

**Town of Damariscotta
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Wednesday, October 4, 2018**

The Board of Selectmen met on Wednesday, October 4, 2018, members present were Robin Mayer, Ronn Orenstein, Amy Leshure, Mark Hagar and Louis Abbotoni. Staff present were Town Manager-Matt Lutkus, and Deputy Clerk- Cheryl Pinkham, Fire Chief-John Roberts. Others present were Sara Lakeman of Natural Resource Recycle Commission; Jefferson Fire Chief Wally Morris, Newcastle Fire Chief Clayton Huntley, State Representative Devin (Newcastle resident) Mary Vaskin (Bremen resident) Jane Oliver Gravel (business owner & Jefferson resident), residents Karen O'Bryan, Ann Jackson, Bruce Rockwood, Lisa Katz, Haas Tobey, Ann Pinkham, Joyce Polyniak, Alan Bebout, Chuck Dinsmore, Minda Gold, Lori Green, Eleanor Kinney, and Andrea Keushgerian. Also present LCN reporter Jessica Picard.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Public Hearings

1. Draft ordinance regarding prohibitions on Plastic Bags-

Mayer opened public hearing and asked that residents speak first, then business owners of Damariscotta and final will be general public comments.

Devin read from a prepared statement (attached), pointing out that this is the 18th ban in Maine; disagrees with Abbotoni' comment that this should come from the corporations, Devin believes the consumers are the ones who need to send the message to corporations that we want them to be more concerned with our environment.

Gravel questioned what her responsibilities is as a business owner, do the businesses need to make sure patrons are complying with the mil weight of the bag, or how many times they can be reused. If someone comes in to shop and has their own plastic bag, as a business owner am I supposed to not allow them to use that bag?

Mayer stated that consumers are able to bring any bag they would like into the establishments, it's the businesses that are unable to provide the single use plastic bag, but if a customer brings a hannafor bag in for their groceries, that is allowable within this ordinance.

Rockwood feels this is a good idea, we can't solve this problem but we can make an effort and assist with the solution and encourages BOS to place this on the November ballot.

Lakeman commended the BOS for holding several community meetings and public hearings, but believes the best way to involve the whole community is to put this on the ballot.

Lakeman added that this is not intended to solve the problem but it is a small mighty way towards a solution.

Green announced that there would be several sewing machines set up during the pumpkinfest weekend in order to make free reusable cloth bags.

Vaskin stated she is a Bremen resident as well as a member of a conservation & recycling committee in Bremen and they were very pleased to hear Damariscotta was taking on this topic. Vaskin supports the ban, stated "you're the big town, the center of commerce and what you are doing effects the whole area". Bremen considered this same ban, however there's not enough businesses in Bremen, so a lot of people are looking to Damariscotta for this ban.

III. Call to Order

Mayer called the meeting to order at 6:03p.m.

IV. Action on Public Hearing Items

1. Amended Special Town Meeting Warrant for November 6, 2018.

On motion of Leshure/Orenstein moved to add article 2 to the warrant to include the Ban on Single Use Plastic Bags.

Mayer is concerned with 14 towns and several different versions of this type of plastic bag ban; would prefer to see the State take on this task but with that not happening soon, placing the question on the ballot is best.

Hagar believed that anytime a large amount of people come to the town with a request, the best thing to do is put the question on our ballot and let the voters decide.

Abbotoni stated he is against the ban, and compared this solution to putting a band aid to repair a severed limb. This will not correct the problem and we should do more through educating people.

Vote 4, 1, 0 (Abbotoni opposed)

V. Minutes

1. September 19 meeting

**On motion of Mayer/Hagar moved to approve minutes as submitted. Vote 4, 0, 1
(Orenstein abstained as he was absent from 9/19/18 mtg)**

VI. Financial Reports

1. Payroll Warrant #15

On motion of Mayer/Abbotoni moved to approve PW#15. Vote 5, 0, 0

2. Accounts Payable Warrants #16

On motion Hagar/Leshure moved to approve AP#16. Vote 5, 0, 0

VII. Presentations-

1. Fire Training Facility

Lutkus explained this was a follow-up meeting and reminded the audience that this item was approved at the Annual Town Meeting.

Huntley explained the property is 4.4 acres, is on public water and sewer which should be favorable in applying for grants. The plan is to maintain the snow mobile trail; the town should have a right of way as to not land lock any land. The Department of Environmental Protection will be coming down to survey the area. The next step will be to get an official agreement drafted.

Hagar asked what extent would be shared with the right of way.

Lutkus said we're at a conceptual stand point, the thought process is to work closely with this committee, draft up a nominal lease of maybe \$1.00 a year for 99 years.

Roberts believed the cost to cut into the driveway for water and sewer would be absorbed by the Fire Fighters Association and not be a cost to the Town.

Lutkus stated the recommendation is to approve the next step-survey and identify legal description of the property and lease agreement. The model we'd use for the lease is the same on the City of Bath uses with the county.

A. Pinkham wondered what would happen if the fire department needed to add on to their current building, potentially 2 more garage bays, would this project prevent that capability.

Roberts clarified on the plans that there would be enough space to build on if need be, however doesn't see that as a need for a very long time.

On motion of Mayer/Abbotoni moved to authorize the fire academy to move forward with a survey and agree to a long-term agreement lease. The Board also prefer the 'non- square option' as presented on the map.

Vote 5, 0, 0

VIII. Citizen Comments & General Correspondence-

Mayer wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has sent emails, and have had conversations in regards to the plastic bag ordinances, she has heard from several, as have her colleagues and the input is always appreciated.

IX. Town Manager Items:

1. Joint meeting with Great Salt Bay Sanitary

Lutkus reminded the BOS that there will be a joint meeting between the BOS and the Trustees of the GSBSD to discuss opportunities of the down town municipal parking lot. The meeting will be on October 10th at 5:00p.m. at the GSBSD. Lutkus noted that he attended the MMA Convention and spoke with people from the Department of Agriculture who stated there were grants and funds available to the water and sewer districts, that are not available to Towns, this could be a phenomenal opportunity.

2. Biscay Beach-

Lutkus stated he has received word on Biscay Beach and it appears everyone is on board with a more modest hand carry boat launch. We will set up a meeting with Wright Pierce and residents to see what they'd like to see. The meeting will be October 10th at 10:00am at offices of the Pemaquid Watershed Association.

3. Meyers Fund check

Lutkus informed the BOS of the Edward A. Meyers Marine Conservation fund has committed an undisclosed amount contribution at the Pemaquid Oyster Festival. The amount will be announced after the tally from the festival is complete.

4. Bob Faunce-

Lutkus noted that the Bob Faunce, new interim town planner, would be starting on Tuesday, October 9th.

X. Official Action Items-

1. Cemetery Deed & Perpetual Care Agreement with William E. and Maureen McNiff-

On motion of Mayer/Abbotoni moved to approve the Assessing agreement as presented.

Vote 5, 0, 0

XI. Selectmen's Discussion Items-

Abbotoni noted that Matt & Amy have been meeting with the banks and wondered if they considered the balances.

Lutkus stated that 3 of the 5 banks have gotten back to us and will treat the account as NOW account. The focus for Lutkus is higher interest rate for the town. As soon as we receive the information from the banks, we will provide that information and recommendation to you from the Financial Advisory Committee.

Abbotoni mentioned that he has received comments for and opposed to the plastic bag ordinance.

Leshure will be unable to attend the 10/10/18 meeting at the GSBSD.

Hagar stated he would only be able to attend 45-50 minutes of the meeting due to other commitments.


Mayer stated she attended the MMA Convention and attended the walkability session, the ME Chief of Police Association and there is a certification program and a procedure in place that will qualify the department for a 15% discount on ***** if certified to be certified.

XII. Adjournment-

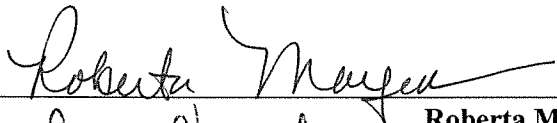
On motion of Orenstein/Abbotoni moved to adjourn meeting at 9:18p.m.


Vote 5, 0, 0

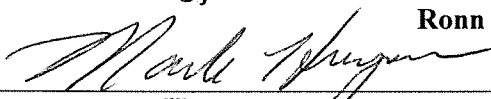
Respectfully submitted,

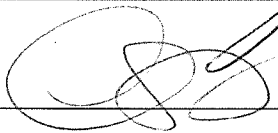

Cheryl M. Pinkham, Deputy Clerk

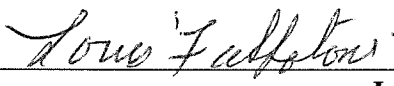
We, the undersigned, do hereby approve as written, or with corrections as noted, the minutes of the above-designated Board of Selectmen meeting.


Roberta Mayer


Ronn Orenstein


Mark Hagar


Amy Leshure


Louis F. Abbotoni

Town of Damariscotta, Board of Selectmen, Signed this date _____