



**Norridgewock Select Board
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2021
6:00 PM
Conference Room, Norridgewock Town Office**

APPROVED
12/01/2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

Matthew Everett, Chair
James Lyman, Vice Chair
Ronald Frederick
Lindsey Lynch

STAFF PRESENT

Richard LaBelle, Town Manager
Sharon Dodge, Deputy Town Clerk
David Jones, Fire Chief
Peter Lyman, Bookkeeper
Todd Pineo, Deputy Fire Chief

MEMBERS ABSENT

Charlotte Curtis

Also present for all or part of the meeting were Municipal Counsel Sally Daggett, Esq. (Jensen Baird, via Zoom), Bob Hopkins, Becky Ketchum, Morrigan McLeod, Brenda Morgan, Ken Morgan, Mike Obert, Skip Viles, Kelly-Ann Withee.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Mr. Everett.

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) to Consult with Legal Counsel Regarding the Select Board's Legal Rights and Duties with Regard to the Fire Station Construction Contract and Potential Litigation

Mr. Frederick made a MOTION to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(E) to Consult with Legal Counsel Regarding the Select Board's Legal Rights and Duties with Regard to the Fire Station Construction Contract and Potential Litigation at 6:02 PM. Seconded by Mr. Lyman. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 6:21 PM. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

No action was taken.

4. Review/Approve Minutes of November 3, 2021

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to approve the minutes of November 3, 2021. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

5. Member Reports

None.

6. Town Manager's Report

See Attached.

7. Discussion/Action on November 17, 2021 General Warrant #22

Ms. Lynch made a MOTION to approve and sign Generate Warrant #22 in the amount of \$201,785.04. Seconded by Mr. Frederick. MOTION PASSED, 3-1 (Everett, Frederick, Lynch in favor; Lyman opposed).

8. Discussion/Action on November 17, 2021 Airport Warrant #11

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to approve and sign Airport Warrant #11 in the amount of \$47,082.92. Seconded by Mr. Frederick. MOTION PASSED.

9. Discussion/Action on November 17, 2021 Sewer Commitment

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to approve and sign the November 17, 2021 Sewer Commitment in the amount of \$17,801.95. Seconded by Mr. Frederick. MOTION PASSED.

10. Public Comment

Winding Hill Road resident Mike Obert asked about the removal of the speed table on Upper Main Street. Mr. Obert asked that if the Board did not want to make a decision on removal that the question be put to a public vote without placing any additional conditions on the vote. Mr. Everett stated that the decision would be made by the Select Board.

Beech Hill Road resident Skip Viles asked if there was any new information regarding extending internet access; Mr. LaBelle said there have been no new updates since the last inquiry.

11. Discussion/Action on Appointments

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to appoint Morrigan McLeod to the MSAD #54 Board of Directors through March 7, 2021. Seconded by Mr. Frederick. MOTION PASSED.

12. Discussion regarding Airport Operations/Finances

Mr. LaBelle made a presentation on the current operation and financial status of the airport (attached). He thanked Peter Lyman for his assistance in compiling and reviewing the financial data on such a tight schedule.

Ms. Lynch commented on her tour of the airport earlier in the day. She noted that it was very insightful and thanked staff for their time. She complimented the work of Airport Maintenance Supervisor Roland Ray for a job very well done in support and promoting the airport.

Sophie May Lane resident and airport hangar owner Ken Morgan echoed Ms. Lynch's comments regarding Mr. Ray. He also spoke regarding the discrepancy between the number of based aircraft reported and the number of hangars. Mr. Morgan suggests the possibility of needing to complete hangar inspections to ensure that hangar use is in compliance with the lease restrictions and FAA standards. He believes that there is opportunity for expanded revenues at the airport, which could include the attraction of new pilots and newer aircraft, which would expand the excise tax base. If a company like Origin were to base two aircraft at the Norridgewock airport, it could provide up to an additional \$45,000 annually in aircraft excise. Mr. Morgan notes that the construction of new hangars would create opportunity for additional based aircraft, which drives revenue.

Mr. Morgan spoke regarding holding hangar owners accountable for their actions, support of the airport, compliance with the terms of the lease, and any State or Federal regulations.

There was discussion about the most recent increase in monthly hangar fees, which is currently \$45 per month for a single unit. It is estimated that fees were increased within the last ten years. That most recent adjustment was from \$30 per month to the current \$45.

13. Discussion/Action on ARPA Project Proposals

Requests were received in memorandum form from the Fire Department, Town Manager, and Becky Ketchum on behalf of Somerset Grange (attached). Deputy Fire Chief Pineo provided an overview of the Fire Department's submission, as well as the current capital needs list. Mr. LaBelle reviewed two Town initiatives (across multiple departments) and one library proposal. Ms. Ketchum proposed gravel driveway work at the Grange and repairs to the eaves.

The Board discussed the possibility of funding the purchase of turnout gear for the Fire Department, but tabled any action until the next regular meeting to provide for additional submissions and complete review of other submissions. This purchase is time-sensitive, as pricing will increase on January 1.

14. Other Business

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to add *Donations* to the agenda. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

Ms. Lynch made a MOTION to accept a donation in the amount of \$100.00 from Joseph and Leona Poirier to support community food access. Seconded by Mr. Lyman. MOTION PASSED.

15. Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) to discuss Real Estate Acquisition, Economic Development

Mr. Frederick made a MOTION to go into Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) to discuss Real Estate Acquisition, Economic Development at 8:14 PM. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Frederick made a MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 8:58 PM. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED.

16. Discussion/Action on Disposal of Town-owned Real Estate

Ms. Lynch made a MOTION to sell Town-owned real estate identified on Town tax maps as Map 32, Lot 46 to Tasha M. Raymond and Joseph P. Raymond for \$600.00 and to sign a quitclaim deed to that effect, as authorized under the March 4, 2019 Town Meeting Article 43. Seconded by Mr. Lyman. MOTION PASSED.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Lyman made a MOTION to adjourn at 8:59 PM. Seconded by Ms. Lynch. MOTION PASSED.