

**Town of Damariscotta  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Minutes  
Wednesday, February 6, 2008**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. Call to Order**

The Board of Selectmen met at the Municipal Facility on Wednesday, January 2, 2008 to conduct town affairs. Chairman Scott Gove called the meeting to order at 6:41p.m. Members present were Scott Gove, Richard McLean, Josh Pinkham, and Vicki Pinkham. Staff present was Town Manager, Greg Zinser, and Town Clerk, Cheryl Pinkham. Others present were Karen O'Bryan from LCTV, Ann Pinkham, John Peters, Mary McLean; residents, Chris Roberts, resident and fireworks committee member, Mary Bowers of Great Salt Bay Sanitary District, and Jean Kerrigan and Rick Hirsch; business owners. Absent was Dave Wilbur.

**III. Public Hearings-None**

**IV. Communications**

Zinser informed the Board they were notified of Toni Simmons renewing his aquaculture license. DMR would be handling everything for public hearings.

**V. Official Action**

**1. Award bid for Fire Chief's car**

Zinser stated he received one bid for the car from Mark Doe for \$350.00

**On motion McLean/J. Pinkham moved to accept and award the bid to Mark Doe. Vote 4, 0, 0.**

**2. LD 1936**

Mary Bowers explained they had created a bill called LD1936 that would allow the entire town of Nobleboro service from GSBSD. Right now the only area able to be serviced is an area called 'The Mills'. Only about 50 residents live there. Mary Ellen, Town Clerk of Nobleboro has to keep an entirely separate voters list for the Municipal Election, along with separate ballots because only the 50 residents of 'The Mills' can run for Sanitary District Trustee, and only those same 50 residents may have a ballot that has the seat's candidate on it. When the candidate is attempting to get signatures for nomination papers they are only able to be signed by the mentioned 50. (you need 25 signatures to be considered a candidate) Mary Bowers would like the Damariscotta Board to write a letter stating they are behind this bill, and a referendum question would need to be put forth to Damariscotta voters.

**On motion of J. Pinkham/McLean moved to support LD1936, and write a letter stating so; also to have a referendum question put forth to the voters when feasible. Vote 4, 0, 0.**

**3. Snow removal ordinance**

Zinser stated Item C of the ordinance was going to be removed due to suggestions from Board members. He also stated that impact fees were not possible for the Town to charge.

Kerrigan expressed her gratitude for allowing the business owners to be part of this. She is pleased to be working together on this.

McLean stated the effectiveness would be dependant upon businesses in town. He would like to table this. Gove felt the ultimate goal would be to have this work and go smoothly. Essentially the Town would figure out how much Hagar charges per linear foot to clear the sidewalks, then divide each building owners portion of the sidewalk and they are responsible for that cost. (i.e. if you own 30' of sidewalk you would pay 30 the fee based on linear ft price)

Hirsch stated as a restaurant owner they just cannot wait for Hagar to come and clear sidewalks. He understand that Hagar is busy, and has roads to clear which is important, but bottom line is business owners just cannot wait for Hagar to get to the sidewalks. He has been paying someone else to shovel the sidewalk

for the past 2 years. Until they read an article in the newspaper a few weeks back, the business owner had no idea they didn't have to have someone shoveling, and that the Town paid someone to already do that. Gove stated how impressed he was with the performance of Hagar's team. He also plows commercially and it seems that every time Gove is in Town plowing, Hagar's team is there shoveling. He thinks they are doing a great job.

Hirsch agreed, but reiterated they do not have the time to wait for the sidewalk to be shoveled, no hardship to Hagar on that. Hagar has been very easy to work and talk with.

Peters questioned if sidewalks were defined in the ordinance because he sees some sidewalks are shoveled, but others in Town are not touched.

Zinser informed Peters of the sidewalks that were defined in the contract.

Hirsch asked if there were any considerations to using someone other than Hagar, or doing a separate sidewalk bid.

Gove replied that the Town sent this contract out to bid, and Hagar's was the only one to submit a bid. As for a separate sidewalk bid; you're talking total nightmare then. Coordination of when sidewalk contractor showed up, opposed to road contractor plowing, and then the confusion of where does one contract start and another end, etc. Just utter nightmare.

J. Pinkham stated he was pleased with the ordinance but would like to see C removed.

This matter is tabled until after Zinser meets with Damariscotta business owners and gets more input from the business owners.

#### **4. Act on Foreclosure**

Zinser informed the Board the foreclosure property was located at 19 Long Lane. The owners of the property are willing to pay the back taxes. Zinser is expecting approximately \$192 plus \$26.00 in recording fees, administrative etc.

J. Pinkham questioned the time frame the owners are given to pay the taxes.

Zinser replied 30 days.

**On motion V. Pinkham/J. Pinkham moved to turn property back to owners pending payment.**

**Vote: 4, 0, 0.**

#### **5. Town Road plowing RFP**

Zinser noted that J. Pinkham has gone over this RFP to expedite the process.

J. Pinkham confirmed and stated he was fine with it, he informed the Board they were adding liquid calcium chloride or other pre-wetting agent

McLean noted the plow back portion of the RFP, and that is hard to do in some places, such as Cross St. and Bristol Rd.

M. McLean also pointed out that at Church and Vine Street it would also need to be pushed back.

Gove felt the snow should be pushed back as they do it, the Town should not have to pay them to push snow back, that the snow plows originally put there.

#### **6. Renewal of Town Planners Contract**

V. Pinkham wondered why discussing this now, his contract isn't up until June 2008.

Zinser explained he was in the process of creating his budget and this number was needed for budgeting purpose. This is not contract negotiations, just need to get potential dollar amounts to complete the budget process.

V. Pinkham would like to see what exactly the Planner has been working on, what has been accomplished, and what he will be working on.

Zinser will get that list to the Board and be able to discuss this more in depth at the next Board meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **VI. Town Manager Discussion**

### **1. Review of preliminary concepts Church St, and Elm St drainage & Sidewalks.**

Gove would like to see the Zinser beat the streets for grant money to assist the Town with this.

Zinser replied he was already doing that, and was working on a number of grants. Next week he has a meeting in regards to the Rural Initiative Program. Zinser said the Town could do a Low-Moderate Income study of the Town, either as a whole, or sub sites. The Planner is also assisting with obtaining grant funds.

McLean asked how much to do the test.

Zinser replied it would be \$1,500 to move forward, that would test the borings. Church St drainage runs to the back of residents yards and under businesses. Zinser would suggest a yes for #1, no for #2, and yes for #3.

J. Pinkham agreed with Zinser's suggestion; this can come right out of the sidewalk reserve account.

**On motion of J. Pinkham/V. Pinkham moved to choose options 1 and 3. Vote 4, 0, 0.**

## **2. Update on Fireworks**

Zinser informed the Board that a committee has been formed to assist with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks.

Roberts said he has set up a bank account for the fireworks, and has applied for the permit from the fire marshalls office. He also said it would be called the Damariscotta Newcastle Fireworks.

Gove asked if Newcastle was contributing funds to this cause.

Roberts replied no, however Randy Miller of Newcastle Chrysler pledged a large donation.

Zinser said the committee was looking to form a more rounded event. There are some deed restrictions in regards to using the municipal parking lot, however Zinser is looking further into that.

Roberts informed the Board that the committee consists of Seth & Justin Hagar of Hagar Enterprises, Robert Clifford of Colby & Gale, Mike Elwell of Newcastle Chrysler/Dodge/Jeep, Todd Mauer of King Eiders Pub, Zinser, and himself. There is no question that the committee is going have the same event as last year, if not more.

Peters recommended the Town shut down the level of illumination from the street lights.

Chief Drake suggested not doing that for the safety of everyone.

## **3. January expense report**

**On motion of McLean/V. Pinkham moved to accept January's expense report. Vote 4, 0, 0.**

## **VII. Consent Calendar**

### **Regular meeting minutes of January 16, 2008**

**On motion of J. Pinkham/V. Pinkham moved to accept minutes of 01/16/08. Vote: 4, 0, 0.**

#### **1. General Fund Warrant #40**

**On motion of J. Pinkham/McLean moved to accept General Fund Warrant #40. Vote: 4, 0, 0.**

#### **2. Payroll Warrant #39**

**On motion of J. Pinkham/McLean moved to accept Payroll Warrant #39. Vote: 4, 0, 0.**

## **VIII. Other Business-None**

McLean stated the Board has officially voted on a cover for the upcoming Town Report, however he has recently been given a photograph of the Town Clock taken from a reflection of a puddle.

C. Pinkham said it would be just as easy to incorporate the Main St collage through out the report so this photo could be the Town cover.

**On motion of Gove/McLean moved to change the reports cover to the clock photo, and to have it in color for \$150.**

V. Pinkham wants to stay within the budget for the Town Report.

**Vote: 0, 4, 0. (Gove, McLean, V. Pinkham, J. Pinkham opposed)**

Gove wanted to know what the State was going to do about Route 1B and Biscay.

V. Pinkham said something needed to be done about the municipal parking lot, there are craters out there.

**The Board entered executive session at 7:30p.m. Out of executive session at 8:00 p.m.**

**On motion of McLean/Gove moved to accept Chief of Police, Steve Drake contract. Vote: 4, 0, 0.**

**On motion moved to adjourn meeting at 8:20p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Cheryl M. Pinkham, Town Clerk**

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