

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

Town Meeting is on Monday, June 10th at 7:00 pm in the Opera House. Elections are on Tuesday, June 11th from 7:00 am – 8:00 pm in the Council Room. We would like to have all voters try to attend. On June 11th, the Selectmen's Meeting will be held in the Opera House.

Congratulations to Jeff Hewett. Jeff received the Wellness Employee of the Year Award for the Town of Skowhegan this morning.

Congratulations also go out to Randy Gray. He received the 2019 Distinguished Service Award from Maine Resource Recovery Association at the Annual Maine Recycling and Solid Waste Conference last month.

Robert Washburn of the Skowhegan Heritage Council wanted to share a letter he received from Senator Collins regarding Abner Coburn Day.

The Town offices will be closed on May 27th in observation of Memorial Day.

Bradley's School of Dance will hold their dance recitals on May 17th and 18th at 7:00 pm in the Opera House.

The Annual 10+ Mile Yard Sale is on May 18th and 19th. For safety reasons, we again ask that bargain shoppers obey the "No Parking" signs.

The Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 27th starting at 10:00 am. The route starts at the intersection of Dyer Street and Madison Avenue and ends at the Veteran's Memorial on Water Street.

2. Items by the Public

There were no Items by the Public.

3. Selectmen's Items

Betty Austin said that we have some awesome teachers in our school district.

The district received a grant for after school programs.

She read a legislative sentiment and presented it to Denise LeBlanc.

Paul York asked Greg Dore where we are at with the street sweeper.

Greg Dore said that they are having some mechanical issues with it. The company representative is coming up tomorrow to go through it.

4. Department & Committee Reports

Jeff Hewett said that they would be coming back to the Selectmen to utilize TIF funds as match the funds for the charging station grant. That grant application has to be in by July.

Siemen's has been working hard in this building. They have run most of the pipes for the heating and cooling. We have had some issues but are moving along fairly fast. They have also started working at the Community Center. They should be at Pollution Control and Highway in the next few days. Should be completed in September or October.

Denise LeBlanc said that they are meeting with the contractor and the utilities for the Route 2 Bypass Project. They need to get poles set before we can go any further with the bypass lane.

Gail Pelotte said that absentee ballots will be available tomorrow. School ballots will not be available until after the district vote.

Recording Time: 12:58

Presentation:

1. Brent Colbry will present the MSAD 54 Budget.

Brent Colbry handed out the MSAD 54 budget booklet. Brent Colbry said that the district budget meeting is the 20th at the High School.

The local share of the proposed budget is \$14.2 million. For Skowhegan that is \$211,000 less than last year.

State aid is \$980,000. A lot of that was for special education costs. These costs are rising.

For every \$32 we raise locally, we get \$68 from the State.

The employees received a 2.77% raise. No increase in health insurance rates this year.

We are up about a million...we received about a million in state aid.

Each of the 18 articles will be voted at the district budget meeting on Monday. The total is this \$36.7 million budget. That budget then goes to referendum vote on June 11th.

If the budget fails...we then operate on whatever was approved at the district budget meeting. It does not revert to last year's budget.

2. Kristina Cannon will present the Main Street Quarterly Report.

Main Street Quarterly Report on the next four pages.



Main Street Skowhegan
48 Court Street
Skowhegan, ME 04976
207-612-2571
info@mainstreetskowhegan.org
MainStreetSkowhegan.org

**Quarterly Report to the Town of Skowhegan
Q1: January-March 2019**

Economic Development

Business Support Initiatives

Business Profiles

MSS drafted the following business profiles this quarter:

- January: Whittemore's Real Estate (celebrating 50 years!)
- February: Franklin Savings Bank
- March: Boynton's Greenhouses

#ShopSkowhegan

For every purchase made at a participating local business, patrons can sign up to win a \$25 gift card.

- Program is free and open to any Skowhegan business. Main Street provides all supplies.
- We encourage you to join the #ShopSkowhegan Facebook group where business owners can share deals, promotions, and new products with customers.

Destination Development / Tourism

Community Transformation through Outdoor Recreation

Run of River Whitewater Recreation Area - Whitewater Park

Project update:

- Final data gathering in the gorge will happen sometime in the next few weeks when conditions allow.
- Momentum with new partnerships and fundraising continues to build.
 - Gathered a group of nearly 20 Run of River Ambassadors for a meeting in January. Ambassadors will help with awareness generation, connections to donors, and fundraising.
 - Raised \$31,000 for permitting via an anonymous donor; which brings total raised for project in last nine months up to \$124,000.
 - Submitted six grant applications for Run of River totalling \$375,000. We are waiting to hear from these foundations and grant committees.
 - Scheduled a *River Pickup and Paddle* event in partnership with the United Way of MidMaine Rising Leaders Group for June 21.

Skowhegan AmeriCorps Outdoor Recreation Program

In partnership with the Outdoor Sport Institute and thanks to funding from AmeriCorps and the Maine Commission for Community Service, we are preparing to kick-off the Skowhegan



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Recording Time: 33:21

Public Hearing:

1. Public Hearing to discuss the Amended Parades and Processions Ordinance.

Paul York opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m.

The change is to make the process more streamlined when necessary. If we need an approval for timing reasons...when we don't have the opportunity to wait for a Selectmen's Meeting, this allows us to do that.

Jason Gayne said that this is for an emergency approval...and doesn't allow everybody to come last minute for approval.

Christine Almand said it shouldn't be a regular occurrence...especially if it is an event that happens annually.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

2. Public Hearing to discuss the Amended Special Amusement Ordinance.

Paul York opened the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Joel Greenwood said that the first change was to the times that bars are allowed to offer entertainment. New Year's Eve festivities can go until 1:00 a.m. that is a change from 12:30 a.m. Festivities on January 1st may end no later than 2:00 a.m. That is a change from 1:30 a.m.

Section 11 has changed to say that dancers must be within a designated area that is at least ten feet from any patrons. Subsection E states that an establishment holding less than six events must have separate dressing rooms for dancers...more than six must have separate dressing rooms and bathrooms for the dancers.

The distance from churches, parks, schools, etc. for entertainment has changed, so that it only restricts exotic dancing to 750 feet, and does not restrict other entertainment such as music.

There were also some changes to the definitions.

It was discovered that the copies distributed at the meeting were not the latest revisions.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing at 6:10 p.m.

3. Public Hearing to discuss the Obscenity and Adult Entertainment Ordinance.

Paul York opened the Public Hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Joel Greenwood said that distances from churches, schools, parks, etc. where these businesses would be allowed was increased from 500 feet to 750 feet.

Section 5.1 subsection d was eliminated. Which was the possession of six or more obscene devices.

The definition of obscene device, and a couple of other definitions were also amended.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing at 6:13 p.m.

4. Public Hearing to discuss the Amended Budget and Finance Committee Bylaws.

Paul York opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m.

Christine Almand said that the bylaws were last amended to change the membership to 11 and quorum to 6. We do not always have a full membership. This means even with only 8 members, we still need 6 for quorum. We thought it would be best to change quorum to 51% of members.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing at 6:16 p.m.

Paul York reopened the Special Amusement Ordinance Public Hearing at 6:16 p.m.

Christine Almand apologized for having the older draft of this ordinance. She then repeated the changes that Joel Greenwood had talked about earlier.

Terry Washburn asked that Section 11 (d) be changed.

Recording Time: 50:23

The reason they come is for the tip money.

Joel Greenwood said that the Planning Board discussed this in detail. They decided that they wanted to keep that in. They did consider it.

Gene Rouse asked if that would also eliminate a tip jar.

Joel Greenwood said that the Planning Board wanted to keep it so that there wasn't interaction between a dancer and a patron with money changing hands. There are methods where tips could be collected and kind of get around that. Based on other portions of this ordinance, they have to be separated anyway. They did not want interaction between patrons and dancers, and they didn't want money changing hands directly.

Jason Gayne said that the Planning Board said that they would leave it to the Selectmen to make any revisions. Currently this affects the shows that they are having at T&Bs.

April Foss said that the whole point of the Magic Mike show coming to Skowhegan is tips. The point of it is the interaction. If you stop that...the only one losing out is the business. People will leave Skowhegan and go to another town to do it.

Gene Rouse said that the dancer has to be a specified distance away from the patrons.

April Foss said if people can't go there to have a good time...they will go to another place.

Christine Almand said this is a current law...Town Ordinance.

Terry Washburn said that this Magic Mike show has come here for ten years. He wanted to know what has changed now.

Christine Almand said that it is about awareness. The law has been in place for many years. Even though it was happening...it was not happening legally.

Joel Greenwood said that these amendments actually do loosen the existing restrictions.

Betty Austin asked if this ordinance could be changed on the floor at Town Meeting.

Christine Almand said she believed they could only vote it in as written or vote it down. If you decide to not vote for the amendment...then the more restrictive current ordinance stands.

Gene Rouse said he would like to see this struck from the ordinance.

Joel Greenwood said that a dancer cannot dance closer than 10 feet from a patron. That does not restrict them from going afterwards (not dancing) to collect tips. The Planning Board wanted to keep it so that there was no money changing hands.

Jason Gayne said that even after eight months of working on this...everybody's interpretation is different. The best option is to eliminate Section 11 (d). Bringing this show into town is a much bigger economic impact than just the show. People are eating in local restaurants and staying at local motels.

Paul York said that if this gets voted down, you are shot out of the eater anyway. If the voters decide that they don't want this in this town...it all comes down to the voters.

Beverly Fitzsimmons asked why they couldn't just eliminate Section 11(d).

Betty Austin asked if it would work if you were allowed to have a tip jar?

April Foss said that she wouldn't go to that show.

Beverly Fitzsimmons said that they have been having these shows for years. To her knowledge the police were never called in because of the crowd at these shows.

Paul York said that the police have been called in, in the past.

Betty Austin said that she went about 35 years ago...she wishes that we could work something out.

Pam Powers from Bigelow Brewing asked if this is voted down...then that will also affect section G...where you have to be a certain distance away from a church or a school.

Christine Almand said that it would affect an establishment with liquor and music, yes.

That could also affect other businesses in town in a big way.

George White asked if just the first portion of section 11(d) could be removed. Maybe the patron could give tips after the dancing, when they leave the stage.

Christine Almand said that this is what happened with the Planning Board they talked about this for a very long time. Jason Gayne was there for those conversations, he didn't have a problem with it at that time. Over and over again was the conversation about interaction between patrons and dancers. That is why they left this in there.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Paul York said he doesn't want to custom make ordinances for specific businesses, but he doesn't want to hurt businesses either.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to remove section 11 (d) from the Special Amusement Ordinance.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 01:09:12

5. Public Hearing to discuss the Designation of the Municipal Affordable Housing Tax Increment Financing District to be known as "KVCAP Housing TIF Project" and the Adoption of a Development Program.

Paul York opened the Public Hearing at 6:37 p.m.

Jeff Hewett said that this was actually passed at the Special Town Meeting but the Maine State Housing Authority wanted the language in the article changed. So we are bringing it back for approval with the corrected language.

KVCAP facility on Mary Street is currently tax exempt. This facility will be taxable after the project and the new facility will also be taxable. 35 of the 40 units will be affordable housing the other five will be market price rentals.

The estimated project cost is \$8.5 million. We are creating a 75%/25% TIF. 25% of the tax value will go into the general fund the other 75% will go to KVCAP.

Over 20 years we will be looking at \$242,000 in savings. Municipal Revenue Sharing will be up about \$237,000. We will reduce our county tax by about \$70,000.

These will be 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units.

This is housing for everybody. It is not restricted to low income or elderly.

Dave from KVCAP said that there was a study done. There is a significant need for affordable housing. This is not low income housing. It is not section 8. Affordable housing is dictated by Maine State Housing. It is about 30% lower than market rate.

Betty Austin said that she thinks we heard figures last time. If a three bedroom is \$1,100 at market rate...these would be \$800 or \$850.

Gene Rouse said that the rent is not subsidized.

Dave from KVCAP said it has to stay this way for 49 years.

Jason Gayne said that he is working hard to attract businesses and workers to the area. This would be beneficial...so people have affordable housing in Skowhegan.

Paul York closed the Public Hearing at 6:47 p.m.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve and sign Minutes from the following:
Regular Selectmen's Meeting – April 23, 2019
2. Approve a Quit Claim Deed for:
David Scribner (Map 24, Lot 11)
3. Approve the MSAD 54 Warrant and Notice of Election.

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

Vote: 4/0

Regular Agenda:

1. Discussion and decision to approve the Town Meeting Warrant for the June 10, 2019 Town Meeting.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Roger Staples to approve the Town Meeting Warrant for the June 10, 2019 Town Meeting.

Vote: 4/0

2. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce to hold the Memorial Day Parade on May 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce to hold the Memorial Day Parade on May 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Vote: 4/0

Recording Time: 01:19:26

3. Discussion and decision to approve Application for Parades & Processions to allow the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce to hold Moonlight Madness on August 1, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow the Skowhegan Regional Chamber of Commerce to hold Moonlight Madness on August 1, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Vote: 4/0

4. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow Carrie Miller to hold a 5K Race/Walk in remembrance of Rosa McGrail on September 15, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve Application for Parades & Processions to allow Carrie Miller to hold a 5K Race/Walk in remembrance of Rosa McGrail on September 15, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Vote: 4/0

5. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow Main Street Skowhegan to hold the Skowhegan Craft Brew Festival downtown on August 31, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow Main Street Skowhegan to hold the Skowhegan Craft Brew Festival downtown on August 31, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Vote: 4/0

6. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow Main Street Skowhegan to hold an AgriCulture Event in the Municipal Parking Lot on June 15, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Betty Austin to approve the Application for Parades & Processions to allow Main Street Skowhegan to hold an AgriCulture Event in the Municipal Parking Lot on June 15, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Vote: 4/0

7. Discussion and decision to approve the Application for License for Incorporated Civic Organization to allow Main Street Skowhegan to serve alcohol at the AgriCulture Event on June 15, 2019 from Noon until 4:00 p.m..

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Gene Rouse to approve the Application for License for Incorporated Civic Organization to allow Main Street Skowhegan to serve alcohol at the AgriCulture Event on June 15, 2019 from Noon until 4:00 p.m.

Vote: 4/0

8. Discussion and decision to waive the bid process, and allow Greg Dore to join with Winslow for street painting with Lucas Painting, and expend an amount not to exceed \$24,689.68 from the Highway Department Contract Services Account, Street Painting Designation.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to waive the bid process, and allow Greg Dore to join with Winslow for street painting with Lucas Painting, and expend an amount not to exceed \$24,689.68 from the Highway Department Contract Services Account, Street Painting Designation.

Vote: 4/0

9. Discussion and decision to expend an amount not to exceed \$1,502.58 from the Police Department Reserve Account, Protective Vest Designation to purchase body armor for Officers Burns and Buzzel.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to expend an amount not to exceed \$1,502.58 from the Police Department Reserve Account, Protective Vest Designation to purchase body armor for Officers Burns and Buzzel.

Vote: 4/0

10. Discussion and Decision to accept the Byrne Jag Grant in the amount of \$7,351.00 to purchase watch guard body cameras, a laptop for a patrol vehicle and equipment for body armor molly gear.

A motion was made by Roger Staples and seconded by Betty Austin to accept the Byrne Jag Grant in the amount of \$7,351.00 to purchase watch guard body cameras, a laptop for a patrol vehicle and equipment for body armor molly gear.

Vote: 4/0

11. Discussion and decision to approve the agreements between the Town of Skowhegan, Cal Ripken Baseball League and Skowhegan Area High School for use of the Memorial Field Complex and Carl Wright Baseball Complex for the 2019 season.

A motion was made by Gene rouse and seconded by Roger staples to approve the agreements between the Town of Skowhegan, Cal Ripken Baseball League and Skowhegan Area High School for use of the Memorial Field Complex and Carl Wright Baseball Complex for the 2019 season.

Gene Rouse asked if there were any changes to this over the last year.

Denise LeBlanc said that there were not.

Vote: 4/0

Christine Almand asked if this need to come to the Selectmen every year of there are no changes.

Betty Austin said that we do that with other things.

12. Discussion and decision to install three stop signs at the intersection of Greenwood Avenue, Cleveland Street, and Kirby's Lane.

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Rouse to install three stop signs at the intersection of Greenwood Avenue, Cleveland Street, and Kirby's Lane.

Paul York said he does not agree with this. It is not an intersection, it is a curve. If the speed is an issue, we did purchase speed tables.

Betty Austin said she thinks these stop signs are a good idea. She went through and stopped to see what it would be like.

Roger Staples said he was ready to plant stop signs. He went up there and watched. He has changed his mind. Nobody was going over the limit. He is all about putting a stop sign on Kirby Lane.

Gene Rouse said he talked to 37 people about this. One former Selectman that was against it, another former Selectman who was for it and two others who said they don't go through there very often and it would make no difference to them. 57.5% of the 37 people were in favor of it.

Greg Dore said that people in the area it is not an issue. People that are not from the area actually stop there. Without a stop sign, coming from Kirby Lane you technically have the right of way to go straight through. It is not a significant inconvenience for anybody.

Paul York said then put a stop sign on Kirby Lane.

Judy York said she went up there and stopped. It is a curve, it is not an intersection. There have been no accidents. There hasn't been a problem.

Vote: 2/2 (motion failed)

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to install a stop sign on Kirby Lane, where it intersects Cleveland Street and Greenwood Avenue.

Vote: 4/0

13. Discussion and decision to allow Randy Gray to sell up to 800 yards of unscreened compost.

Randy Gray said it is being sold for \$2 per yard. It is more than he expected. It is unscreened. We don't always want to sell it because we pass it on to the taxpayers. We have plenty this year.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to allow Randy Gray to sell up to 800 yards of unscreened compost.

Vote: 4/0

14. Discussion and decision to accept a donation of 10 yards of mulch and labor from York's Lawn Care to mulch the traffic triangles on Route 201 and Water Street.

A motion was made by Gene Rouse and seconded by Betty Austin to accept a donation of 10 yards of mulch and labor from York's Lawn Care to mulch the traffic triangles on Route 201 and Water Street.

Vote: 3/0/1 (Paul York abstained)

15. Treasurer's Warrants to be approved:

#87	\$	44,855.60 (Payroll #17)
#88	\$	16,860.50 (State Payables)
#89	\$	38,099.85 (Payroll #18)
#90	\$	38,751.02 (Payroll #19)
#91	\$	16,931.93 (State Payables)
#92	\$	351,208.64 (FY 2019 Accounts Payables)
Total	\$	506,707.54

A motion was made by Betty Austin and seconded by Gene Royse 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

18. Sign Documents

Adjourn Selectmen's Meeting.

Approved and signed on May 28, 2019.

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