



**Norridgewock Select Board
Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2023
6:00 PM
Conference Room, Norridgewock Town Office**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Matthew Everett, Chair
Lindsey, Lynch, Vice Chair (via Zoom)
Kelsea Bickford
Ronnie Blodgett
Dylan Wentworth

STAFF PRESENT

Richard LaBelle, Town Manager
Sharon Dodge, Clerk
Peter Lyman, Bookkeeper
David Savage, CEO/Fire Chief

Also present for all or part of the meeting were MaryAnn Anderson, Robbie Bickford, Tara Desroches, Becky Ketchum (via Zoom), Brenda Morgan, Ken Morgan, Mike Obert, and Skip Viles.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mr. Everett.

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Review/Approve Minutes of April 19, 2023

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to approve the minutes of April 19, 2023. Seconded by Ms. Bickford. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

4. Member Reports

Ms. Bickford said she participated in an Elected Officials webinar through Maine Municipal Association; she thanked Mr. LaBelle for setting that up. Ms. Bickford noted that she would be absent at the next meeting due to a scheduling conflict. She has received facility tours of Waste Management and the Fire Department and was thankful for the welcome at each location, as well as the information provided. Ms. Bickford also extended thanks to the TIF Committee memberships for their good work and service to the Town.

5. Town Manager's Report

See Attached.

6. Discussion/Action on May 3, 2023 General Warrant

Ms. Lynch made a MOTION to approve and sign General Warrant 2023-09 in the amount of \$33,537.27. Seconded by Mr. Wentworth. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

7. Public Comment (Limited to 2 minutes)

Winding Hill Road resident Mike Obert asked if anyone had discussed the debris building up under the trestle. Mr. Everett noted that there is a need for a barge to safely clean it up and that the Sportsmen Association has been working with the State to try and resolve the issue.

Henrys Way resident Tara Desroches asked about the proposed public swim area and whether or not it would be open this year. Mr. Everett said that the project is still a goal, but that engineering and permitting remained an obstacle to safe execution of the project. It is not expected that the project will be done this year.

8. Discussion/Action on Purchasing Policy

Ms. Bickford requested that this item appear on the agenda. She stated that there were concerns expressed previously about compliance with the policy, but that after reviewing it, she believes that the Select Board has been acting in accordance with said policy.

Mr. Wentworth stated that he believed the dollar figures contained in the policy were a guide and that he believed they were acceptable. He notes that certain contracts shouldn't be put to a formal bid process and that bidding has significant implications for timing. Ms. Lynch noted that timing shouldn't be a consideration, as projects are planned and should be bid out earlier. Ms. Lynch stated that, if the Board elects not to go to competitive bid, there should be documentation incorporated in the file that supports the decision, including information about solicitation of prices from multiple contractors/vendors, etc.

Childs Road resident Robbie Bickford stated that, through his professional experience, he has learned that bidding out smaller contracts leads to project pricing increasing. He believes that the \$10,000 threshold is well-intentioned, but it is too low to be effective

There was no action taken.

9. Discussion/Action on Local Philanthropic Grant Award Process

Ms. Bickford requested this item appear on the agenda after her perception of the process at an earlier meeting. She would like to see the process streamlined and clearer criteria set. There was extended discussion regarding the process for consideration and award.

No action was taken.

10. Discussion/Action on TIF Committee Recommendations

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to accept the recommendation of the TIF Advisory Committee and approve up to \$50,000 for the proposed improvements to the parking area at Central Maine Regional Airport. Seconded by Ms. Bickford. MOTION PASSED, 3-1 (Everett, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; Lynch opposed).

Sewer Commission Chair and Water District Trustee Robbie Bickford spoke regarding digitizing the wastewater system, converting paper maps to GIS files.

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to accept the recommendation of the TIF Advisory Committee and approve up to \$25,000 to map the wastewater system for GIS. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

11. Other Business

Ms. Lynch made a MOTION to add *Discussion/Action on Burrill Hill Paving* to the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Wentworth. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

Road Advisory Committee member Mike Obert spoke in favor of increasing the surface pavement from a 9mm mix to a 12.5mm mix, as that will better suit a road with hills and heavy trucks.

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to authorize the proposed surface material change and bump it up by an estimated \$16,209, as provided by Pike Industries. Seconded by Ms. Bickford. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to add *Discussion/Action on Winter Sand Purchase* to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Bickford. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to authorize the purchase of winter sand (estimated at 3,000 yards) from Farrin Brothers at a unit cost of \$6.00 per yard. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to add *Discussion/Action on Land Use Fee Waiver Request* to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Bickford. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

Mr. Blodgett arrived at 7:04 PM.

Ms. Bickford made a MOTION to waive fees in the amount of \$150.00 for Bruce Obert on 490 Skowhegan Road, Tax Map 16, Lot 25. Seconded by Mr. Wentworth. MOTION PASSED, 3-2 (Everett, Bickford, Blodgett in favor; Lynch, Wentworth opposed).

Note: The fee waiver approved represents the exclusion of floodplain-related fees only and keeps the remaining fees and after-the-fact assessments in place. The total due from the applicant after this approval is \$1,430.00.

Frederick Corner Road resident MaryAnn Anderson asked why Select Board member addresses are not available online. Mr. LaBelle notes that this has not been a past practice and that customarily, residents have called the town office to be put in contact with Select Board members. Select Board members will decide individually whether or not they would like their email address listed.

12. Executive Session to Discuss Labor Negotiations pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D), preparation for negotiations between the Town and AFSCME Council 93 for the Local 2011-13.

Ms. Bickford made a MOTION to go into Executive Session at 7:14 PM. Seconded by Mr. Wentworth. MOTION PASSED, 5-0 (Everett, Lynch, Bickford, Blodgett, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

Ms. Lynch left the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 7:49. Seconded by Mr. Blodgett. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Bickford, Blodgett, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).

13. Adjournment

Mr. Wentworth made a MOTION to adjourn at 7:49 PM. Seconded by Mr. Blodgett. MOTION PASSED, 4-0 (Everett, Bickford, Blodgett, Wentworth in favor; none opposed).