

Submitted by:

Approved by Selectmen:

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Adele M. Suggs  
Admin Asst

**TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
August 18, 2021**

*The Select Board convened at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall with Chair of the Municipal Officers House, Board Members Mixon and Levene, and Administrator McLellan present.*

**I. New Business**

1. Consider capital request from Fire Chief Andy Hart.

*Chief Hart presented two requests. The first one is for a generator replacement for the Fire House. A check was received from the insurance company for the damage done by mice to the previous generator. The deductible was \$1,000 so the check amount received was \$18,374. The quote for a new 38Kw Kohler Generator is \$19,374.*

**Vote: Board Member Mixon motioned to authorize the spending of up to \$20,000 for replacement of the existing generator for the Fire Department out of the Capital Account, which was seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.**

*Chief Hart's second request was for Air Packs. The ones they currently have are 2,200 pounds, the new ones would be 4,500 PSI's. They are slowly getting out of the 22's and going with the 45's. The 4,500 is what everyone else in the area has, and they are trying to be consistent with the other towns. The quote is for 2 bottles, a spare and a mask for \$14,604.*

**Vote: Board Member Levene motioned to approve the purchase of Air Packs up to \$15,000 out of the Capital Account, which was seconded by Board Member Mixon and passed by a vote of 3-0.**

2. Consider Covid-19 protocols for town hall and town hall meetings.

*The Governor's Office has reported that Sagadahoc County now has substantial transmission, and the CDC is recommending that all indoor settings that are open and accessible to the public, people wear face masks. Board Member Levene would appreciate that everyone wears a mask during the Board Meetings. She believes to keep the staff healthy and safe to require masks for everyone working or coming into Town Hall. Select Board Member Mixon is fine with recommending but not mandating the wearing of masks. Board Member Levene asked for remote access to attend the Board Meetings since it is not "required" to wear masks at these meetings. Chairperson House replied that Board Member Levene could get remote access, set up the Zoom account again, for the Select Board Meetings only, but that it won't be required for all boards/committees. Administrator McLellan has spoken to the staff, and they would like to see it posted the recommendation to wear masks upon entering Town Hall. He will speak with the other boards and committees to see if they want to meet face to face or want remote access and assure that signage is posted at Town Hall.*

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3. Resignation of Edward Cherian from Road Committee.

*Chairperson House read Mr. Cherian's resignation e-mail aloud.*

**Vote:** Board Member Mixon motioned to accept the above resignation, which was seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.

4. Resignation of Sam Alexander, Part-Time Patrol Officer.

*Chairperson House read Mr. Alexander's resignation e-mail aloud.*

**Vote:** Board Member Mixon motioned to accept the above resignation, effective August 25<sup>th</sup>, which was seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.

*Select Board Member Mixon would like to see a full-time position created for the Police Department. He would like to further this discussion during budget season.*

## II. Unfinished Business

1. Consider signing a Notice of Determination of Presumption of Abandonment.

*Administrator McLellan and Chairperson House have done some research on this road. This is a "paper road" and surfaced because of a title search, since it was mentioned in a property owner's deed. This road has never been created. The Town has never touched this road for 30+ years.*

**Vote:** Board Member Mixon motioned to sign the above Notice of Determination of Presumption of Abandonment for the William M. Reed Road, which was seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.

2. Discussion of transfer station holiday hours of operation.

*Chairperson House and Administrator McLellan spoke with Transfer Station Supervisor McKenney, and he has always made arrangements/planned for hauling around the holidays, and he has never had a problem. So, the Transfer Station will remain open for all holidays except Christmas.*

*Chairperson House also shared that the Transfer Station had the DEP show up for a surprise inspection last Thursday. They passed 100%.*

## III. Correspondence

1. Thank you letter from Oasis Free Clinics.

2. Thank you letter from Catholic Charities.

*These donations were approved at Town Meeting and will kept on file at Town Hall.*

## IV. Administrator/Members of the Select Board Comments and Announcements:

*Seasonal Taxpayer's Meeting - Tonight - Wednesday, August 18, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Station  
Flare Night - Friday, August 20, 2021*

*Administrator McLellan thanked everyone for being patient and coming out for Hazardous Waste Day. It was a successful and very hot day. He also thanked the workers from EPI who collected all the waste. There were 151 vehicles that came in which is more than what has been in the past, and 322 units of Hazardous Waste, with a single unit being 4 gallons or 20 pounds, which is also a record of more than what has been collected in the past.*

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*Board Member Mixon reminded those who are using the Town Landings please park respectively in the designated areas. He continued by stating that they met last week regarding the Popham Project. They have approximately \$240,000 in grant money that has been offered up for the project. When meeting with the engineer, there was some concern as the price of construction has doubled so they were back to the drawing board wondering what to do. It looks like the project is eligible for an additional \$400,000 in grant money. When it is all said and done, there is approximately \$900,000 available. This is matching state money, grant money, code relief money that originated from the seed money of \$70,000 that the Town put in five years ago. They are still working on a timeline.*

*Chairperson House announced that the Rec Department will be having a craft fair/bake sale this weekend to raise money for the new walking path which will be starting in the next few weeks. It will be completed before schools starts.*

**V. Review and/or Sign:**

1. Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants.

**Vote: Board Member Mixon motioned to sign Payroll Warrant #17 & Accounts Payable Warrant #18 which were seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.**

2. Select Board Meeting Minutes for June 16, 23 & 30, 2021.

**Vote: Board Member Mixon motioned to sign the June 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes which were seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.**

**Vote: Board Member Mixon motioned to sign the June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes which was seconded by Chairperson House and passed by a vote of 2-0.**

3. Treasurer's monthly report for July.

**Vote: Board Member Mixon motioned to table the signing of the above Treasurer's Report which was seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.**

**VI. Public Forum**

*The Clark's and Trebilcock's were present who live on 30 Fuller Mountain Road. They had an issue that went before the Appeals Board in February. They had ruled partially in their favor and determined there was a nuisance violation with their neighbor, Dan Gurney. At that time the Codes Enforcement Officer was instructed to speak with them, investigate and try to come to an agreement to abate the nuisance. It took until the middle of May for them to meet with the Town Attorney to try and come up with something that would work for all of them. They received a first draft the end of June and two weeks ago received a second draft and was told that Mr. Gurney had until 5 o'clock yesterday to sign the agreement. It was their understanding that the Select Board would be taking up the issue to either sign the agreement, and if he didn't, discuss and decide if a cease-and-desist order would be issued and that he needed to stop operating until he acquired all the business permits required by the Town. They were hoping it would be on the agenda tonight and it could be discussed. Chairperson House stated that the Board did not meet last week because they didn't have a quorum and the Seasonal Taxpayer's Meeting that was scheduled a couple of months ago is tonight at 6:00 p.m. so she did not want to put it*

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*on the agenda tonight. She knew there would be a lot of discussion and the Board wouldn't be able to make it to the previously scheduled appointment. The agreement did not get signed yesterday and Codes Officer Rainey has mailed the cease-and-desist order, but it cannot be enforced because Mr. Gurney has been grandfathered. The full Board has not talked about the agreement. The Clark's and Trebilcock's are still willing to work with the Town to try and abate the issue. They are not looking to completely shut Mr. Gurney down. Chairperson House would like the Chairman of the Board of Appeals, the Codes Enforcement Officer, the Town Attorney, Mr. Gurney, the Clark's and Trebilcock's present at the September 8<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting to discuss this.*

**Adjournment**

**Vote:** At 5:48 p.m. Board Member Mixon motioned to adjourn which was seconded by Board Member Levene and passed by a vote of 3-0.