

Cooper Select Board Meeting
December 4, 2014
Held at the Cooper Town Office

Attending: Amanda Donaghy, Sandy Lyon, Dan Ackley, Karen Holmes, Scott Jamieson, John Viselli

Starting time: 6:35 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: The treasurer's warrant was reviewed and signed.

Agenda Item 2: School board update was given by Karen. She had a copy of the AOS 2016 budget. It came in the mail yesterday and the meeting on it is tonight. There are cost comparisons with the other towns, and it shows Cooper's share. They are trying to make the budget level with the current year. There is a letter explaining why some areas did go up. Karen has been very transparent, sharing everything that she receives.

Agenda Item 3: Flag pole discussion – Karen said people are asking why the mill stone isn't used. She wonders if we can put it in the minutes as a brief item. Dan said he has some grade stakes; can it go in the ground to fix the stones that were used? Scott suggested rebar. Dan will pick up some. Dan asked if Scott can fix the stones after the warm up Sat. and Scott said yes.

Dan said the Select Board never did approach the Fire dept. about the mill stone, and that is why it never happened. Dan then spoke about adding landscaping in the Spring, which we will discuss as it gets closer.

Scott asked about adding an MIA flag to the flag pole. Everyone liked the idea, and Scott has one on order.

Sandy spoke about the bench that we can get from Cole Land Transportation museum that honors veterans. Dan Donaghy said he can pick it up when he is in Bangor. Everyone agreed this can wait until spring too.

Agenda Item 4: The financial audit has been finalized. Amanda gave copies to the Select Board. Wanese has met with Select Board, Amanda and Sandy. Wanese has amended the audit showing the changes that were suggested when she was here.

Wanese was asked about moving the audit earlier in the year. Amanda will follow up as the Spring gets closer.

Agenda Item 5: Mail was shared, nothing noteworthy.

Agenda Item 6: the Third party request money is now gone. Sandy was reimbursed for one of the donations she made on the veteran's day.

Agenda Item 7: Amanda asked about questions article writing for the coming year. She gave some specific examples. The Select board made a motion that the construction fund be closed and the money be used to reimburse the main account.

Dan made the motion, John seconded. All in favor: the motion passed. Amanda will close the account.

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Agenda Item 8: The tax property that we are working on will be taken care of soon. We believe that the taxes will be current as of this year.

Agenda Item 9: The evening of Dec. 18 will not be a meeting but the Select Board will come to sign warrants. Sandy will be here for town business from 6:00 – 7:00 and Laurie will be here 4:30 – 6:30. Sandy will put up a sign to let the town's people know.

The first Thursday in Jan. is New Years Day, so we will postpone the Town office hours and the Select Board meeting to the second Thursday, Jan 8th. That will be the next Select Board meeting. Then we will get back on schedule again, meeting on the Jan. 15. This meeting will be dedicated to working on the Town Report and Warrant.

Agenda Item 10: Karen thought that the meeting with Ronnie was unresolved, and asked about it. Dan said the paperwork was done, it is sent in. That is all set now.

Karen also wanted us to be aware that the East West Steering committee meeting is tomorrow night at Verona Island. She is trying to keep us updated, but can't travel all that distance for meetings.

Agenda Item 11: Sandy asked if we could authorize Scott to do a really good cleaning of the floors, they really need it. If they are done well now, then we should be able to go for a couple months. Dan asked Scott if he would do the floors, Scott agreed.

Agenda Item 12: Dan has received one complaint about plowing on the Vining road. The daughter could not get in and they had to bring her out the following morning. Dan defended by saying the dirt road was not frozen, and it will always have to be done after the main roads. Discussion followed of the issues with roads that are normal for living in Maine. Sometimes it is best to stay home.

Agenda Item 13: Amanda asked if someone could fix the loose door knob in the office. Dan will fix the Door on Saturday.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Select Board meeting will be Thursday Jan. 8, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.