

TOWN OF BROWNVILLE
BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
American Legion Post #92 ~ 67 Railroad Ave. Brownville

1. Board of Selectpersons Meeting Call to Order at 6:09p.m. immediately following the Special Town Meeting.
 - a. Selectpersons Present: Byron Weymouth, Shelly Ekholm, Kevin Emery, Jim Hartin (Absent- Dean Bellatty)
 - b. Employees Present: Felice Lyford, Leesa Coates, Alicia Harmon, Shawn Mitchell, Chris Crockett, and Autumn Chadwick
 - c. Residents/Others Present: Jeff Coates
2. Approval of prior meeting minutes from December 20, 2022
Motion to approve the minutes made by Kevin Emery, Second by Shelly Ekholm, All in favor.
3. Review of the Treasurer's Warrants (Payroll, Accounts Payable, Water/Sewer)
4. Quit Claim Deeds – Foreclosure Repurchases
Motion to sign quit claim deeds for Cory Hawkins for 50 Davis Street and Merrick Arnold for 340 Smith Road which releases the Town's interest related to foreclosure due to unpaid 2020 taxes for both properties, made by Kevin Emery, Second by Shelly Ekholm, All in favor
5. Contracts – Animal Control.

To reduce the cost of mileage to and from Penobscot Valley Humane Society in Lincoln, we were able to negotiate a contract with PAWS in Milo to take cats/kittens only. The contract is \$1,000 for the year and allows up to 15 cats. If we go over 15, they would bill us \$50 each. PAWS is also not a kill shelter, and they provide great care to their four-legged residents. We reached out to the dog rescue in Sebec to see if they would be willing to have a contract just for dogs. They have had multiple bad experiences in the past with that and are understandably not accepting ACO contracts/animals. I've reached out to Penobscot Valley HS a couple of times to see about changing our contract to only dogs, with no response back yet.

It is mandatory for every town to have a contract in place designating where they can take dogs Felice is contacting other shelters to get more information on costs and contracts. The selectpersons choose to table topic/vote until further info is gathered.
6. Department Head Updates
 - a. **Administration**
Motion to notice and hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 31st at 6:00 at the American Legion Hall to hear public comment on a charter amendment addressing Board and Budget Committee action on the budget under Article VI: Financial Procedures, Sections 6.05 and 6.06. was made by Shelly Ekholm, Second by Kevin Emery, All in favor

Felice and Alicia met with Sierra Communications, our IT support provider, last week to discuss our agreement as it has not been revised since 2017. We have several units, including the server, purchased in 2018 with warranties that expired in 2021, a few more purchased in 2019 with warranties that expired in 2022 and five others purchased in 2020. We talked about the option of a "lease program" with Sierra as well. In the future, there may need to be some changes/updates made. More information to come on this.
 - b. **Public Works-**
Kevin Black and Kevin Emery are going to Concord, NH to look at and possibly bring back a Holder Sidewalk Plow on 1/19/2023. This was approved and voted on at meeting on 1/10/2023.

PSWC transfer site had a surprise DEP inspection on 1/4. Although there have been many improvements to the site since PSWC terminated the agreement with the contractor, they are still notifying us of some of the same deficiencies. This was addressed at our 1/11 monthly meeting. Also, at that meeting, the Board voted to hold the line on the municipal/county assessments as many had already been through their budget process for the current year. Although this is good news for our budget this year, it also means we will certainly see an increase next year (likely at least 10%).

c. Public Safety

Annual Mandatory Training:

Fire Dept is about 75% completed. Moving on to other departments once they are done.

Safety Committee:

We've held two quarterly safety committee meetings, one last November and one last week. We've reviewed injury reports as well as safety inspection reports and identified other areas of improvement for safety.

d. Parks & Recreation

Damage at Davis Field continues to be an issue. Snowmobiles have been caught riding on the field itself with minimal snow cover. There was also a vehicle doing donuts there was well. A camera with internet may soon be installed to help with deterring this type of actions.

e. Water/Sewer

We had a scheduled DEP inspection on 1/12 for our systems. The inspector doesn't believe we will be allowed to spread septage on our fields again, so we will need to look harder at what the options and requirements will be moving forward.

7. Open Session – Nothing discussed.

8. Executive Session – Pursuant 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) Personnel Matters
Went into executive session at 7 :16PM

*Motion to go into executive session made by Kevin Emery, Second by Shelly Ekholm, all in favor.
Motion to come out of executive session by Shelly Ekholm, Second by Kevin Emery, all in favor.
At 8 :56PM.*

The Town Manager's Annual Evaluation final document will be reviewed and presented in executive session at the Board's March 7th meeting. No action taken at this meeting.

9. Next Meeting March 7th, 2023 at 6PM - with Treasures Warrants to be signed in Town Office, by at least 3 selectpersons prior to that time.

10. Adjournment 8:57

Motion to adjourn made by Shelly Ekholm, Second by Kevin Emery, All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Leesa Coates
Selectpersons Secretary

Byron Weymouth, Chairperson

James Hartin

Dean Bellatty

Kevin Emery

Shelly Ekholm