

**Minutes
Town of Skowhegan
Regular Selectmen's Meeting
5:30 P.M.
Tuesday, April 14, 2020**

****This meeting took place via conference call. Public wishing to listen to this meeting may do so from the Town of Skowhegan Facebook page****

Board of Selectmen:

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

Town Manager:

Christine Almand

Executive Secretary:

Cara L. Mason

Call Selectmen's Meeting to order.

Paul York called the meeting to order.

1. Town Manager's Report

Last Friday Governor Mills signed an executive order to postpone the primary election to July 14, 2020. On your April 28th agenda, we will have an item to discuss postponing the Town election and Town Meeting. We can also discuss next steps on the budget at that time.

The Cemetery Reconstruction Bid closes on June 4th at 9:00 am. For more information, visit our website or contact Gail Pelotte.

The Town offices will be closed on April 20th in observation of Patriot's Day.

Christine Almand thanked Joh Harlow and Alisha Barnes for helping to make this meeting possible.

2. Selectmen's Items

Betty Austin said she is really happy that people are doing their part to make this more livable.

Paul York thanked the health care workers and everybody that is on the front lines. Hopefully everybody fared well with the storm that we had. There were a lot of power outages. He thanked CMP and their crew. People are being creative, people are doing some nice things.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve the minutes from the following:

Regular Selectmen's Meeting March 24, 2020

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

Vote: 5/0

Regular Agenda:

1. Discussion and decision to approve the application for Malt, Wine, Spirits License for:

Pak Lee Chinese Restaurant, Inc.
252 Madison Avenue

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the application for Malt, Wine, Spirits License for Pak Lee Chinese Restaurant, Inc.

Christine Almand said that Gene Rouse noticed that the application said that the nearest school was 4 miles away. It is actually .3 miles. Cara Mason made a notation on the application.

Vote: 5/0

2. Discussion and decision to redesignate \$655.25 from the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Salt Shed Designation to the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Garage Floor Designation; and to expend \$2655.25 from the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Garage Floor Designation to finish the flooring at the highway garage.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Dennis Willette to redesignate \$655.25 from the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Salt Shed Designation to the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Garage Floor Designation; and to expend \$2655.25 from the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Garage Floor Designation to finish the flooring at the highway garage.

Roger Staples said he thought the flooring was finished. He asked what is left.

Paul York said that he would rather not take the \$655.00 from the Salt Shed Designation. He would rather that it be taken from the Building Maintenance Account.

Greg Dore said that the tack room and the secretary's office still need to be done.

Christine Almand said that \$2,000.00 was in last year's budget to finish the flooring.

Dennis Willette asked what taking money out of the Salt Shed Account is going to do to those plans.

Greg Dore said that we have been putting money away to build a salt shed. This may put it off another year from what we had planned on.

Christine Almand said that the current balance in the salt shed account is \$24,880.00.

Greg Dore said that we are still 10 years away from building that.

Greg Dore said that we can pull it from building maintenance.

Paul York said that the price for building that structure is going to climb.

Christine Almand said that there is just over \$13,000.00 in the Building Maintenance Account. The wall work that Bonneau s doing, still needs to be paid out of that. There will be about \$10,000.00 after that has been paid.

An amended motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Dennis Willette to redesignate \$655.25 from the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Building Repairs Designation to the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Garage Floor Designation; and to expend \$2655.25 from the Highway Department Buildings Reserve Account, Garage Floor Designation to finish the flooring at the highway garage.

Vote: 5/0

Recording Time: 17:45

3. Discussion and decision to award the West Front Street Turn Lane Bid. The following Bids were received:

Bonneau and Son Excavation	\$127,147.49
Manter Construction of Maine, Inc.	\$177,348.00
Clark's	\$181,554.50
Gordon's Contracting, Inc.	\$342,320.00

Greg Dore recommends awarding the bid to Bonneau and Son Excavation with a total bid price of \$127,147.49 and expend that amount from the Highway Department Roads and Sidewalks Reserve Account, Road Resurfacing Designation. 50% will be reimbursed by the Maine DOT.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to award the bid to Bonneau and Son Excavation with a total bid price of \$127,147.49 and expend that amount from the Highway Department Roads and Sidewalks Reserve Account, Road Resurfacing Designation.

Vote: 5/0

4. Discussion and decision to award the Cruiser Upfit Bid. The following bids were received:

Yankee Communications	\$10,659.00
201 Services	\$9,135.00

Chief Bucknam recommends awarding the bid to Yankee Communications with a total bid price of \$10,659.00 and expending that amount from the Police Department Reserve Account, Vehicle Replacement Designation.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to awarding the bid to Yankee Communications with a total bid price of \$10,659.00 and expending that amount from the Police Department Reserve Account, Vehicle Replacement Designation.

Roger Staples asked if the \$10,000.00 is for both vehicles.

Chief Bucknam said that it is for one vehicle.

Gene Rouse asked why we would go outside of town when 201 is \$1,500.00 cheaper.

Chief Bucknam said that he has been without two police cruisers for 8 months. He felt that this would get both vehicles back on the road as quickly as possible.

Gene Rouse asked where is the money for the second vehicle.

Chief Bucknam said that the cost for the second vehicle is not going to need a lot of new equipment. We will be utilizing equipment off of another vehicle for most of the upfit of that vehicle. Expected to be less than \$5,000.00. he plans to give the second vehicle to 201 Service to complete.

Pau York asked what the timeframe is for Yankee to complete the upfit.

Chief Bucknam said that they assured him it would take five days. 201 Service believe that they can get it done in a week as well.

Dennis Willette asked why we couldn't give the new upfit to 201 and the retrofit one to Yankee.

Chief Bucknam said that 201 has never completed a police upfit. He figured he would give him the opportunity to learn it on the used equipment. He believes that he will do a good job. Chief does not believe that he will be able to match the timeframe given by Yankee.

Paul York said that we don't really know if one can get it done faster than another.

Vote: 3/2 (Paul York and Dennis Willette opposed)

5. Discussion and decision to allow Brent Dickey to go out to bid for a Sludge Conveyor.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to allow Brent Dickey to go out to bid for a Sludge Conveyor.

Vote: 5/0

Recording Time: 26:37

6. Discussion and decision to allow Greg Dore to go out to bid for paving.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to allow Greg Dore to go out to bid for paving.

Vote: 5/0

7. Discussion and decision to accept the 16 County Summer Meal Competition, Full Plate-Full Potential Grant in the amount of \$500.00. There is no match for this grant.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to accept the 16 County Summer Meal Competition, Full Plate-Full Potential Grant in the amount of \$500.00.

Vote: 5/0

8. Discussion and decision to allow Central Maine Power and Northern New England Telephone Operations to install a pole at the Intersection of Beech Street and Smith Street.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to allow Central Maine Power and Northern New England Telephone Operations to install a pole at the Intersection of Beech Street and Smith Street.

Vote: 5/0

9. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#77	\$	43,906.28 (Payroll #13)
#78	\$	46,170.82 (Payroll #14)
#79	\$	41,759.11 (Payroll #15)
#80	\$	396,435.30 (FY 2020 Accounts Payables)
Total	\$	528,271.51

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

Vote: 5/0

10. Other Business

Christine Almand said that the Selectmen voted to dedicate the Town Report to Somerset Public Health. There was a miscommunication when Chief Bucknam made the recommendation.

Chief Bucknam said that intended to recommend the individual that runs Somerset Public Health to dedicate the Town Report. He asked the Selectmen to change the dedication of the Town Report to Matt L'Italien.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to dedicate the Town Report to Matt L'Italien.

Paul York said that it was voted to dedicate the Town Report to Somerset Public Health. Somerset Public Health as a whole has done a great job. Not that this individual hasn't done a great job, but he has a whole team of people that make up Somerset Public Health. That would be his only issue with dedicating this to only one person of that team.

Chief Bucknam said that the report is not focused on the life of Matt L'Italien. It is Matt L'Italien as a leader of Somerset Public Health. It talks about what he has done as the leader of Somerset Public Health and what they have done for the community.

Vote: 5/0

11. 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
- Second Bridge
- Solar Power
- Foreclosure Sales

Denis Willette asked when the Main Street Turning Lane is supposed to be started.

Christine Almand said she would get that information and email it.

Cara Mason said it is supposed to be completed by fall.

Christine Almand said that Nate Howard from the DOT said that we may want to consider moving forward in some way with the Public Meeting for the Second Bridge Project. We have to do this to make certain that the funding is still earmarked for this project.

