

TOWN OF PATTEN

21 Katahdin Street | PO Box 260 | Patten, ME 04765

Phone (207) 528-2215 | Fax (207) 528-2055

www.pattenmaine.org

Patten Select Board

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2024, at 5:30PM

Public Works Garage, 21 Katahdin Street

Patten, ME 04765

Meeting Minutes

These minutes are not verbatim.

Audio copies of the meeting are available at the Town Office

Chair Cody Brackett called the meeting to order at 5:40pm.

ROLL CALL

Select Board Members: Cody Brackett, Chair; Gregg Smallwood, Vice-Chair; Janice Dancer, Dennis Kelly, Rae Bates

Town Employees: Gail Albert, Town Manager; Billie Doody, Town Clerk; Gina Maturo, Administrative / Finance Controller; Willow Brooks, Deputy Clerk; Kevin Noyes, Director of Public Works; Julie Buhler, Library Director; Brett Morse, Emergency Public Safety Director; Jon Harvey, Animal Control Officer

Public: Kent Smallwood, Dennis Brackett, Linda Lyons, Randy Bossie, Kathy Ledford, Scott Webb, Barbara Webb, John Birmingham, Doug Rodgerson

ADMINISTRATIVE

G. Albert: There are multiple changes to the agenda tonight. Doug Rodgerson, the Sherman / Patten Rec. Basketball Coach is here with a request. 1st Quarter Warrants for Collection and 1st Quarter Certificates for Water and Sewer are ready for approval. Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Appointments are ready for approval.

D. Rodgerson: There is a Pee wee Basketball tournament being hosted in Lincoln, and the entry fee is \$150. Doug is requesting the money from the Town of Patten.

Motion made by G. Smallwood to pay the \$150 entry fee for the Sherman / Patten Basketball Team. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Motion made by C. Brackett to approve and sign the Warrants for Collection and Certificates for 1st Quarter Water and Sewer. Seconded by G. Smallwood, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Motion made by C. Brackett to approve and sign the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Appointments. Seconded by G. Smallwood, no discussion heard. **Approved 4/0/1 abstention.**

Approve and Sign Warrant #2 for Water, Sewer, Ambulance, General Government

Motion made by C. Brackett to approve and sign Warrant #2. Seconded by G. Smallwood, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Approve and Sign Payroll Warrants #1 and #2

Motion made by C. Brackett to approve and sign Payroll Warrants #1 and #2. Seconded by G. Smallwood, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Approve and Sign Select Board Meeting Minutes from January 9th, 2024

Motion made by C. Brackett to approve and sign the minutes from January 9th. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Town Office – Gail Albert, Town Manager

G. Albert: Gail had an exploratory meeting with KTP to discuss Ash Hill last week, and they are planning to present to the Select Board on February 6th. The Town could possibly invest in the project.

Impending Foreclosure Notices have been sent this week, there are 10 for Patten, the residents have until March 8th to pay. Bangor Daily News covered the Safety Meeting at the Library on the 24th. Gail and Gina attended a series of webinars on grant funds related to the Federal Infrastructure Funds Opportunities for towns and municipalities. Public Works was denied the CDBG grant for the water line on Valley Street.

The Town Office will be closed on Monday, February 19th, for Presidents Day.

Financial Update – Gail Albert, Town Manager

G. Albert: Audit work is starting for Patten. Gail and Gina have started the budget process and met with the Library Trustees to discuss the budget for 2024. Overall 2023 budgets are in a good place, the final numbers will be used to start building this year's budget with Department Heads. Public Works – Kevin Noyes, Director of Public Works

K. Noyes: Kevin and David are working with Danica Kay, a representative of the Campbell Environmental Group, on the Recreation Department clean up. Danica is recommending a Phase 2 clean-up which would involve Hazardous building material inventory. There is no timeline as of right now.

Kevin met with Tom Bahun to update information for the water system asset security, risk and resiliency and emergency response grant. Kevin and David have also updated a Critical Infrastructure survey for Bradley Nuding of Penobscot Emergency Management.

The Backhoe is back in service and thank you to Smallwood Inc for moving the trail behind the Office. The fire on Potato Row took approximately 150,000 gallons of water.

Emergency Public Safety – Brett Morse, Emergency Public Safety Director

B. Morse: There was a large business fire a couple weeks ago that required 6 Fire Departments (about 50 crew members), Smallwood Inc was of assistance as well as Kevin and David from Public Works. There are 4 members of Patten Fire who will be starting the FF 1 & 2 program in Millinocket.

The Maine EMS grant has been submitted. Medicare increased reimbursement by 5.2% as of January 1st. The Select Board has been updated with transfer information for 2023.

Library – Julie Buhler, Library Director

J. Buhler: The library circulated 2,116 items in 2023 and saved \$1,509.09 through interlibrary loan services. Eastern Maine Development Corp was at the library on January 22nd with information regarding the Affordable Connectivity Program. Several patrons signed up for the service. A Public Safety Program was hosted on the 24th by Lt. Harris from the State Police.

The December Wellness Program has 15 attendees. 39 people were served by the HEAP heating program at the library in September and October. The door at the library will be locked during open hours due to safety concerns. There is a doorbell that patrons have been asked to use.

Julie attended the Institute for Civic Leadership in December and January, there will be three more sessions before the end of the program and graduation. Julie also met with Jasmine Lamb from the University of Maine regarding the Community Resilience Partnership and will be sharing more information with Gail. The library is hoping to partner with the Boreal Theater to hire an Arts, Culture, and Heritage Coordinator.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Friends of the Veteran's Memorial Library Request – Rae Bates

R. Bates: The Friends of the Veteran's Memorial Library are applying for grants and need publicity material. Rae is asking the Select Board for permission to allow Gail Albert to publicly endorse the library.

Motion made by G. Smallwood to allow Gail Albert to voice her support for the Friends of the Veteran's Memorial Library. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 4/0/1 abstention.**


SELECT BOARD COMMENT
PUBLIC COMMENT
ADJOURN

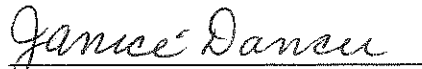
Motion made by C. Brackett to adjourn the meeting at 6:23pm. Seconded by R. Bates, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Meeting Minutes for January 23rd, 2024

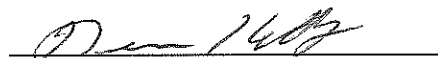
Approved by the Select Board on February 6th, 2024


Cody Brackett, Chair


Gregg Smallwood, Vice-Chair


Janice Dancer


Rae Bates


Dennis Kelly