

**Town of Otisfield
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2017**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Chairman; Hal Ferguson, Lenny Adler & Rick Micklon present.

2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Audience and Board members saluted the flag.

3. **ACTION ON MINUTES:**

A. Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2017. *Motion to accept minutes. LA/RM – Unanimous.

4. **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

A. Dave McVety- MSAD#17 Board Member- *Not in attendance.

5. **BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. Conservation Committee- Gordon Chamberlain application. RM: I called the Chair, and asked Maureen Howard how busy this committee is and she said they are currently only meeting every other month. Currently this committee has (4) people on the committee and no need to add anyone at this time, but Maureen is going to discuss with other committee members. Public requested to speak. Danny Peaco: He has had some issues with some members in the community and does not feel this would be a good fit. Discussion: Town of Otisfield Appointment Policy was read. *Motion to ask Gordon Chamberlain to come in and request why he would like to be on the committee. HF/LA – 2 for (1) RM - against. Discussion: RM: Gordon is way too adversarial. I know who he is and how he's acted to our residents and do not support appointing him to this committee. He has neither the temperment nor the positive attitude to serve on any town committees or boards and I won't support his appointment. AP will request that he come in before the BOS April 19th.

B. Finance Committee: Meeting being held March 16th.

C. Board of Appeals: HF: Phil Saucier reviewed our Board of Appeals Ordinance. It needs to be tightened up. BOA members will workshop this with BOS Tuesday, March 28th at 6:00 PM.

D. Heniger Park Reassessment Committee: HF: This committee is done and TT can delete from the website. All agree.

6. **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

A. None.

7. **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

A. Herb Olson: Has anyone seen the governor's \$6.3 billion budget proposal, which includes a massive tax overhaul that would eliminate state aid to cities and towns and replace it with a

provision that allows localities to tax large nonprofit organizations. That would end up being a 6% increase in town taxes. RM: The Governor is not supportive of the proposals in front of him. So if he's not supportive of it, not only are we not going to get the original State contribution but the town will need to re-evaluate our possible impact. LA: That's assuming the legislature will go along with it.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT ITEMS:

A. Efficiency Maine Program– This is an opportunity for Towns to take part in a special program to help in select areas save money on lighting costs. Field Electric came and looked at existing lighting. They are going to give us a quote for the town office. The Town could receive an 80% rebate through this program. Basement lighting will not fall under the efficiency program because this lighting does not currently exist.

B. Assessor's Return – Oxford County Board of Commissioners Assessment. *Motion to sign the Assessor's Return in the amount of \$241,156.00. HF/LA – Unanimous.

C. Recreation Director: AP: This is a busy time of year and this position requires a lot of coordinating with coaches right now, so I have handed the scheduling of upcoming sports this month to Christine Corriveau. She has the time and experience to handle it. BOS agree.

D. Single Source Recycling: After July 1st, Oxford County is not going to do a pick up. The Town is investigating other options. AVCOG designed our transfer station and they are considered experts regarding the possible options. An AVCOG representative will come to our April 5th BOS meeting to discuss recycling and options.

E. Time Warner Cable: HF: Dean Raymond is a representative from our Town working to bring Time Warner Cable to Otisfield. HF is also a member of a the group representing Lake Region towns in this effort and requested a representative come to April 19th BOS meeting. The TWC representative had to cancel and AP is waiting to hear when she will reschedule. *Tabled until an upcoming meeting.

F. Otisfield Trail Blazers' ATV Club: Coming in to talk with BOS at May 5th meeting.

9. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

A. None.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Pleasant Lake Dam.

B. Dry Hydrant Easements

11. SELECTMEN'S ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED & VOTED ON

A. Town Warrant: *Motion to sign Warrant # 17 to pay the town bills. LA/RM - Unanimous.

B. Town Warrant Articles for Town Meeting: HF: Submitted two proposed Articles for Town Warrant into public record:

1) Electronic sign for out front of Town Office and 2) Renovations for upstairs Town office.

Discussion: RM: Currently putting together some pricing for renovations. A budget for architectural design has been submitted. (Fish Street Design is the architect). Labor and

materials need to be added in. Should have numbers by next BOS meeting. Extra space would be nice, and could be done by eliminating the woman's room and taking the men's room and dividing it in half to accommodate both, but it has to justify the cost. LA: If it's ever going to be done, this would be the time to do it. All agree, it should be done if feasible. The Sign: All agree it is a safer way to keep the town people informed. Most towns communicate this way, with people driving by. It will not blind you when driving by, but it will get your attention. It will not be intrusive. *Both items will be decided by the people at Town Meeting.

C. Town Report: HF submitted his recommendation of selectmen words for the Town Report.

D. Dedication is still being considered. All agree to give it more thought.

12. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

grant that the Northern Forest Center is submitting on behalf of Maine West. The BOS are trying to identify how to improve and expand broadband capacity for businesses and residents. Otisfield has an increasing number of remote workers locating here as well as visitors and second home owners who are demanding high speed internet service and they believe a ConnectME planning grant will be an important step in attracting and fostering new businesses and supporting existing businesses. *Motion to sign this. RM/LA – Unanimous. Identifying areas in all parts of town.

B. Cell Tower: HF: Spoke with the CEO and there is currently 1) query from a company that apparently installs towers. They never showed up for a meeting, but called to explain that they forgot to put the meeting on their phone.

C. American Flags: HF: 20 new flags are needed. *In the past I have purchased these flags from Double TT Fencing at a good discount. These will replace the worn ones and if agreeable I'll pick them up.* All agree 20 new flags should be purchased.

D. Performance Appraisals: To be placed on the 2nd meeting agenda next month. All agree.

E. 2017 Fire Department Capital Plan has been provided by Chief Jordan. TT posted on Website.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Motion to enter into executive session pursuant to MSRS. *Motion to close executive session by ___ 2nd ___, All Y-N. Discussion: *There was no executive session held at this mtg.

14. ADJOURNMENT. *Motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM. HF/LA -Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

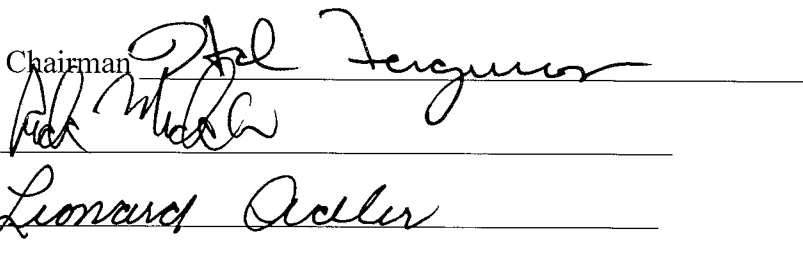
Tanya Taft, Secretary

Approved by:

Hal Ferguson, Chairman

Rick Micklon

Lenny Adler



Approved on April 5, 2017

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