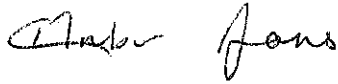


Submitted By:

Approved by Selectmen:



Amber L. Jones
Administrator

**TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
January 24, 2018**

01/31/18 JWA
01/31/18 GAR
01/31/18 CR

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall with Selectman House, Selectman Mixon, Selectman Read and Administrator Jones present.

I. New Business:

1. Meet with Chilloa Young, Cemetery District President, to discuss putting up a fence along Parker Head Road near Reed Cemetery.

Reed Cemetery is located on Parker Head Road and is the first left before Morningside Cemetery, on the corner. Ms. Young stated with the heavy snow this year and plowing, that large snow drifts are knocking over some headstones, so it was decided that a guardrail is needed. She spoke with Maine Line Fence along with Curtis Doughty and they concluded that 125 feet of guardrail is needed. A brown guard rail was recommended by the Superintendent at a cost of almost \$3,700 (the regular chrome colored guardrail would cost approximately \$3,200, but the brown color is preferred as it is less visible in the landscape). Purchasing the guardrail was discussed at the last Cemetery District meeting and all were in agreement. The Reed Cemetery is very old and there are veterans buried there from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. The committee feels the guardrail is a shared responsibility. The cemetery is theirs to maintain, however, since there are Veterans interred there, the Town is also responsible for some maintenance. Chilloa is requesting that the Town take on half of the cost of the guardrail in order to protect those stones. If the Board agrees, they could put it in their budget for the coming year.

Curtis Doughty suggested checking in with Pike Industries first, as they will be doing some guardrail rebuilding as part of the project on Parker Head Road. It is possible it would be a better price to add one more guardrail while they're replacing others on that roadway. Selectman House stated we could make that request of Pike through Rob.

Chilloa also mentioned her submission of a 501-C-3 application to establish non-profit status for the Cemetery District so they can start seeking grants and hopefully get some additional funding over and above the Town's annual request.

Selectmen Read complimented the District for the excellent job they do maintaining the cemetery landscapes and that he did not object to splitting the cost. Selectmen Mixon agreed. Selectman House also relayed that it looks good down and she has heard good compliments from Funeral Directors that they are really good to work with.

Vote: Selectman Mixon motioned to split the cost of the 125' guardrail, not to exceed \$3,700, which was seconded by Selectman Read and passed by a vote of 3-0.

2. Meet with Ellen Winchester for an update on the Community Garden.

Ellen Winchester reported that they have moved forward on the Pilot Project at the Elementary School. She has permission from the RSU and buy-in from the Principal and teachers at the Elementary School. The raised beds have been tidied up and three families working together on them. The families have self-selected seeds, and straw mulch has been donated. Curtis Doughty, Road Commissioner, suggested reviving the old compost there and so the compost soil was tested, and the report back looked good. Ellen asked the Town to allow the Community Garden to use four yards of the compost to add to the Pilot Project Garden at the Elementary School, and then the next task is to identify possible locations for a community garden on Town lands. And for that, the committee is looking for permission from the

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01/31/18 *Just*
01/31/18 *Off*
01/31/18 *Dr*

Board. An ideal location would be fairly central and have decent parking. The current scope of the new garden is ten raised beds, and the funding will be exclusively through the Conservation Commission and donations. Kennebec Estuary Land Trust is also applying for a grant and they will cover the cost of materials to start. This idea is that it will cost zero to the Town; it will all be grant funded or done through volunteer work. One of the main points of the Community Garden is to show people that you can basically garden anywhere. It would reach out to get the older generation as well as with kids. The goal is to get permission from the board to go ahead and look at Town land to find a location to try to put ten initial beds.

In the discussion held amongst the board on Ellen's request, they all agreed it would be a good idea. Selectman House requested that Ellen come back to the Board once they find a location for the beds. Selectman House also asked if they should wait until a piece of land is found before assigning a Committee to this. Selectman Read agreed that if a piece of suitable land is found, to bring in back to the Board to make that decision.

Vote: Selectman Read motioned for the Conservation Commission to use four yards of compost from the Transfer Station, which was seconded by Selectman Mixon and passed by a vote of 3-0.

Selectman House also suggested contacting Marcus Ballou at MMA, our insurance, to see if there are any liability issues. Administrator Jones will contact him and Ellen will start looking for possible locations. Selectman Read suggested she also contact the Land Trust to see if they might have some suitable locations.

3. Select a candidate to be recognized for outstanding volunteerism through the 2018 "Spirit of America" Award.

Selectman House stated this is something that is done every year. It is not presented until Town Meeting, so a decision does not need to be made tonight, but needs to be on our radar to start thinking about it so we can make a decision by April to get the plaque done.

II. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements:

Administrator Jones announced for the last time to the public that the Town is searching for candidates for Moderator for the 2018 Municipal Elections and Town Meeting. If interested, please contact the Town Hall.

III. Public Forum:

Dot Kelly announced that she reached out to the Bureau of Parks and Lands and spoke with Gary Best, the Southern Regional Manager, and learned that the State will include forty other state parks and gather RFP's for mobile food trucks to serve those parks. Sarah Devan, a new member of the Conservation Commission, agreed to be the point person to follow up on the food trucks. Dot mentioned this new development in case the Board wanted to take an active role in this process or perhaps there are residents who would want to respond to the call for RFP's.

As it's a new initiative, the Conservation Commission feels it is good to get the information out. Hopefully having Food Trucks at Popham Beach State Park will be an advantage to the Town and visitors, and not harmful to the seasonal tourism.

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01/31/18 *Unitt*
01/31/18 *GAR*
01/31/18 *Ch*

Selectman House said the food truck would be considered a new business and therefore would have to go in front of the Planning Board. Selectman Read asked what type of food truck we were talking about. Dot Kelly believes it would be a parked truck, enclosed, and would be selling food out of the truck. Selectman Read agreed also that it would be a new business and would need to go to the Planning Board.

IV. Review and/or Sign:

- 1. Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants
- 1. Selectmen's Meeting Minutes – January 10th & 17th

Vote: Selectman Read motioned to sign Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants as well as Selectmen Meeting Minutes, which was seconded by Selectman Mixon and passed by a vote of 3-0.

V. Adjournment:

Vote: At 6:41 p.m. Selectman Read motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Mixon and passed by a vote of 3-0.