

**Minutes
Town of Skowhegan
Regular Selectmen's Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Tuesday, April 9, 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.

Paul York called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

1. Town Manager's Report

The Fairfield Town Manager has asked for a letter of support for their grant application for a fire service training facility. I'm requesting that the Selectmen approve and sign the letter of support.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the Letter of Support for the Town of Fairfield.

Vote: 4/0

The AR-15 Rifle and Accessory Bid closes on April 30th at 10:00 am. For more information, visit our website or contact Chief Bucknam.

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

The Town offices will be closed on April 15th in observation of Patriot's Day.

Skowhegan Area Chamber of Commerce is holding Business After Hours at Allied Realty on April 10th from 5:30 to 7:00.

The 15th Annual "Skowpendous" Family Fun Night will be held in the Municipal Parking Lot on April 19th from 5:00 to 7:30.

2. Items by the Public

Jason Gayne said that there will be a grand opening at 1890 Primitives on the 13th. There will be a grand opening at Harmony on North Avenue on the 17th. The Business Expo will be at T&Bs on the 25th. The Rotary Club is starting its onion sales.

3. Selectmen's Items

Betty Austin said that Saturday was the Hospice Banquet. It was nice and went very well.

4. Department & Committee Reports

Chief Howard thanked the Selectmen for the letter of support. He thanked the department heads and members of the public for their help and patience with the fire on Water Street last week.

Gail Pelotte said that nomination papers are due April 12th.

Trisha Austin said that there is a job posting for an Assistant Operator at Pollution Control. This weekend we will be posting Randy Gray's position.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve and sign Minutes from the following:

Regular Selectmen's Meeting – March 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 increase the Second Bridge Committee to 11 members and appoint Steve Govoni to the committee with a term expiring June 30, 2019.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to increase the Second Bridge Committee to 11 members and appoint Steve Govoni to the committee with a term expiring June 30, 2019.

Roger Staples said that we thought nine was a good number. We since added a member which brought it to ten. Eleven is good because we need an odd number. The idea of this committee is to bring in ideas and not try to engineer the project.

Paul York agreed that an odd number is better for voting purposes.

Vote: 4/0

2. Discussion and decision to approve the union contract between the Town of Skowhegan and the Massachusetts and Northern New England Laborers' District Council (General Government Union) from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the union contract between the Town of Skowhegan and the Massachusetts and Northern New England Laborers' District Council (General Government Union) from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Vote: 4/0

3. Discussion and decision to approve the application for Vinous License for:

Mu Yun Zhao
Pak Lee Chinese Restaurant, Inc.
252 Madison Avenue

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the application for Vinous License for Pak Lee Chinese Restaurant, Inc.

Vote: 4/0

4. Discussion and decision to approve the application for Malt, Spirituous, Vinous License for:

Amber Lambke
The Miller's Table
42 Court Street

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the application for Malt, Spirituous, Vinous License for The Miller's Table.

Vote: 4/0

5. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for renewal of a Farmer's Market License to allow the Skowhegan Farmer's Market to sell wine and malt liquor.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Application for renewal of a Farmer's Market License to allow the Skowhegan Farmer's Market to sell wine and malt liquor.

Vote: 4/0

6. Discussion and decision to approve the Animal Housing Contract with the Somerset Humane Society from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Animal Housing Contract with the Somerset Humane Society from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Vote: 4/0

7. Discussion and decision to accept a gift card donation in the amount of \$50.00 from Brad Costigan for the Police Department.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to accept a gift card donation in the amount of \$50.00 from Brad Costigan for the Police Department.

Vote: 4/0

8. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$751.29 from the Police Department Reserve Account, Protective Vest Designation to replace Detective Nichols' protective vest.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to expend an amount not to exceed \$751.29 from the Police Department Reserve Account, Protective Vest Designation to replace Detective Nichols' protective vest.

Vote: 4/0

9. Discussion and Decision to allow Christine Almand to put 1 tax foreclosure property out for sale bids.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to allow Christine Almand to put 1 tax foreclosure property out for sale bids.

Gene Rouse asked why this was not on the original list.

Christine Almand said that there was another process that this had to go through. The Selectmen were made aware at that time.

Betty Austin said that while it seems that we are going through things very quickly sometimes, we have all of this information to read through ahead of time.

Vote: 4/0

10. Discussion and decision to proclaim April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Roger Staples to proclaim April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month.

Vote: 4/0

11. Discussion and decision to allow KVCAP to place pinwheels in front of the Municipal Building through April 30, 2019 for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Betty Austin to allow KVCAP to place pinwheels in front of the Municipal Building through April 30, 2019 for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 14:04

12. Discussion regarding the following draft ordinances:

Obscenity and Adult Entertainment Ordinance
Special Amusement Ordinance

Betty Austin said that the dancers not being able to accept gratuity will have an effect on a business. They won't come if they cannot get gratuity. She asked about taking out a portion of that sentence. Just have it so that no patron shall directly pay a gratuity to a dancer. They could give gratuity in a jar or something.

Joel Greenwood said that this was discussed in depth at the Planning Board meeting. The ten feet is only while they are dancing. This does not preclude them from going afterwards to solicit gratuities. The gratuity portion isn't any different from what is currently on the books.

Christine Almand said that what was occurring at this business was not legal. It was brought to their attention, so they stopped doing that.

Jason Gayne said that the issues are section b, c, and d.

Joel Greenwood said that the Planning Board has been discussing this ordinance for several months. There has been ample opportunity for people to have a say on this. Prior to today, we did not hear any specific reason why that needed to be changed. The Planning Board thought that it should stay, otherwise there would be very little that would be regulated.

Randy Gray said that the Planning Board wanted that ten foot restriction left in there. They did change the platform height. They wanted that ten foot rule and they wanted it to be clearly marked.

Joel Greenwood said that they wanted a business to be able to have these activities occur, but they wanted to restrict these particular aspects of it so that it would be somewhat controlled.

Paul York said he agrees with Joel. The Planning Board has reviewed this and it was not taken lightly.

Christine Almand said that she needs a consensus from the Selectmen because this will be going on the Town Meeting Warrant. If there are any changes, we need to know that before we hold a Public Hearing.

The Selectmen agreed to move forward with the Special Amusement Ordinance as written.

Christine Almand said that since the last meeting the Planning Board changed the definition of Obscene Device in the Obscenity and Adult Entertainment Ordinance. The sale of devices is legal as long as it meets the requirements of the ordinance.

Joel Greenwood said there is also a change to the distances where these businesses can be located. This is 750 feet from schools, churches, and parks. They removed the portion that made it illegal to own six or more obscene devices. There were a few more changes to specific sexual activity.

Joel Greenwood said that the definition of obscene is somewhat fluid. It is always changing so it is a difficult thing to regulate. This definition is based on a Supreme Court case in the 1950s. It is arguable, but that is the nature of these things. The old definition was quite specific...they changed it to make it more in line with the general definition of obscenity.

Christine Almand said that this would allow sales of items that weren't previously allowed to be sold. This would open up the opportunity for that.

Before these were two separate ordinances. Having them combined is beneficial so that it is addressed all in one place.

The Selectmen agreed to move forward with the Obscenity and Adult Entertainment Business Ordinance as written.

13. Discussion regarding amended Budget & Finance Committee By-Laws.

Christine Almand said that we changed the number to meet quorum and added language regarding what constitutes a majority vote.

The Selectmen agreed to move forward as written.

14. Discussion regarding the land lease agreement for the sludge building.

Brent Dickey said that the original agreement was for 20 years beginning in 1999. This new agreement would be for 10 years. There are some minor changes. In 2019 the lease payment was \$10,025.00. The payment this year will be \$10,694.00. One of the changes was that the payment will now be based on the taxes for six parcels of land instead of four as it was

previously. In 2005 a \$2,500.00 fixed fee was added to the taxable value of those four parcels. In this proposal, we have removed the \$2,500.00 but we have added two parcels. The difference is only \$600.00. Those payments will change with the tax value of the properties.

The Selectmen agreed to move forward as written.

15. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#79	\$	40,239.25 (Payroll #13)
#80	\$	38,796.21 (Payroll #14)
#81	\$	6,459.31 (State Payables)
#82	\$	<u>317,308.23 (FY 2019 Accounts Payables)</u>
Total	\$	402,803.00

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Treasurer's Warrants as written.

Vote: 4/0

16. Other Business

There was no Other Business.

17. 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

Christine Almand said that she has a conference call tomorrow morning with two ladies from Campaign Earth.

18. Sign Documents

The Selectmen signed documents.

Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.

Approved and signed April 23, 2019

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