

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 07, 2023
GOULDSBORO SELECT BOARD MEETING

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8018727702?pwd=WjJmUFhyWVNKZmphOUdoTTdwbDRLUT09>

Meeting ID: 801 872 7702

Password: 4uFgxX

Present: Dana Rice Sr., Robert Harmon, Danny Mitchell Jr., Jackie Weaver, Peter McKenzie
Staff: Yvonne Wilkinson, Town Manager, Brianna L. Mitchell, Senior Deputy Town Clerk
Audience: Ten (10) - Zoom (3)

Meeting held at the Gouldsboro Town Office.

Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 5PM



Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF November 21, 2023

Mr. Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of November 21, 2023; 2nd by Mr. Harmon. Passed 5/0

PAYROLL WARRANT #22

Mr. Harmon moved to approve Payroll Warrant #22 in the amount of \$35,008.55 2nd by Mr. McKenzie. Passed 5/0

A/P WARRANT #23

Mr. Mitchell moved to approve A/P Warrant #23 in the amount of \$359,336.25; 2nd by Ms. Weaver. Passed 4/1 – Bob Harmon (abstained)

REPORTS

Mr. Rice: Nothing at this time.

Mr. Mitchell: Nothing at this time.

Mr. Harmon: Question about a Planning Board fees budget line; why it was in the red at 200%? Eve responded informing him the line shows over budget because of the \$9,000 Comp Plan money that was carried forward.

Mr. McKenzie: Thank you to Jackie for going to Winter Harbor and getting them to join Gouldsboro in the housing process. She also was able to get some money from them to put towards the study.

Ms. Weaver: **Ms. Weaver made a motion to rescind the boards approval of the Budget Guidelines that was passed last meeting and go back to the original version that the Select Board and Budget Committee agreed on November 15, 2023 and continue the discussion at a future meeting; 2nd by Mr. Mitchell. Passed 3/0.** Mr. Rice & Mr. Mitchell were absent from the November 15, 2023 meeting when the Board approved this. (Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Harmon and Ms. Weaver attended the joint meeting.)

Larry Peterson, Budget Committee Secretary, came in November 20, 2023 to sit with Brianna to go over revisions that the Select Board and Budget Committee went over at the joint meeting on November 15, 2023. Revisions were made and the document was up to date as of the morning of November 20, 2023. Jackie Weaver came in and sat with Brianna the afternoon of November 20, 2023 to make a few changes to the document. This document was the document that was brought to the Select Board meeting on November 21, 2023 to be discussed. After much discussion, the board would like to set up a joint meeting with the Budget Committee with Brianna present, to make revisions, with the revised document that Larry sat down with Brianna on November 20, 2023 from the joint meeting. **The Board made an amendment to set up a joint**

meeting with the Budget Committee to review the Budget Guidelines document from revisions with Larry on November 20, 2023 and continue the discussion. Passed 5/0

Treasurer: See attached

Eve reported there is a few budget lines showing in the red.

- Plumbing Inspector – this line was apt to be overdrawn considerably due to staff changes that were not expected.
- Police Department – All over time is being put under the stipends line to show the differences.
- EMS Department – The medicine budget line reflects unexpected increased oxygen prices.
- Public Works – Ads for job position.

COMMITTEES

Planning Board-

Planning Board Chair Ray Jones reported he has given the Board an email from Tim Pease stating language to possibly input in the Land Use Ordinance. Ray is questioning if the town still needs the Finfish Aquaculture Licensing Ordinance. The Planning Board will be working with and revising Tim Pease's paragraph to better fit our community.

Shore Access License Agreements-

Bill Zoellick presented the Shore Access License Agreements to the Select Board. The problem as it stands now, property owners bear the burden of creating and enforcing agreements that enable shellfish harvesters to cross property to access the shore. Most agreements are verbal and may be communicated differently or other harvesters may understand differently. If harvesters access the property in ways that don't match the verbal agreement, the owners may feel they need to meet with the harvester, assuming they know which harvester is responsible. Over the past year, Bill and Mike Pinkham have encountered people who are willing to consider access across their property for harvesters but are wary about dealing with the uncertainties and burdens associated with the arrangements.

Bill and Mike have worked with Bob DeForrest and others at Maine Coast Heritage Trust to create a draft at no-cost, limited-time license agreement that they hope will lower the barriers to providing shore access across private property. Key elements include:

- Rather a verbal agreement, it will be written and include a site map that shows where the access is permitted to the harvester(s).
- Rather an agreement with one or more harvesters, it will be an agreement with the town, administered by the Shellfish Committee and enforced by the committee and Shellfish Warden.
- Rather being indefinite in duration, it will be a one-year agreement that renews automatically unless terminated with 60 days' notice by either the town or the property owner.

Bill is asking the Select Board whether this approach makes sense? They plan to finalize an agreement template for the boards review but want the boards OK on the concept before proceeding. They have identified property owners who are willing to work with them on the trial implementations of the idea. Given the boards OK, they will begin working with them to try out the idea and learn more about what needs to be in the template agreement. Maine Coast Heritage Trust's attorney is working on this as well.

Coastal Resilience-

Bill Zoellick reported to the board the Coastal Resilience Committee (CRC) met on Monday of this week. They were joined by Bob DeForrest of MCHT and Abbe Roche of Island Institute. This is the update:

- Gouldsboro is eligible for up to \$50,000 in community action grant funding in February/March. No local match is required if they apply for goals listed in the State's list of priority actions. One of these items, "Conduct a vulnerability assessment for critical community infrastructure," matches up with work recommended in the FBE report.

- In addition, MaineDOT announced an upcoming request for applications to help municipalities in the Community Resilience Partnership program adapt their critical infrastructure to reduce vulnerability to climate change. Applicants may request up to \$50,000 to support scoping and/or design. They've not yet published the RFA, but it might require a local match.
- The CRC has identified two areas as high priority. They are focused on the impact of severe storm events in the near term as well as sea-level rise in the longer term.
 - Corea Road in the Sand Beach area. Loss of this road would cut Corea off from emergency services and all other car and truck level.
 - The area where Corea Road splits into Francis Pound Road and Cranberry Point Road.

POLICE DEPARTMENT - See attached

Deputy Brackett reported;

- The 2016 Cruiser 1081 is fixed and back in service. Kenny is happy to have his home on wheels back.
- December 17th at 4PM is the Community Christmas Event
- Our agency has been awarded to host another Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training to active shooter situations. This course is delivered by the FBI.
- Speed has been an issue on East Schoodic Drive and Main Street by the locals (not tourists), lets please remember to slow down and drive safety.

FIRE DEPARTMENT / EMS - See attached

Chief Monroe reported the department has been steady. Engine truck is back at the station and fixed with a rebuilt pump. Has not received the bill yet. Chief also reported that oxygen has sky rocketed in price so the medicine budget line is depleting. The Select Board requested that Chief Monroe supply the Board with a monthly EMS schedule.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER - Absent

Town Manager Eve Wilkinson reported CEO Mike Connors will be having surgery next week and should be back after the holidays. He is available by email or work phone until then and is trying to help as much as he can.

RSU#24 REPRESENTATIVE- Absent

The Board would like Eve to give Mary Cowperthwaite a call to let her know again that she needs to attend some of the board meetings to give them updates often.

TOWN MANAGER – See attached

Old Business

New Hampshire Recruitment Agency – Zoom Meeting

Alan Gould, with New Hampshire Recruitment Agency, has been a previous Town Manager and currently a Police Chief. The company helps assist in recruiting applicants for all kinds of local government positions. The assistance package is a pay-as-you-go hourly rate. They spend roughly 30-35 hours screening resumes, making phone calls, cutting viable candidates they find are not fit for the position, and then turn them over to the Select Board. They suggest a \$1,000 advertising allowance to advertise on ICMA a national association, Press Harold, local and New England newspapers, and any free advertising newspaper companies as well. Some advertising venues allow free advertising if the position has not been filled after 30 days of advertising. Some allow it to run until the position is filled. You are essentially paying for expertise with writing a well written ad and screening applicants. Once that portion is complete the company will turn over the suitable applicants, they find would fit the description of the position. If they find all the applicants they receive don't fit the description or wants of the Select Board, they will let the Select Board know that they did not feel comfortable

with any of the applicants and continue searching. Historically, the cost for an assistance package has not exceeded \$5,000.

New Business

Perc Contract

Mr. Harmon reviewed the contract and looks the same as we had before although the pricing changed a little bit. This is a 6-month contract being presented and they are in the process of going through DEP. The new owners have to be recertified by DEP to operate the same license that was already in place. They need the contract to be in the new owner's name in order to operate. They hope to be up and running by the end of this year but awaiting permission from DEP. **Mr. Harmon made a motion to enter into the Perc contract; 2nd by Mr. McKenzie. Passed 5/0**

Camoine Contract

Ms. Weaver reported Winter Harbor will be joining in with the housing study. Camoine will be looking into many different areas to identify how big the problem is and where the need is. There is a schedule of what Camoine does and originally quoted \$42,000 but Jackie was able to get them down to \$21,000 and none of this money will be paid by tax payer monies. It will be paid with grant monies and Schoodic Institute will be contributing \$3,000. Nick Fisichelli from Schoodic Institute wrote a letter to the Select Board in support of the housing study. The Town of Winter Harbor will be contributing \$4,000 towards the study. The vote in Winter Harbor was 2/1. Jackie mentions there may not be an appetite from Winter Harbor in joining the housing trust. **Mr. Harmon made a motion to give Eve the authority to sign the Camoine contract; 2nd by Mr. Mitchell. Passed 5/0**

Streetlights

Eve reported there are some intersections in our community that do not have proper lighting. Many years ago, the town chose to shut some of them off to save money but Eve would like to revisit the possibility of turning some back on for safety reasons and for our public safety departments. There is more traffic here and it is particularly needed in some places on stormy nights. Street light costs for the town depend on the type:

- 100W Mercury Vapor - \$18.84 per month (17 units)
- 50W High Pressure Sodium - \$13.95 per month (14 units)
- 70W High Pressure Sodium - \$13.54 per month (5 units)

If we were to agree to more lights, they would send out a planner and let us know what style and price would be most effective. They are currently only installing LED lights and those rates are slightly less than the ones above. The Board would like to get together a list of places in town that would benefit with the lights with the help of our public safety departments. It was mentioned that Robbins Point Road subdivision needs a light.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ray Jones asked the Board when Jason Tracey would be starting the culverts on Gouldsboro Point Road. Bob responded and informed him that he should be starting next week as the job deadline is by December 15, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: MRSA Title 1, sec 405, sub 6A – *Town Manager Search*

Motion by Ms. Weaver to enter into executive session at 6:45PM; 2nd by Mr. Mitchell. Passed 5/0

Motion by Mr. Rice to exit executive session at 7:15PM; 2nd by Mr. Harmon. Passed 5/0

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

ADJOURN: Mr. Harmon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15PM; 2nd by Mr. McKenzie. Passed 5/0

Respectfully submitted,
Brianna L. Mitchell, Senior Deputy Town Clerk

Please note: These minutes are not verbatim. A tape recording of the meeting is available at the Town Office during regular business hours.

Enclosures: Agenda, Minutes of November 21, 2023, A/P Warrant #23, P/R Warrant #22, Treasurer's Report, Town Manager's Report, Police Dept Report, Schoodic EMS report, Bill Zoellick Shore Access License Agreements, Bill Zoellick Coastal Resilience Committee, Perc Interim Contract, Schoodic Food Pantry, Camoin Associates housing study proposal, Housing study email from Jackie Weaver, Tim Pease Finfish Ordinance language email, Larry Peterson email regarding Municipal Officials, Commissioners meeting 11.07.23, Commissioners meeting 12.05.23, RSU#24 meeting 12.05.23.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

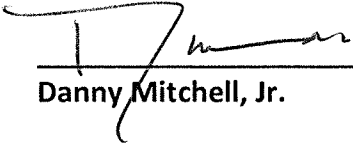
Minutes of December 07, 2023 and Approval on December 21, 2023



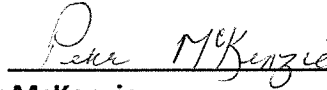
Dana Rice Sr.



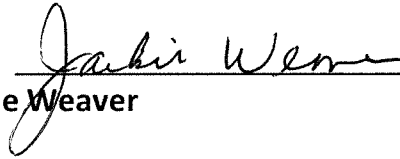
Robert Harmon



Danny Mitchell, Jr.



Peter McKenzie



Jackie Weaver

