

MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2024
GOULDSBORO BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THREE YEAR PLANS WITH BUDGET COMMITTEE
Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8018727702?pwd=WjJmUjFhYVVNkZmphOUdoTTdwbDRLUT09>
Meeting ID: 801 872 7702
Password: 4uFgxX

Present: Jackie Weaver., Danny Mitchell, Jr, Robert Harmon
Staff: Josh McIntyre, Town Manager and Rachel Hudson, Deputy Town Clerk
Audience: Seven (7) –One (3) Virtual Zoom

Meeting held at the Gouldsboro Town Office, Prospect Harbor, ME.
Mr. Harmon opened the meeting at 5:00PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Mr. McIntyre here to report on Buildings and Grounds.

- Josh states Fire Stations 2 and 3 are both in need of new shingles, Josh is suggesting on adding \$10,000.00 to the reserve account. Dwight states money has been set aside for this, and that it is essential and not a wish list item now.
- Prospect Harbor Women's Club is in need of some attention. The exterior paint needs to be done, a quote of \$10,000.00 was given, that is good through Fall of 2024. The water issue under the building also needs to be addressed. A quote from Eastern Maine Basements estimated to cost of \$10,000.00. There is a strong musty smell, which is caused by the amount of water under the building. A fill of some kind needs to be put in, something that will absorb and keep the water out. Jackie Weaver states she thinks there might be a grant we could apply for to help with the cost of the repairs where it is a Historic Building. Jackie Weaver suggests, not to tear it down, but to look into the building and what it costs to keep up and running. Dwight states the Budget Committee is wanting some more information about the painting, and the water issue of the Women's Club. He states that it is going to take some time, unless funding is added to the reserve. Josh will be looking back at the report/quote from Eastern Maine Basements, and reexamine it. General consensus of the Selectmen, and the Budget Committee is to fix the water problem first, and then worry about the paint at a later time. Dwight suggestion is the add money to the reserve until the amount for the entire project/repair is made. The suggestion of \$20,000 (\$10,000 for shingles and \$10,000 for Women's Club Repairs) as a warrant article.
- Jones Pond Trails need to be trimmed up, and made accessible, with maybe some interactive signs added about the Ecology of a pond. An estimate of \$3000.00 was quoted for this project. Eve Wilkinson states that funds from the Strater Funds can be used for the Jones Pond Trails.
- Station One/Town Office generator was repaired winter of 2024. It was fixed, but Colwell Diesel reported to Ken Monroe that they are on their last legs, and repairs will become more frequent. Josh suggests, replacing one this year, and one the next Fiscal Year. Station One/Town Office generator will be replaced first.

- South Gouldsboro Breakwater needs some repair. Mike Pinkham and Dana Rice met with a contractor about an estimated cost. \$125,000 to just fix the Breakwater Public Access. There is very little parking, but Danny Mitchell suggests the repairs, due to it being the only public access that side of the Town of Gouldsboro. Robert Harmon suggests coming up with a 5 Year Plan, with an estimated quote of what the entire project would cost to repair and upgrade, and add money to the reserve each year. Jackie Weaver states she would reach out to Sarah Redmond about funding help to fix the Breakwater. The \$125K above, is to make it stable and usable. Ray Jones states the Planning Board and Bill Zoellick are working on an application to do studies on 4 harbors in town for a State Grant. Josh states he will talk with Mike Pinkham about what has been talked about, and what their plan will be moving forward. As of right now, the South Gouldsboro Breakwater is the biggest issue.
- Ken Monroe reports the Fire Station Door Openers are 30 years old, and are in need of replacement. The cost is \$1300 a piece, and there are 7 openers total that need replacement. Ken would like to replace one a year. Dwight asked if Ken could get quotes from a couple of other companies to compare the cost. The Board and Budget Committee also suggest one building a year due to labor overhead. Starting with Station One, adding it into the budget for Station One Repairs of Buildings and Grounds.
- Dwight states there is \$65,000 in the reserve account. \$30,000 of this is intended for the Fire Station shingles. If \$20,000 were to be added back into the reserve, it wouldn't be depleted. Purchasing the generators would be an option as well to bypass a Warrant Article. Larry Peterson asked if it would be worth a Warrant Article of \$35,000, so it doesn't deplete too low. General consensus is to ask for a \$35,000 Warrant Article for Building and Grounds Reserve.

SOLID WASTE/TRANSFER STATION: Mr. Ray Jones here to report on Solid Waste and Transfer Station.

- Ray reports the Transfer Station needs a new gate and a new sign. The estimated cost for a gate is \$6,000, and the sign would be \$700.00. All the funds could be taken out of the reserve.
- There has been conversation within the Solid Waste Committee in regards to the purchase of scales. As of 3/21/2024, Rachel states 538 Passes have been sold for this Fiscal Year. The estimated cost of scales would be around \$100,000. General consensus of the Board, as well as the Budget Committee, with 500-600 passes in a year, scales are not an adequate decision for a town our size. The beneficial part to scales, cost would fair out for each resident, and the amount that they use the Transfer Station.
- There have been some issues with contractor loads being dumped at the Transfer Station from residences that are not in the Town of Gouldsboro. If a contractor is working in town, then they can utilize the Transfer Station for \$60 a load. If the Transfer Station workers know they are not working in town, they do have the right to turn contractors away. If a town does not have a transfer Station, contractors take debris to Ellsworth to dispose of.
- There has been conversation about closing the Transfer Station altogether. Many towns around contract with Ellsworth, and will be billed per town for use of their Transfer Station. The cost to operate our transfer Station was around \$100,000. There would be more conversation, at Town

Meeting to close, if that were to happen. This thought is going to take time and input to decide, and will not happen in this Fiscal Year, and nothing is being proposed for the Town Meeting in June of 2024.

- Josh will have a conversation with Harbor Lawncare, and he will ask about what was spent last year and what is projected for next year with the mowing of the grounds.
- Curbside Trash Pick-Up is a yearly contract, and the Transfer Station is a 2-year contract.
- Josh will be working with Eve on the fuel bids for the upcoming budget cycle.

PUBLIC WORKS/ROADS: Mr. McIntyre here to present his three-year plan.

- Mr. Harmon states he would like to see 2.7 miles of roads a year to maintain the roads in town. The goal would be to repave on a 10-year rotation. \$300,000 is earmarked for paving roads this spring. The cost of culverts also has to be calculated into the paving figure. An estimate of \$4,000 a culvert, at least 10 culverts a year. The \$300,000 figure is for 2.7 miles a year. This cost figure is to pave above what is already laid; Josh asked about mill & fill, but was informed there isn't the necessary material in place so would require more money.
- The CEO, Buildings and Grounds, and Road Commissioner is a Full-Time Position. Our current CEO is unable to work Full-Time at this moment. The thought is to hire someone Part-Time to help Mike Connors out where he needs help. The thought is to keep the CEO and LPI Full-Time, and hire someone part time to help with the Roads and Buildings and Grounds, where the CEO and LPI is a demanding, time-consuming job. The proposed part time rate suggested was \$25.00 an hour, 800 to 1000 hours a year.

SCHEDULE FOR FURTHER MEETINGS:

- Dwight Rodgers would like a Custom Budget Report for the current fiscal YTD mailed to the Budget Committee members after the next BOS Meeting, so they have something for the April 3rd meeting, and where they stand for the upcoming Fiscal Year.
- Dwight states there are some budget lines that were not accurate. The committee is looking at some budget lines that were/are too high, and where they can cut figures within the department's budget lines. Dwight would like Departments Heads to break down what each line is, for example: Station Two Communications verses Police Department Communications, and what line is used for what communications. When department heads present their budget, the Budget Committee would like to see an explanation each line, what it is used for, and what does it include for costs.
- The discussion for projected Budget Committee dates are as follows. Starting April 1st, the Budget Committee will meet every Monday and Wednesday through the month of April. April 1st and 3rd, being Department Head Presentations. April 15th, would be the at the latest date to start reviewing the upcoming budget cycle. The projected wrap up date would be set for May 9th, 2024, in order to have signed by the Board of Selectmen on the May 23rd Meeting. Larry Peterson looking back to the "Wish List" presentations, will we be moving forward, or will we be eliminating the wish lists. Dwight states if wishes are indeed needs, they will look into moving forward with them.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN:

Mr. Mitchell motions to adjourn the meeting at 6:50PM; 2nd by Jackie Weaver. Passed 3/0.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Hudson, 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 for March 21, 2024.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of March 21, 2024 and Approval on March 28, 2024

Dana Rice, Sr.

Robert Harmon



Danny Mitchell, Jr.



Jackie Weaver

Peter McKenzie