public hearing on the *Town of Norridgewock Building and Property Maintenance Ordinance* at 6:00PM.

Mechanic Street resident John Keister spoke in opposition to the ordinance and stated that elderly people may not be able to afford the upkeep required.

Fairmount Circle Drive resident Charlotte Curtis spoke in opposition to the ordinance. Ms. Curtis spoke as a member of the Planning Board; the Planning Board was asked to draft an ordinance for consideration, but declined. Ms. Curtis stated that the Board declined, as they believed the ordinance would be targeted at one residence.

Depot Street resident John Ames said he felt that the proposed ordinance should be for the entire town, not just one portion.

Mechanic Street resident Ruth Keister questioned the legality of an ordinance if it only included a portion of the town. The Town Manager stated the ordinance has been thoroughly reviewed by the Town Attorney and that the Town has been advised it will hold up under legal scrutiny.

John Ames expressed concern for elderly residents and their potential inability to maintain grounds, in accordance with standards set forth in the proposed ordinance.

John Ames and Lisa Ames stated their concern over existing rats being connected to a former sewer system in the downtown area.

Chairman Frederick closed the public hearing on the *Town of Norridgewock Building and Property Maintenance Ordinance* at 6:16 PM.

**4. Public Hearing on *Town of Norridgewock Needle Exchange Program & Needle Disposal Ordinance***

Chairman Frederick opened the public hearing on the *Town of Norridgewock Needle Exchange Program & Needle Disposal Ordinance* at 6:16 PM.

Mechanic Street resident John Keister spoke regarding the struggles of a drug addict and inquires as to how a needle exchange program may work in the community.

The Town Manager provided an overview of the ordinance, with background related to current conditions in the region that make this ordinance more relevant.

Chairman Frederick closed the public hearing on the *Town of Norridgewock Needle Exchange Program & Needle Disposal Ordinance* at 6:22 PM.

**5. Public Hearing on *2021 Amendments to the Town of Norridgewock Dog Nuisance Ordinance***

Chairman Frederick opened the public hearing on the *2021 Amendments to the Town of Norridgewock Dog Nuisance Ordinance* at 6:22 PM.

Depot Street resident John Ames asked why the ordinance is being amended. Mr. Ames stated that his dogs have been a benefit to the community, for a variety of security/alert reasons and that the dogs often bark as a result of being instigated by factors outside of his control (fireworks, etc.). The Town Manager stated the municipal attorney advised that the existing ordinance was not sufficient and needed minor revisions. There are no significant substantive changes to the ordinance.

Depot Street resident Lisa Ames stated that she would like to see the ordinance distinguish between day and nighttime barking. She doesn't believe that is against the law for a dog to bark during the day.

Chairman Frederick closed the public hearing on the *2021 Amendments to the Town of Norridgewock Dog Nuisance Ordinance* at 6:28 PM.

Chairman Frederick thanked the public for their attendance and noted that the hearings were to allow residents the opportunity to ask questions and state their opinion. The purpose of a public hearing is not to take action on a proposed ordinance.

**6. Review/Approve Minutes of February 3, 2021**

Selectman Wilder made a MOTION to approve the minutes of February 3, 2021. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

**7. Selectmen's Reports**

Selectman Wilder was recently asked why the gutters were not being cleaned on the sides of the road. She said the concern was especially prevalent on Mechanic Street. The Town Manager stated that he hasn't noticed, but that he will take a look at the concern and follow back up with the Board.

**8. Town Manager's Report**

See Attached,

**9. Discussion/Action on February 17, 2021 General Warrant #4**

Selectman Everett made a MOTION to approve and sign General Warrant #4 in the amount of \$185,260.30. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED, 4-1 (Frederick, Everett, Lynch, Wilder in favor; Lyman opposed).

**10. Discussion/Action on February 17, 2021 Airport Warrant #2**

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to approve and sign Airport Warrant #2 in the amount of \$11,079.84. Seconded by Selectman Wilder. MOTION PASSED, 4-1 (Frederick, Lyman, Everett, Wilder in favor; Lynch opposed).

**11. Discussion/Action on February 17, 2021 Sewer Commitment**

Selectman Everett made a MOTION to approve and sign the February 17, 2021 Sewer Commitment in the amount of \$17,056.75. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

**12. Public Comment (Limited to 2 minutes)**

None.

**13. Other Business**

Selectman Everett made a MOTION to add Donations to the agenda. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

Selectman Everett made a MOTION to accept a donation in the amount of \$3,000.00 from The Eastman Charitable Foundation to the Norridgewock Public Library to purchase books and materials. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

**14. Executive Session to Discuss Union Negotiations, Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D)**

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to go into Executive Session to Discuss Union Negotiations, Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) at 6:42 PM. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to come out of Executive Session to Discuss Union Negotiations, Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(D) at 6:55 PM. Seconded by Selectman Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

**15. Adjournment**

Vice Chairman Lyman made a MOTION to adjourn at 6:57 PM. Seconded by Selectman Wilder. MOTION PASSED.