

Town of Norridgewock
TIF Advisory Committee Minutes

APPROVED

02/22/2022

January 11, 2022

Chairman John Malek called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM at the Town Office. Committee members Jessie Everett, Ruth Keister, Becky Ketchum, Drew Ketterer (via Zoom), Brandi Ireland, John Malek, and Sallie Wilder were present. Also, in attendance for all or part of the meeting was Town Manager Richard Labelle.

Jessie made Motion to approve the first agenda item: Remote Meeting and Participation Policy; Brandi seconded. Becky had a question referring to section #5-D: Will people outside the meeting be able to speak? Richard said they could submit questions online. All were in favor; the motion passed.

Becky made a motion to accept the prior meeting minutes as written; Ruth seconded. All were in favor; the motion passed.

New Business: ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Richard provided a list of some ideas from the Select Board on how to utilize these funds. These funds are for COVID-related items-Outdoor Recreation, Public Safety, Emergency Services, etc. May of the expenses proposed for ARPA would be eligible for TIF expense and the Board has asked the TIF Committee to weigh in. Before voting on any of the new items, presented, Becky had some questions on projects the TIF Committee itself had talked about, considering these projects should be kept in mind, in addition to proposed ARPA purchases. She was wondering about the airport and where we stood with the new terminal project that was presented to us. Richard stated the Airport Advisory Committee needed to be on board with it and they needed some additional information. Currently, the Airport Advisory Committee doesn't want a new building, but to add to the old one possibly. They have asked for a building review to look at the current building, proposed costs, and other issues that may exist. The Airport Committee will be meeting in the next couple of weeks. Becky also questioned, and discussion followed, regarding the use of TIF for the revitalization of the Grange Hall and for broadband expansion. Currently, TIF isn't written to allow the expense on non-profits such as the Grange.

We moved on to the ARPA project items that were considered for TIF:

Automatic fire hose washer-Becky made motion to approve; Ruth seconded. All were in favor.

Emergency Services Repeater Equipment-Becky made a motion to approve; Ruth seconded. All were in favor.

Public Swim Area-Becky asked some questions. Is the proposed price of \$75,000 including material and installation? The answer was yes. Who will maintain this from year to year? The Town will be responsible for taking it in and out each year. Sallie made motion to approve; Becky seconded. All were in favor.

Surveillance Equipment, Structure at Oosoola Park- This would cover the new Swim area, as well. Motion sensor cameras, etc. Brandi made motion; Jessie seconded. All were in favor.

Oosoola Park Swings- Ruth made motion to approve; Jessie seconded. All were in favor.

Ice Skating Rink-Ruth made motion to approve; Drew seconded. There was discussion that the rink would be tough to maintain. We only get a few months use it, as opposed to the time and effort put into the project. People also had concern of vandalism. The motion did not pass, 0-7; all were opposed after discussion.

Recreation field bleachers-Brandi made motion to approve; Jessie seconded. Vote passed with a vote of 4-3 (Becky, Sallie, and Ruth were opposed)

Broadband expansion-Brandi made a motion to support the future consideration of funding broadband expansion; Jessie seconded. There was discussion on using grants from the State and Federal, instead of using local money. Richard doesn't see why we would invest our own local money into the project when there will be grants down the road to help. Sallie wants to use our money on this project because the State takes so long. All were in favor of supporting this expansion once we get more details on whether we should use our own funds or use grant funds.

Old Business-The Mid-Maine Chamber is in the process of printing the brochures; more to come once they are printed. The walking trail was mentioned, John is waiting on a plan and then he will propose it to us. Becky mentioned changing the Façade Improvement Program Guidelines. John mentioned this could be the first item on the next meetings agenda.

Next meeting will be February 22, 2022 at 4:00 PM at the Town office.

John Adjourned meeting at 5:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Everett

Secretary, TIF Committee