

Cooper Select Board Meeting
August 21, 2014
Held at the Cooper Town Office

Attending: Sandy Lyon, Doug Blank, Daniel Ackley, Dan Ackley, Amanda Donaghy, Karen Holmes, Marie Loring, Donna Loring, Ted Peterson, Sandy Peterson, Debra Hawley
Those who left early: Ronnie Flood, Trevor Flood, Scott Jamison, Laurie Pike

Starting time: 6:42 p.m.

Agenda Item 1: The treasurer's warrant was reviewed and signed. The Select Board also reviewed financial statements for the month.

Agenda Item 2: Winter Roads Contract – Ronnie Flood and the Select Board agreed on mileage and wording. Ronnie and Sandy will get together to edit the contract. Dan asked that the contract editing reflect that the amount for salt also includes an amount to be made available in case of a winter like the one we just had.

Agenda Item 3: Daniel gave an update of the Loss control action plan. The Select Board needs to decide who will be trained to use the fire extinguishers. Monthly updates of fire extinguishers will be done by Scott who has been trained. Sandy told the Select Board that she has spoken with Lance about doing the electrical work. Lance said that he will be here the 28th or 29th. Sandy will leave a copy of the Loss Control Action Plan for him. Scott spoke about moving the stair, he has a plan for how it may be done.

Agenda Item 4: The Emergency Management plan needs to be reviewed for Michael Hinnerman of Washington County Emergency Management in Machias. Sandy just received a survey request from his office, which she will fill out and send back. Trevor will bring the Plan to the next Select Board meeting for them to review it. Sandy will mail a copy of the Select Board minutes to Mike for his records.

Agenda Item 5: Joey Gardner is not here, so Dan spoke about reaction to the letter that was sent. Some people have not paid in 5 years, yet their paperwork did not include payments the Town had made. We need to be accountable to the town. Some think payments for their road maintaince should go before the Town in the warrant at Town meeting. Dan agreed and said we need to know how the Town feels about this.

Agenda Item 6: School board update – Karen said a copy of the audit should be sent to by August 28. Amanda said we have done all we can, and we are waiting on the auditors. Karen said there was a rumor that we may not have a bus to go to East Machias. Karen has straightened out some of the issues already, and will continue to work on it.

Agenda Item 7: The Select Board asked the Fire Dept. here to discuss payment made to Scott for brushing at the Fire Dept. The first time they thought it was cooperation to pay the hours. Then a second bill came in when Norm Howe, the Fire Dept. Treasurer was here. Norm said it was town land. So the Select Board paid a second time. Dan said the Select board didn't know what was going on: did the Fire dept. expect the Town to pay for this work? The total amount comes to almost \$1,000. The Select board wants to take it out of the \$16,020 that the Town voted to pay the Fire Dept. at the Summer Meeting.

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Trevor Flood, Fire Chief, said that he thought the work was being done just on a volunteer basis. He wasn't aware that any money was being spent. Ronnie asked if they could just take the money if the Fire Dept. didn't budget for it. Dan said yes. Then Scott said he would be returning the almost \$1,000 to the Town and that his volunteering is done, good-night. Dan asked him not to leave. (Scott left) Then Dan said this is what he did not want to happen. The time sheets were reviewed. Trevor said he thought it was understood that it was volunteer. Trevor did remember that Scott told him that the Town had paid him for some hours. Daniel said that there are some roads we don't want to go down. Ronnie said they had applied for and received permission from the state to do the work. There are taxes and insurance to consider too. Dan said he hoped we could come up with a plan on how to best handle this. Dan asked if the Fire Dept. could absorb \$1,000. Ronnie said they can't absorb it, and it is not up to them, there is a board of directors who decides. Tonight in the other room they are planning a public supper to help the Fire Dept. out.

Trevor said that they were all just working together to get the wider driveway done. Dan asked why Scott didn't understand it was volunteer work. Maybe he just didn't hear everything. Sandy is involved with an organization that requires two signatures before money is spent. It was suggested that two signatures be put on timesheets to eliminate the confusion in the future.

Motion: The new policy will be two signatures before a check is printed. All in favor: Dan and Daniel, the motion passed.

Ronnie spoke about all the equipment that they don't have, that the Fire Dept. is working for, because neither the police nor the ambulance has it. They look to the Fire Dept. to have it, so that is one thing they are working for.

Agenda Item 8: Web site progress has been slow, because of vacations and the need to get information. It should be able to happen soon, just waiting for Sandy and Erica to get together.

Agenda Item 9: Sandy will divide up the custodian chores into weekly, monthly, or seasonal, and we will discuss next meeting.

Agenda Item 10: Sandy spoke about the State requiring by law that all Registrars of Voters attend an Election conference once every two years, and that she did not go last year. She needs to go this year, it is Sept. 24th & 25th in Bangor. The cost of registration needs to be sent in by Sept. 5th. Amanda said she will mail it in. Sandy will call for a registration at the suggested Holiday Inn which offers a discounted rate and will do tax exempt.

Agenda Item 11: A group of summer people came to discuss the budget issues that the Town of Cooper has. They all pay taxes and are not able to vote, since they are not Town residents. An informal discussion followed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Next Select Board meeting will be Thursday September 4, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.