**TOWN OF LIVERMORE**

**Board of Selectpersons**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**August 30, 2022**

**6:30 PM**

**BOARD:** RANDY OUELETTE, MARK CHRETIEN, SCOTT RICHMOND, JEREMY EMERSON, BRETT DEYING (late)

**DEPT HEADS:** AARON MILLER, JIM MANTER

**RESIDENTS/GUESTS:**

**PRESS:** PAM HARNDEN

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Moment of Silence

The board participated in a moment of silence in honor of Yvonne Adams, a former Town Clerk, who recently passed away.

1. Approval of Minutes
   1. August 16, 2022

Scott motioned to approve, seconded by Randy; 4-0.

1. Administrative Report

*Ford Brook*

At Aaron’s request, Fisheries Biologist with Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife visited Ford Brook last week and determined that the brook is high in value of wild brook trout populations and this habitat should be restored and protected.

When the Ford Brook culvert is replaced on Norton Rd. fisheries managers recommend a bridge or culvert that spans at least 1.2 times the brook’s bank full width. In addition, they are recommending a substrate inside the new crossing that is representative of the natural stream bottom, and be constructed during the instream work window which is from July 15 to September 30 and employ best management practices during construction.

In doing so, the new crossing will restore the brook to a more natural flow regime, create unfettered passage for wild-stream-dwelling brook trout and greatly reduce the size of the impoundment – which will benefit the thermal regime, riparian zone, insect community, road integrity and other natural processes.

Aaron plans to submit a Stream Crossing Infrastructure Improvement grant application which is due November 10, 2022. There is no minimum match, however, grants cannot fund 100-percent of any project and a match amount is factored into scoring of cost-effectiveness. The maximum award is $150,000 per project.

Aaron will need assistance with determining more information about the culvert, structure design and background on the brook.

Brett suggested contacting Trout Unlimited.

*MMA Workers Comp*

Aaron presented ergonomics, back injury prevention, and slip and fall prevention policies that fall in line with the town’s annual safety training and will allow the Town to take advantage of a Worker’s Comp discount. Tier one has been completed. He plans to submit Tier 2 which includes these safety policies, which the board approved, motioned by Brett, seconded by Scott; 5-0.

He added last week he met with Pauline Pinkham, who conducted trainings for the highway and transfer station crews that focused on these and other areas.

*Secretary of state Conference*

Aaron reported he and Renda will be attending the Voter Registration and Title 21A workshops at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor. This is mandatory training.

*Household Hazardous Waste Day*

Aaron reminded the board of the annual Household Hazardous Waste Day which will be Saturday September 10 at the Jay Transfer Station from 9 a.m. to noon. Cleaners, fire extinguishers, detectors, paints, automotive fluids, pesticides, and much more will be accepted. *Paving*

Aaron spoke with Mark Hume at the state’s DOT regarding the pavement in front of the church nearby the corner of Route 4 and Crash Rd. They expect to pave that area during the first week of October.

1. New Business
   1. *Shoreland Zoning Ordinance*

Reporting that the town has over 25 miles of shoreland zoning, Jim Manter proposed a change to the town’s shoreland zoning ordinance that would allow the planning board to be involved in the permitting process. He said that the town’s current ordinance is out of date and presented 17 proposed changes to the Chapter 1000. Those changes are included on pages four, eight, nine, 16 and 28. He said that the proposal is not more restrictive, but adds more eyes on the application process, potentially saving the town from any costly legal battles. Motioned by Scott and seconded by Jeremy, the board ordered the measure be placed on a ballot for a special town meeting Nov. 8; 4-1; Brett opposed.

* 1. *Commitment*

Scott motion to set the tax rate at $16 per assessed $1,000 valuation and $153,252 overlay; seconded by Mark; 5-0. This mil rate is the same as last year.

* 1. *Employee Insurance*

Mark noted that the town is having a difficult time finding qualified people to plow snow. He proposed offering the town pay for 65% of the family plan offered under the POS 200 plan. Under the current, that would be the equivalent of about $118 a week, he said.

The current POS 200 plan for employee and spouse is $2,436.48. The town would factor the $1,086.21 (which is paid 100-percent by the town) into the equation, meaning the town would cover 65% of $1,350.27 and the employee would pay the remainder.

Brett suggested using ARPA funds to cover the cost if need be. Aaron will advertise in the Sun Journal again.

1. Old Business
   1. *Brettun’s Pond*

Brett reported the Pond Association had their annual meeting last week. They have interest in cleaning up the beach and would like a shed to placed onsite to keep supplies.

* 1. Sign CMP Pole Permits

The board signed pole permits on Butter Hill Rd. and Gibbs Mills Rd. after review by the highway foreman.

* 1. Economic Development Audrey Lovering

Audrey Lovering, of Lovering & Associates, at the board’s request met to discuss her proposal to provide economic development services to the town. She explained she has owned her own firm for about 15 years and has background in rural small-town economics. She worked for the Town of Skowhegan for 2.5 years and assisted with TIFs and developing the town’s identity.

She explained that the first step in Livermore is to gather information about how much land would be available for development. She suggested the board focus on what types of business the town would like to attract.

Estimated timeframe would be 100 to 150 hours that focuses on: compiling an inventory list; analyzing key issues on the Route 4 and 108 corridors; identifying the value proposition and brand niche; work with landowners to determine possible sites; public/private initiatives, not just regulations to attract development; set priorities for development projects; work with leaders and citizens and state agencies.

One thing we have to be aware of is the business economy, who is waiting,

Randy asked what type of business would she forecast coming to this area?

Audrey said that there is room for small restaurants, industrial such as medical and technology, adding that Livermore is a beautiful place for people to telecommute.

In addition, she said it’s possible to see a sports store, fishing, snowmobiling and a bicycle shop.

Brett noted that the town has to be ready for whatever comes – that the town should decide what they’d like to see as far as growth. Audrey added that Livermore shouldn’t copy what other towns are doing and find what’s best for the town.

Brett asked Audrey for reference and the board tabled the discussion.

1. Other

*Hotbox*

Scott motioned to approve spending $13,000 on a used hotbox for the highway department, seconded by Randy; 5-0.

*Temporary Pay increase*

The board agreed increasing Mike Cote’s pay by $1 an hour while Roger was on vacation.

1. Executive Session: Discussion of Confidential Records 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E)

Mark motioned to enter executive session, seconded by Scott.

Scott motioned to exit executive session, second by Brett.

Brett motioned to approve a poverty abatement, second by Scott; 5-0.

1. Executive Session: Discussions with Legal Counsel 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(E)

Scott motioned to enter executive session, seconded by randy; 5-0.

Scott motioned to exit executive session, seconded by Brett; 5-0.

Scott motioned to sign the agreement with Revision Energy, second Jeremy; 4-1 Randy opposed.

1. Sign Warrants
2. Adjournment

Scott motioned to adjourn, seconded by Randy; at 9:01 p.m.