

Town of Knox

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes 04-13-2015

Present: 1st Selectman Galen Larrabee, 2nd Selectman Jeffrey Stevens, 3rd Selectman William Ingraham, Town Clerk Carol Hamblet, Treasurer Dorrit Emerson, Code Enforcement Officer David Schofield, residents MaryAnn Kinney, Cynthia Higgins, Todd Garnett

Meeting called to order at 6:00PM by Galen Larrabee.

There was a discussion with property owners on Old County Road concerning a fence dispute. David Schofield had documentation from MMA's Legal Department stating that if the town had no applicable ordinance, then it is a private civil matter. It further advises that the Town has no jurisdiction or legal authority to act in the case. The Board said they would discuss the matter with the abutters when they are out assessing, but this would not carry any legal weight. The possibility of appointing two fence viewers to investigate the matter was discussed.

The minutes of the March 23, 2015 meeting were accepted as written by a vote of 3-0.

Clean-up Day is all set for Saturday, May 23 from 9 to 1. Flyers have been printed and are available at the office. It will be more widely advertised shortly.

Todd Garnett told the Selectmen that the plow contract should be put out to bid. He will be putting it into writing that he will not be plowing the Town for the upcoming winter. He was also asked to make room at the sand/salt shed for the upcoming Clean-up Day on May 23.

The following appointments were made: Motor Vehicle Agent – Dorrit Emerson, Deputy Motor Vehicle Agent – Carol Hamblet, Planning Board – J. Mark Chadwick, Deputy Public Access Officer – David Schofield, Deputy Registrar of Voters – Carol Hamblet, Deputy Secretary to the Selectman – Dorrit Emerson. The terms for the UARRC representatives are for three years, so our present members are set until 2017. There are vacancies on the Cemetery Committee, Planning Board and for Public Access Officer.

Dorrit has complied with all of the auditor's requests and is waiting for him to complete the 2014 audit.

Eric Galant of the Mid-Coast Regional Planning Commission met with the Planning Board regarding updating the town's Comprehensive Plan. He provided the members and the Board of Selectmen with an overview of the services they provide and the outline of what a Comprehensive Plan actually is. Galen felt that the cost of updating the town's Comprehensive Plan could be held down by the Planning Board/Comprehensive Planning Committee doing most of the work themselves.

Matt Shaw, Emergency Management Director, gave Galen an update on our generator grant. It is expected that the town will get a generator. It will not be a stationary unit, but the town could make it so.

Dorrit is looking into investment options for the town funds.

William Ingraham and David Schofield were appointed to be representatives to the Mid-Coast Regional Planning Commission. Galen signed the submittal of membership form.

The Town will be putting the snowplow contract out to bid May/June and will hold a special town meeting afterwards for the funding of it. Bids will also be going out for the sand pile later in June.

Carol was directed to contact the property owner of Account #PP42 and ask for clarification on her abatement request.

The property owners of Account #'s 93 – 466 – 464 – and 63 have all made a down payment on their past due taxes and have signed a monthly payment agreement. The Town has had no response from the property owners of Account #'s 523 and 537 concerning the foreclosure notice on their unpaid taxes. The Town will get advice from their attorney on how to proceed with the foreclosure process. Account #553 needs to be abated because the mobile home is no longer in existence. The town's insurance policy has been updated to reflect the foreclosed properties.

Copies of the March 2015 annual town meeting were given to the Board of Selectmen. Dorrit has already reviewed the minutes and gave Carol some clarifications on the wording. Carol asked the Board to review them for any errors or omissions. A letter was signed by the Board and the office staff thanking Michael Thibodeau for serving as moderator at the annual town meeting. The Board reviewed a listing of residents who would be eligible to receive free produce from Curravale Farms.

Ryan Herz needs to be contacted about finishing the electrical jobs at the town office. A new post will be set for the office mailbox. The old office computers will be made available for the CEO and possibly other town boards. Dorrit will check into removing the hard drives. Discussion on raises for the town office staff were tabled until the next meeting.

The Board signed the Opt-Out Option for the 2016 Waldo County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Dorrit will be working on the final steps of implementing the town's website. The selectmen's meeting minutes need to be added to the site. A letter was signed by the Board and the office staff thanking the town resident who designed the website at no charge to the town.

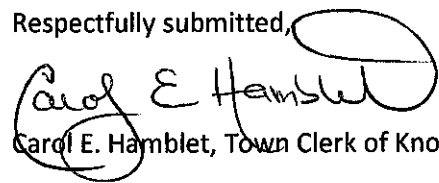
The cemetery mowing for the year is all taken care of. The DEP annual solid waste/recycling report is due April 30, 2015. Mr. Morgan of the DOT called and said the State plans to start the paving of Route 220 on May 4, 2015. Maine DOT sent a memo concerning construction on 137 scheduled for the summer of 2016. A questionnaire needs to be filled out about facilities along the construction way. The town received a letter from FEMA stating that the deadline for adopting the new floodplain ordinance and maps is July 6, 2015. (This has already been taken care of at our March Town Meeting.) The State of Maine Department of Agriculture notified the town that our ordinance is compliant with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. A public open house about the new flood insurance rate maps will be held at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast on April 29. Governor LePage sent a letter to the residents to be put in our 2014 annual town report. The Maine Association of Assessing Officers invited the board members to join their organization. Board members were given information about the 2015 Elected Officials Workshops. MMA sent the member 2014 UC Fund Balance Report. The Municipal Review Committee sent their April 2015 newsletter. The Maine Tax Collectors' and Treasurers' Association sent a memo about upcoming legislation on elections. The Maine Welfare Directors Association is holding an Advance GA workshop on June 18. RSU3 sent an agenda for their board meeting on April 13.

The Board of Assessors will start their annual review of real estate and personal properties in town.

The Board authorized raises of \$1500 for the CEO and \$500 for the ACO for the 2015 fiscal year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol E. Hamblet". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Carol E. Hamblet, Town Clerk of Knox