

**Minutes  
Town of Skowhegan  
Regular Selectmen's Meeting  
5:30 P.M.  
Tuesday, March 12, 2019  
Municipal Building – Council Room**

**Board of Selectmen:**

Paul York, Chairman  
Gene Rouse, Vice Chairman  
Betty Austin  
Roger Staples

**Town Manager:**

Christine Almand

**Executive Secretary:**

Cara L. Mason

Call Selectmen's Meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

1. Town Manager's Report

Reminder: The second property tax payment is due March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Reminder: Upcoming budget meetings are scheduled for tonight following this meeting and tomorrow at 5:30 pm.

Last week the auditors were here for two days. I was told that this was our best year so far. I'd like to thank Gail and Trisha for all of their hard work.

The US Route 2 By-Pass Lane Extension Bid closes on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am. For more information, visit our website or contact Denise LeBlanc.

We will not be able to process passports April 15<sup>th</sup> – April 19<sup>th</sup>. We apologize for the inconvenience.

The next Business After Hours will be at The Old Mill Pub and co-sponsored by the Skowhegan Lions Club on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

Bob Marley will be performing in the Opera House on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 and 7:30 pm. Both shows are sold out.

Skowhegan Area Chamber of Commerce is holding a Meet the Reps Event at T&B's Celebration Center on March 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> is the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Abner Coburn Day in Skowhegan. A tribute will be held at the Somerset County Superior Courthouse from 2:30 to 4:00 pm. Many thanks to the Skowhegan Heritage Council for hosting this event.

Skowhegan's Annual Maple Festival will be March 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. For more event details visit Main Street Skowhegan's website or the Maple Fest Community Facebook page.

## 2. Items by the Public

Jason Gayne said that the Chamber has been working with the Somerset Career and Tech Center. There will be an event on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Tech Center.

## 3. Selectmen's Items

Betty Austin presented Michael Bachelder with a Legislative Sentiment for receiving the 2018 Officer of the Year award.

Gene Rouse said that last weekend was the Drama Festival. Skowhegan took first place and 18 of the 40 judges' commendations. Skowhegan had three people, Emma York, Haley Lee and Tyler Kruse.

Gene Rouse thanked Greg Dore for the job his crew has been doing.

Paul York said congratulations to Michael Bachelder.

He thanked Greg Dore's crew for their work. He talked about the complaints from people on facebook about snow on their street. They don't realize what it entails. It's not as simple as just moving snow with all of the ice. They have been hauling snow steady and that is all that they can do.

## 4. Department & Committee Reports

Chief Howard said that March has been a difficult month for the fire department. We lost a firefighter in Berwick and then we lost an Oxford fire chief. Sad situations. We did have several members attend the services.

This weekend the Skowhegan Middle School wrestling regionals is at the Skowhegan Area High School. Sixteen teams will be wrestling.

Chief Bucknam said that Thursday at 2:30 p.m. the police department will be taking some students from MCS School snowshoeing. Denise LeBlanc provided the snowshoes for this. He invited the Selectmen to participate. We have been working to get the officers out in the community...especially with the kids.

Denise LeBlanc said that the Spring/Summer brochures are out now. Basketball tournaments just wrapped up last weekend. The ice rink is still up and running for another day or so.

August is the 30 year anniversary of the Community Center. August 24<sup>th</sup> we will have an open house with games and family activities. There will be a fundraiser event in the evening at T&B's.

Greg Dore said that 2012 Volvo Wheeler has been in Bangor for two weeks. It has some serious lower engine problems. Hopefully it is all covered under warranty.

Recording Time: 12:50

Greg Dore said that people are plowing snow across the road. They need to get their snow completely off the road. It is difficult to make a special trip to remove snow that has already been removed. He has a loader and a grader out on the Back Road because somebody decided to push snow across the road. It hinders the removing of snow in other places in town. It is frozen solid, so he has to take a bucket loader and a grader out there to get it moved. It is against the law and it takes up a lot of our time. He is working with the police department. They are making a list and the officers will be visiting these people.

Gail Pelotte said that tax payments are due on Friday.

Randy Gray said that we are hosting a plumbing course at the Community Center tomorrow. We have 40 towns coming. He thanked Denise LeBlanc for the use of the building.

Trisha Austin said that there is a conditional offer out on the Collections Clerk/General Assistance position.

Paul York thanked Trisha Austin and Gail Pelotte for their work on the audit.

**Presentation:**

1. Kristina Cannon will present the Guinness World Record Certificate to the Town of Skowhegan.

This was achieved on June 9, 2018 with 1054 people moose calling simultaneously at the Moose Lottery which took place at the fairgrounds.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approve and sign Minutes from the following:

Regular Selectmen's Meeting – February 26, 2019

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Consent Agenda as written.**

**Vote: 4/0**

**Regular Agenda:**

1. Discussion and decision to appoint Paul McCarty as a member of the Budget & Finance Committee with a term expiring June 30, 2020.

This item was withdrawn. This did not fit into his schedule.

We are still looking for Budget & Finance Committee members.

Christine Almand said that we also have two vacancies on the Planning Board.

2. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Pawn Broker License renewal for:

Casino Hill Trading Post  
432 Canaan Road

**A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Application for Pawn Broker License renewal for Casino Hill Trading Post.**

**Vote: 4/0**

3. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Parades and Processions to allow KVCAP to hold a Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Vigil on the steps of the Municipal Building on April 11, 2019 from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the Application for Parades and Processions to allow KVCAP to hold a Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Vigil on the steps of the Municipal Building on April 11, 2019 from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. pending the receipt of their insurance certificate.**

**Vote: 4/0**

4. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Parades and Processions to allow KVCAP to hold Skowpendous in the Municipal Parking Lot on April 19, 2019 from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Application for Parades and Processions to allow KVCAP to hold Skowpendous in the Municipal Parking Lot on April 19, 2019 from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. pending the receipt of their insurance certificate.**

Betty Austin said that they have done these things before. She asked if they provide insurance the other years.

Paul York and Cara Mason answered, yes.

**Vote: 4/0**

5. Discussion and decision to approve the License for Incorporated Civic Organization to allow Main Street to have a beer tent at the Skowhegan Home Show located at the fairgrounds on May 11, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

**A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the License for Incorporated Civic Organization to allow Main Street to have a beer tent at the Skowhegan Home Show located at the fairgrounds on May 11, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.**

**Vote: 4/0**

6. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$500.00 from the Cemetery Reserve Account to purchase flags for Memorial Day.

**A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to expend an amount not to exceed \$500.00 from the Cemetery Reserve Account to purchase flags for Memorial Day.**

**Vote: 4/0**

7. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$1,400.00 from the Cemetery Reserve Account for tree removal in Southside Cemetery.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to expend an amount not to exceed \$1,400.00 from the Cemetery Reserve Account for tree removal in Southside Cemetery.**

Gene Rouse said that they hope this won't happen in the future. They are taking a closer look at what our standing stock is, and get rid of it before it becomes diseased and falls down.

**Vote: 4/0**

8. Discussion and decision to approve the Cemetery Sexton contract for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

**A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Cemetery Sexton contract for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.**

Christine Almand said that it includes a 2% increase to mitigate the increase to minimum wage.

**Vote: 4/0**

Recording Time: 21:05

9. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$500.00 from the Sale of Town-Owned Property Account for an appraisal of the property located at 11 Main Street (Map 23, Lot 52).

Paul York said that they gave Greg Dore the go-ahead to do this. We did not know the amount at that time.

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to expend an amount not to exceed \$500.00 from the Sale of Town-Owned Property Account for an appraisal of the property located at 11 Main Street (Map 23, Lot 52).**

**Vote: 4/0**

10. Discussion and decision to approve the Purchase and Sale Contract with Dale and Nancy Kinney for the property located at 11 Main Street (Map 23, Lot 52), authorize Christine Almand to sign the contract and expend \$3,000.00 from the Sale of Town-Owned Property Account as an earnest deposit. Purchase contingent upon Town Meeting Vote.

**A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the Purchase and Sale Contract with Dale and Nancy Kinney for the property located at 11 Main Street (Map 23, Lot 52), authorize Christine Almand to sign the contract and expend \$3,000.00 from the Sale of Town-Owned Property Account as an earnest deposit.**

**Vote: 4/0**

11. Discussion and decision to award the Foreclosure Sale Bids. The following bids were received:

**Bid #1 (Map 27, Lot 11-1) 20 Gilblair Street**

<b>Richard Parks</b>	<b>\$8,471.16**</b>
Donna Brann	\$5,000.00
Harvey Austin	\$3,009.71
Tom Harville	\$7,500.00
Joe Wyman	\$7,586.00

**Bid #2 (Map 27, Lot 15-3) 4 Gilblair Street**

<b>Dana Turcotte</b>	<b>\$8,361.00**</b>
Donna Brann	\$6,000.00
Harvey Austin	\$3,212.64
Tom Harville	\$7,000.00
Michelle Giroux	\$3,251.00
Joe Wyman	\$7,586.00

**Bid #3 (Map29, Lot 21) 33 Leavitt Street**

Harvey Austin	\$4,367.02
<b>Joe Wyman</b>	<b>\$6,286.00**</b>

**Bid # 4 (Map14, Lot 53-4) 708 East River Road**

**Not sold. Paid off before bids were opened.**

**Bid #5 (Map22, Lot 75) 42 French Street**

Ty Dauphinee	\$1,600.00
Donna Brann	\$3,500.00
Harvey Austin	\$1,236.52
James Cooke	\$3,010.00
Jason Gayne	\$1,500.00
Tom Harville	\$3,000.00
Michelle Giroux	\$2,126.00
<b>Joe Wyman</b>	<b>\$6,786.00**</b>

**Bid #6 (Map23, Lot 92) 29 Waterville Road**

Marc Patenaude	\$3,123.45
Tina White	\$3,200.00
Harvey Austin	\$7,102.25
Ty Dauphinee	\$4,000.00
David Folsom	\$4,125.00
James Cooke	\$3,010.00
Jason Gayne	\$3,000.00
<b>Francois Rodrique</b>	<b>\$12,501.00**</b>
Joe Wyman	\$5,299.00

**Bid #7 (Map24, Lot 9) 27 Big Bird Street**

Harvey Austin	\$201.05
Dan Peters	\$900.10
<b>Joe Wyman</b>	<b>\$2,599.00**</b>

**Bid #8 (Map 35, Lot 1C) 119 Dr. Mann Road**

**Not sold. Paid off before bids were awarded.**

**Bid #9 (Map 22, Lot 7 – ON) 14 South Factory Street –**

**Not sold. Paid off before bids were awarded.**

**A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to award the bids to the highest bidder for each property that was not already paid off.**

**Vote: 4/0**

11. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#71	\$	43,350.32 (Payroll #9)
#72	\$	41,274.38 (Payroll #10)
#73	\$	15,586.98 (State Payables)
#74	\$	645,543.48 (FY 2019 Accounts Payables)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>745,755.16</b>

**A motion was made by Batty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the Treasurer's Warrants as written.**

**Vote: 4/0**

12. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

13. Unfinished Business

- Review Policies and Ordinances
- Run of River/Economic Development
- Utilizing Outside Services
- Marketing/Celebrating Skowhegan
- Vehicle Charging Station
- Public Safety Building
- Sidewalks and Bike Trails/Lanes

These items are still being worked on.

14. Sign Documents

The Selectmen signed documents.

**Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.**

Approved and signed on March 26, 2019.

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A True Copy Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cara L. Mason, Executive Secretary