

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

**Beginning @ 6:00 p.m. @ American Legion post #92 – 67 Railroad Avenue Brownville Junction
Tuesday, July 21, 2020**

Item 1. Open Meeting: Chairman of the Board opened meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

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

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

Others present: Randy McMahon, Richard McMahon Sr. and Todd Lyford

Item 2. Approval of prior meeting minutes: Motion made by Shelly Ekholm to accept minutes as written. 2nd Shawn Mitchell. 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:

Summer rec: Summer rec has been going well; all available slots have been filled every week. There are two weeks left. **Shed repair:** Crystal, Kevin, Corbin, Jordan and Eric have completed the shed repairs at the ball field. **Dugouts:** Crystal needs to purchase more supplies for the dugout repairs and plans to have the project complete by the end of this week. **Fencing:** Sebec Fencing can make fence repairs and expansion for \$3,500; upon completion, both ball fields will be approximately the same size. Crystal is working on scheduling a date to begin. Crystal is doing a raffle to help with the cost of fencing and would like the board's approval to sell tickets at the town office. Motion made by Shawn Mitchell to approve sale of raffle tickets at the town office. 2nd James Hartin. All in favor. **Scoreboard:** The scoreboard delivery has been delayed for approximately 3-4 weeks. Powerline Construction has 2 posts ready to be installed at the field. The town will be responsible for contacting Digsafe prior to installation; Crystal will call tomorrow. In return for the post construction and installation, Powerline Construction would like a small plaque recognizing their donation. Crystal would also like to look into purchasing a small plaque to install on the scoreboard in memory of Andrew Purdue; several scoreboard donations were made in Andrew's name. **Ad banners:** In the past the Rec Department has purchased ad banners for businesses that make large donations to the rec department; Crystal would like to continue this as a way to acknowledge the support of businesses. **Sidewalks:** A map of the sidewalks has been provided. Kevin recommends replacing only high traffic sidewalks; which were discussed at the previous meeting (see 6/16/2020 minutes). Kevin will have someone come look at the sidewalks for an estimate when a decision has been made on which sidewalks to replace. At this time, Kevin and the Board of Selectmen feel that the underpass on Railroad Avenue takes priority over the regular sidewalks throughout town. Kevin is still waiting to meet with someone from Irving (railroad) to discuss options regarding replacement of the underpass sidewalk and how it may affect the tracks and trestle above. **Front Street basins:** Drainage basins along Railroad Avenue and part of Front Street are in need of replacing. Kevin would like this to be a special project in 2021 and will have an estimate available by budget time. All of the basins in Junction will need to be replaced eventually; a phased replacement plan would be the best approach. **Salt/sand shed:** An engineer will need to do a preliminary survey/study of the proposed site for the new salt/sand shed located on High Street. The study would include locating drinking water wells or watersheds in the vicinity that could be impacted. Kevin would like the board to be aware that there may be costs associated with the removal/clean-up of the current salt/shed. **Fire Department/Bailey Hill tower project:** CP RR is working with the Fire Department and moving ahead with installation on the Bailey Hill tower to improve radio service. The

tower will need a control board and antenna to function properly; Kevin would like to budget approximately \$3500 to purchase these items. Kevin is seeking permission from the board to enter into a 10 year free lease contract with Canadian Pacific Railroad. Motion made by Shawn Mitchell to move ahead with contract and purchase additional necessary equipment with town owned property funds. 2nd James Hartin. All in favor. **Sanitation:** The trash truck has been going to PERC while Fiberight is closed. There will be no changes in curbside guidelines. **Water/sewer:** The water/sewer project has been completed and the retainage has been paid out to APEX. **Cemeteries:** The shed in the cemetery is still being repaired but should be done in a day or two. **Playground:** Assembly of the playground equipment will be postponed until next year. **School Board Member:** Kathy reports that a School Board Member has resigned. The Selectboard will need to appoint a new member to fill the position until March 2021; Leon Farrar is interested. Motion made by Shelly Ekholm to appoint Leon Farrar as a School Board Member. 2nd Shawn Mitchell. All in favor. **Revenue:** Revenue sharing from the State of Maine seems to be coming in as usual. Excise tax income is less than what it was this time last year but Kathy expects it to get back to normal when people take care of their overdue vehicle registrations. **Dark Sky Initiative:** The Appalachian Mountain Club would like to send a representative to the next meeting to discuss the Dark Sky Initiative and how it could impact tourism in the community; Kathy will contact the club with the date and time. **Old railroad station:** Kathy has not received a response from Canadian Pacific regarding purchase of the old railroad station; if there is still no response by the next meeting, or if CP isn't interested in purchasing the building, the board will discuss options for the property at the next meeting. **County radio:** Piscataquis County EMS has a radio that is no longer being used and would like to give the radio to the Town of Brownville or the Brownville Snowmobile Club. After some discussion, the board agrees that the radio would be a better fit for the Town of Brownville fire dept. and that an unused radio can be made available for the Snowmobile Club if necessary. Motion made by James Hartin to accept the donated radio for the Town of Brownville. 2nd Shelly Ekholm. All in favor.

Item 5. Concealed Weapons Permits: No permits to sign. No updates on background checks.

Item 6. Medical Marijuana Discussion: Byron provided a medical marijuana ordinance for the board to review. Kathy emailed it to the Town's legal team for a preliminary review.

Item 7. Open Session: Shawn Mitchell recommends that when recruiting and hiring new employees in the future, the Town of Brownville follow the town charter and personnel policy.

Item 8. CDBG Grant Funds: Kathy would like to make \$3800 in CDBG funds available for a resident whose home is in need of major repairs; Penquis has already put some money towards making the home livable. The CDBG funds would cover the cost of a portion of the window replacement. Motion made by James Hartin to make funds available. 2nd Shawn Mitchell. All in favor.

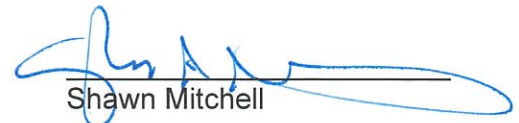
Item 9. Next meeting: Monday, August 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Item 10. Adjournment: Motion made by Shelly Ekholm to adjourn at 7:46 p.m., 2nd Shawn Mitchell. All in favor.

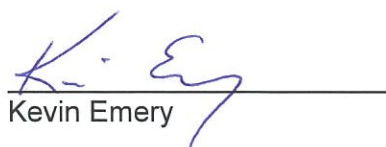
Respectfully submitted by: Autumn Chadwick, Deputy Clerk


Byron Weymouth


James Hartin


Shawn Mitchell

Shelly Ekholm


Kevin Emery