

**TOWN OF BROWNVILLE  
BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Beginning @ 6:00 p.m. @ American Legion post #92 – 67 Railroad Avenue Brownville Junction  
Tuesday, June 16, 2020**

Item 1. Open Meeting: Chairman of the Board opened meeting @ 6:05 p.m.

Selectpersons present: Byron Weymouth, James Hartin, Shelly Ekholm, Shawn Mitchell and Kevin Emery

Employees present: Kathy White, Kevin Black, Crystal Cail and Autumn Chadwick

Others present: Corey Green, Maureen Gormley

Item 2. Approval of prior meeting minutes: Motion made by Shelly Ekholm to accept minutes as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> James Hartin. All in favor.

Item 3. Review of the Treasurer's Warrants:

Payroll Warrants: signed

Accounts Payable Warrants: signed

Water/Sewer Warrants: signed

Item 4. Department Head reports:

**Scoreboard:** Crystal has ordered the scoreboard - it should arrive within 6-8 weeks. Crystal is looking for some clarification on running electricity to the scoreboard; she has contacted Emera to see what they suggest for the best approach and is waiting to hear back. **Fencing:** Sebec fencing has taken measurements of the back field; they may have a used fence that can be installed at a lower cost. Crystal hopes to have an update at the next meeting. **Hunter safety course:** Crystal would like to sponsor a hunter safety course through the rec department. In order to do so she would need to provide a location and be in attendance to oversee the course. Crystal will request permission for use of the American Legion Hall before moving forward with her plan. **Summer rec programs:** The first week of summer rec began today, Crystal had 16 applicants and accepted the first ten, as planned. **Davis Field flag/pole:** The flag located at Davis Field is torn and tattered and needs to be replaced. The flag pole also needs replacing; both have been removed until a new flag and pole can be acquired. Crystal reports that a pole is being made at the Derby Shops. **Tree removal at field:** There are about 7 trees around the ballfield that need to be removed. Tucker Tree Service will be removing 2 on Friday; it will be a couple of months before the others are taken care of. Kevin Black thinks it will cost approximately \$5,000 to remove the larger trees. The trunks and large branches can be used for firewood in the winter. **Dugouts:** There are about 20-30 people from JSI that would like to use the ballfield for softball on some Saturdays; they are willing to fix the dugouts in return. Crystal requests that the board open the playground, fields and basketball court to the public. Motion made by Shawn Mitchell to open the playground, fields and basketball court to the public with the option to close again if necessary. 2<sup>nd</sup> Shelly Ekholm. All in favor. **Slick Softball Tournament:** Crystal requests permission to allow the use of the ballfield for the Slick Softball Tournament; she does not plan on opening the snack shack. Motion made by Shelly Ekholm to hold the tournament without opening the snack shack and with the option to cancel if necessary. 2<sup>nd</sup> Kevin Emery. All in favor. **Lawnmower:** Crystal's lawnmowers for the ballfield are both in poor condition and in need of repair; the highway department is working on getting them up and running. In the meantime, Crystal is applying for a Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation grant to purchase a new mower. **Superintendent agreement:** Crystal has received a letter of agreement from the superintendent to utilize Davis Field for school athletics for at least 6 years and likely the foreseeable future. **Sidewalks:** The approximate cost of tearing up and replacing 1.36 miles of sidewalk and adding in approaches is \$52,000 - \$60,000. The 1.36 miles included in this estimate would be all of Railroad Avenue up to the underpass, from the corner of Main Road and Railroad Avenue to just past the General Store & More and from about 329 Main Road to MHFCU or

KVHC. If the sidewalks are replaced it would be in the best interest of the town to maintain them throughout the winter months. If winter maintenance were to resume it's possible that new sidewalk clearing equipment and attachments would need to be purchased at the cost of approximately \$100,000. Kevin will provide the board with a map of the proposed sidewalk replacement locations at the next meeting. Kevin has been in contact with Dennis at DOT regarding the curb/sidewalk removal at A.E. Robinson. Dennis stated that a permit was not issued for the removal of curb/sidewalk; it's possible that A.E. Robinson will need to have a curb put in to replace some or all of what was removed. **No parking signs:** The no parking signs in front of A.E. Robinson were put up by the state but it is the town's responsibility to maintain and enforce compliance with the signs. **Playground equipment:** Kevin can start setting up the playground equipment in Junction anytime between now and the second week of August. The equipment will take about 2 weeks to set up with 2-3 people. The board will make a decision at the next meeting on whether or not to set up the playground equipment this year. **Fire Department:** The Fire Department has been fairly busy recently. Kevin would like to assure everyone that when Brownville is called out there are still firefighters/truck(s) available to respond to calls in Brownville. The Fire Department was selected to receive a grant from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation in the amount of \$25,000 to help cover the cost of new air packs. The Town would need to provide an additional \$5,000 to replace all of the air packs. Motion made by Shelly to provide \$5,000 for the replacement of air packs. 2<sup>nd</sup> Shawn Mitchell. All in favor. Kevin plans on working with Milo to apply for a grant to replace the air compressor in Milo that is used to refill air tanks; the compressor being used now is about 30 years old. **Sanitation:** Fiberight in Hampden is shut down until at least July; they have some administrative issues that need to be addressed before they can resume operations. In the meantime, Brownville waste is being taken to Juniper Ridge in Alton/Old Town. **Water/Sewer:** 40,000 gallons of septage has been pumped and spread in the fields at the treatment plant - should be all set until scheduled pumping/spreading in the fall. **Cemeteries:** Cemeteries have been getting mowed regularly. There are some trees in the cemeteries that should be removed; this is something that can be put off and possibly included in the 2021 budget. **School budget:** Kathy reports that the school budget has been postponed so voting will have to take place later than the July 14 election. **Dangerous building:** Kathy has been in contact with Fred Elwell II regarding the situation with his property located at 14 Stickney Hill Road (old school building). Fred is looking into hiring a contractor to demolish the building. **Old railroad station:** The town foreclosed on the old railroad station located at 76 Railroad Avenue and received no bids in the spring. CP has shown some interest in the property; they have visited the property twice, once with a contractor to assess the building. Kathy will recommend that CP make an offer to the board if they would like to purchase the building. **329 Main Road:** Kathy would like the board to be aware that there may be some legal matters concerning 329 Main Road to address in the future. The property was foreclosed on by the town and sold by bid with a recommendation to hook the property up to town sewer due to the failure of the private septic system but there may be issues with obtaining easements. Kevin and Kathy will keep the board updated. **Bailey Hill Tower:** Kevin would like to install a repeater on the Bailey Hill Tower to improve radio service for the Fire Department; there may be grants that could cover some or all of the cost. Kevin is working with Bob Campbell and Tom at MEMA to see what would need to be done and what the approximate cost would be. **Poverty abatement:** Motion made by Kevin Emery to grant a poverty abatement in the amount of \$744.90. 2<sup>nd</sup> Shelly Ekholm. All in favor. Note: discussion on the abatement took place during executive session March 17, 2020.

Item 5. Concealed Weapons Permits: No permits to sign. Kathy was referred to the Maine State Police by the Attorney General in regard to background checks; Kathy has not received a response from the Maine State Police.

Item 6. Medical Marijuana Discussion: Brownville voters, not Selectmen, would need to opt in to allow marijuana sales within town limits before an ordinance can be voted on. It would be possible to prepare an ordinance to vote on in the event that opting in is approved by voters but it can also be done as a 2-step process. Kathy has provided the board with ordinances approved in other towns for review and can provide others; specifically Millinocket and Medway, at the next meeting. Any questions can be passed on to Kathy and she will seek guidance from MMA Legal.

Item 7. Open Session: Shelly Ekholm would like to promote the "farmer's market" at Whetstone again this year; it went smoothly last year, everyone that had a booth cleaned up after themselves and were respectful of suggested guidelines. No one sees a problem with allowing it again this year.

Item 10. Next meeting: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

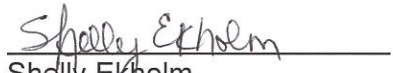
Item 11. Adjournment: Motion made by Shelly Ekholm to adjourn at 7:43 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Shawn Mitchell. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by: Autumn Chadwick, Deputy Clerk

  
Byron Weymouth

  
James Hartin

  
Shawn Mitchell

  
Shelly Ekholm

  
Kevin Emery