

Town of Howland

Monday, August 19, 2019

SELECTMAN'S MEETING

Selectmen Present: Glenn Brawn, Tami Colbath, Michael Sereyko, Dwight A. Dawson and Gary Clark.

Others Present: David Lloyd, Town Manager, Kimberly Soucier Recording Secretary and attendees.

Call to Order: The Selectmen's Meeting was called to order by Chairman Brawn at 6:00pm.

Accept the Minutes of July 22, 2019 Meetings: A motion was made by Ms. Colbath seconded by Mr. Dawson to accept the minutes from the last meeting as printed and place them on file; vote was unanimous.

Any Changes to the Agenda: None

Public Comments/Questions: None

Discussion on gravel swap with Treeline Inc.: Proposal is to allow Treeline Inc. to screen out approximately 500 yards of screen gravel for their use and in return they will screen 250 yards of screened gravel that will be stockpiled in the pit for Town use. Mr. Brawn abstained from discussion and vote, Ms. Colbath took over the meeting. Town Manager stated that the Town pit hasn't been used much over the 10 to 15 year period. Treeline has proposed if feasible to screen out 500 yards of screen gravel for their project and in return they would screen and stockpile 250 yards for the Town to use going forward on different projects. The benefit to this proposal is to use some of the gravel to improve the area around the Veteran's Memorial and opening up the pit with possible better gravel without utilizing Town's equipment and employees. Town Manager stated that he will be monitoring the process as they move forward. A motion was made by Mr. Sereyko seconded by Mr. Clark to accept the proposal to allow Treeline Inc. to screen 500 yards of screen gravel in return screen 250 yards for the Town; motion carried with Glenn Brawn abstaining.

Discussion on SAD #31 Tennis Court relocation to recreation fields: Richard Lindsay was present at the meeting for discussion. Tuesday there was a unanimous vote from SAD#31 directors to possibly have the new tennis court over to the park near the playground area. Mr. Lindsay stated where the recreational program running in the early summer months this will attract people that may want to play tennis. Also this is the best interest to the community at having this at the park in order to make it more visible and accessible to the public. This will be no cost to the Town as the school district will maintain the court. There was some discussion of not giving the land to the school if agreed have a lease agreement between the Town and school to use the property. A motion was made by Ms. Colbath seconded by Mr. Clark to allow the school to place the court over to the recreation field being that it is feasible to have the tennis court over there in that area; motion carried 3/2 votes with Mr. Dawson and Mr. Sereyko opposed.

Mark Ouellette President & CEO of Axiom, Broadband proposal: Mark Ouellette, Axiom and Vicki Rusbult, Director of Community Initiatives was present at the meeting to answer any questions that come up during the presentation. Eastern Maine Development Corporation applied for and was successfully awarded a planning grant through the ConnectME Authority. Axiom was named the planning partner. Axiom is also a small internet service provider company. The planning grant consist of two Phases 1 and 2. Phase 1 is meant to help communities better evaluate their situation with internet. Phase 2 will include several elements; goal alignment, network design, financial modeling and final

report with all of our findings and recommendations which includes the feasibility of obtaining outside funding to help for the plan. The Alternative Connect America Cost Model, ACAM, funding which is federal money will help services economic costs of deploying and operating a fiber to the premise network. The consultation is free all the Town needs to do is notify OTELCO ask them to give you a coverage plan then if you have questions notify Mark Ouellette if not happy with OTELCO's plan Mark will move forward with Howland as a consultant. The Town will be looking between \$20,000 to \$25,000 per mile for installation. Town Manager mentioned that the Board will be meeting with 3 other providers before they make a decision.

Discussion regarding asbestos abatement quote from Statewide Asbestos removal Inc.:

5 Front Street \$4,800, 3 Main Street \$7,200: A Special Town Meeting was held on October 9, 2018 to spend up to \$34,600 to tear down the buildings on 3 Main Street and 5 Front Street. The Statewide Asbestos Removal Inc. assessment that came in to remove the asbestos totaling \$12,000 and the Board going with the lower bid on tearing down the buildings from the meeting of August 27, 2018 \$23,397 should cover the cost of tearing down both buildings. After some discussion a motion was made by Mr. Dawson seconded by Ms. Colbath to move forward with the Asbestos Abatement quote of \$12,000 and have the buildings removed; vote was unanimous. Some of the material might go down to the Transfer Station to burn on the pad to keep the cost down if needed.

2020 Road project financing through Machias Savings Bank options: A) Keep the remaining term which is 95 months, annual payment \$116,670 (\$923,637.50) B) Extend the current loan to 120 months, annual payment \$95,526 (\$955,260) by extending the term to 120 months is an additional \$31,622.50 in interest: The plan is to extend with the River Road and Caron Drive project loan to include FY2020 road projects, No Howland Road, Terrio Street and Mattamiscontis Road. The current balance for the River Road and Caron Drive project is \$475,822 increasing the existing loan with Machias Bank for the FY2020 road projects, (No Howland Road, Terrio Street and Mattamiscontis) in the amount of \$332,645 first by paying \$150,000 from comprehensive capitol account to Wellman Paving upfront before we make payments from the project account. After some discussion a motion was made by Ms. Colbath seconded by Mr. Dawson to extend the current loan to 120 months having the annual payment of \$95,526.00; vote was unanimous.

Manager's Report: The next Selectmen's Meeting will be on Monday, August 26th starting with a Public Hearing having a site visit coming back to the meeting to conclude the situation with the Public Hearing. The Board meeting will follow once the hearing is closed. **Road Project:** Town Manager stated that he has been on the site several times a day when permitted to inspect the work that is being done. Ed from Wellman Paving has been keeping us informed. The job has been progressing right along with no complaints from residents so far. **SAD#31** Priscilla Clark was present at the meeting stating that their next Regionalization Committee meeting is on Thursday, August 22nd starting at 6pm following the School Board meeting at 7pm at the Library. Six different regions were notified of the meeting with only 3 responding that they will be coming to the meeting to discuss shared services. **Fire Department:** Chief McNally was present at the meeting letting the Board know that he brought down the Tanker from Passadumkeag for the Board to look over after the meeting.

Discussion on Old Tannery Park Name/sign design: Mr. Brawn stated that he notified the contractor that did the demolition on the Tannery asking about the bricks and said the bricks were pretty much buried. It was unanimous with the Board on the sign "Old Tannery Park". The sign will be double sided the planter not included costing \$1,100. The Board told Priscilla Clark to go ahead and have the sign made, the Board will come up with the money somewhere in the Town's accounts.

Discussion on park design proposal: Andy Goode gave a quote of \$12,000 to do the park design on paper over to the Tannery Park. This design will include enhancing the walking trail, more lighting,

picnic tables, Gazebo and landscaping. The project we are looking at would be around \$400,000 with a 50% matching conservation grant that the Town would have to come up with. The committee also discussed on doing the projects one at a time applying for grants to help out in the cost each year. The Town fiscally doesn't have the money do it all at once with all the projects going on now and purchasing a new plow truck. A motion was made by Mr. Dawson seconded by Mr. Sereyko to reject the park proposal; vote was unanimous. Town Manager will touch base with Andy Goode explaining the town's situation and let him know that the Town is willing to do some improvements to the park with one project at a time on a yearly basis. In the meantime the Town will do some research next year.

Executive Session- Title #1, M.R.S. §405 (6) (A) Personnel: A motion was made by Ms. Colbath seconded by Mr. Sereyko to go into executive session; motion carried and the Board went in session at 7:33pm. The Board reconvened the meeting at 8:17pm coming out of the discussion the Town Manager stated that they had a joint evaluation with Fire Chief and Paramedic for the Town's Fire/EMS department. Howland is very fortunate to have Mr. McNally on board representing the Town and his department, keep up the great work doing great things.

Executive Session- Title #1, M.R.S. §405 (6) (C) Economic Development: A motion was made by Ms. Colbath seconded by Mr. Dawson to go into executive session; motion carried and the Board went in session at 8:18pm. The Board reconvened at 8:28pm. A motion was made by Mr. Dawson seconded by Mr. Sereyko to authorize Town Manager to negotiate a lease option with Aroostook Truss; motion carried with Ms. Colbath abstaining.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting a motion was made by Mr. Dawson seconded by Mr. Clark to adjourn; motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm.

