

TOWN OF LIMESTONE

BOARD OF SELECT PERSONS AND ASSESSORS

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:30pm

1. Call to order Time - 6:34pm

Board Members Present:

Durepo X Brooker X Labreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

2. Pledge of Allegiance & Prayer

3. Adjustments to Agenda – LaBreck adjustments to agenda to include Brandon Saucier update.

4. Approval of minutes:

4.1 October 5, 2022 minutes – Elliott noted a misspelled word in a sentence containing “me” that should have been “met” and stated he made the correction. Motion made by Pelletier to accept Oct 5 minutes with correction, 2nd by Philbrick. No further discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X Labreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

5. Committee & Board Reports

5.1 Recreation Department Committee – Durepo reported out on the Rec center meeting is on Tuesday. They recently held a work session and organized and cleaned up Rec center. They are now open to grade 1-8. Durepo stated he would look into the cost of upgrading the bathrooms at Albert Michaud Park to allow them to be open for a warming shack during skate season. He will look into costs of insulation, heat pump, door and report back.

5.2 LWSD – No meeting since last update. Reported by Labreck. No further updates.

5.3 Solar Committee – Kelley states he requested a draft of MSSM/Limestone agreement from Sam C. Elliott has followed up with 3 phone calls. A worksheet of KWH & CI Tariff credits as of Oct 3rd (attachment) is what would have paid to Versant. MSSM has paid Limestone. Total savings \$8,520.05 plus MSSM amount and it could be used to pay off repair expenses and balance left go towards loan. Kelley expects to hear by Nov 1st whether the town will receive another \$50,000 grant specifically for repairs. Jim Cote & Tad Devoe will get trees cut down for a fee. Labreck states Philbrick stated he would do it at no cost. Three units left to repair or strap down.

5.4 Brooker, Pelletier, Philbrick – no updates.

5.5 Brandon Saucier reports on upcoming assessing changes, processing Trio and more research and discovery that is in the proposal (attachment – Saucier Services 2023

Assessing Proposal) He is making a spreadsheet for the homestead exemption with application and listing. Trio does not have age information need database to know who is qualified. Durepo states Age Friendly Committee might be able to help get the word out with the stabilization and property tax deferment programs.

Saucier was asked if more BETTE opportunity and to check into the solar projects. Saucier states talking to farmers and looking at their equipment gives a lot better result than just a call or mail. Brooker makes a motion to accept proposal, 2nd Pelletier. Discussion on the return on investment and it is expected 1st year or 2 a substantial return. Durepo asked if he knew who was code enforcement for the dilapidated buildings at LDA and Saucier stated it was George Howe. No further discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X Labreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

6. Manager's Reports

6.1 - Town manager's report – **see attached 2- page report for items**

Police Acct Balances (attachment) Ashland will accept half of \$43,000 now and half in December. Elliott suggests looking into the police dept payroll/ins line item to take it out of. Pat St. Peter states there is about \$9,000 reserve for academy that Chief Mahan had from a previous grant. The academy trained officer was also looking into another source that might help pay for some of the academy training. Motion made by Pelletier to pay half of \$43,000 now, 2nd by Durepo. Elliott will work with Chief Cormier. No further discussion so voted.

Durepo X Brooker X Labreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

-Animal control will be handled by police department.

-Trafton exp/bal (attachment) Elliott states he had the power turned off and spoke to the highway department about cleaning up Tent Site #8. Durepo states he would like revenue and expenses for this year for Trafton. The attachments provided did not easily show the information on whether Trafton was profitable or not.

-Public Works package for salt shed roof was submitted Oct 19th and was in the paper today.

7. Public Comments – none

8. Old Business -

8.1 Town Hiring policy – Elliott handed out policy for review and will vote next meeting. Labreck asked for a motion, Pelletier made a motion to wait until next meeting to vote, 2nd Durepo. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

8.2 LDA update – Bill for Fire & Police for the LDA has not been paid. Elliott reports that Carl Flora states unable to pay and wants a meeting to discuss. Durepo recommends sending a bill

to LDA Board along with a letter about the hazardous condition of the housing on Manser Drive. The essentials for the safety of Limestone employees must be done as the Limestone Fire Dept can no longer allow their firefighters to enter the buildings as it is so unsafe and dangerous. The windows are broken and not boarded up, no working hydrants. The roads are nearly impassable. The Limestone Representative (Grace O’Neal) should be involved in the communication as well. Motion made by Durepo, 2nd by Pelletier. No further discussion.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

8.3 Limestone School doing Town’s Payroll – No representative of the school is present to give updates. Elliott states the payroll has significant less employees than originally given and he has shared the new number with Kilcollins. (16 + 22) The time clock could be in the entryway at the town office. All departments could punch in from here except maybe the life guard. Discussion on best way to track invoices, types of time clocks/mobile clocks. School is not 100% sure if they will provide the service, they need to know more about time clock system. Walt states with electronic time clocks it would allow payroll to stay in-house and the clerks could do it with training. Discussion on the cost of the payroll mistakes. Elliott will pursue with the school and report back.

8.4 Town Manager Search Process - Elliott has put ad in BDN, AR, & MMA website. Discussion on using Eaton Peabody and the cost. Durepo made a motion to hire with cap of \$12,000 max, 2nd Brooker. Philbrick states he would like to go a week to see if Elliott’s ads produce any interest. Pelletier wanted clarification on whether Elliott could negotiate on the cost. No further discussion. Four in favor, so voted.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier Philbrick X

8.5 Employee Handbook Review – Motion made by Pelletier to table, 2nd by Brooker. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

9.0 New Business – none

10.0 -Elected Official’s Reports & Statements

Durepo – Manser Drive needs to be addressed by LDA before someone gets killed.

Brooker – Working with Brandon Saucier for the next week, called Troy Jackson about length of leases at LDA and he can’t do much.

Labreck – Asked Chief Cormier if he has advertised for Police Chief as she has not seen the ad. He has not. He stated he was looking into reserves right now and that he has 3 full time police officers. Labreck asked about Williams Trucking and whether they have been paid. Two checks were voided and the third sent.

The selectboard asks Elliott and Hwy Supervisor to talk to Williams about the amount charged and if it can’t be reduced the Board will no longer do business with them.

Philbrick – East Gate buildings look terrible. Letters have been sent out with deadlines.

Pelletier – Have we accepted the bid? Have we tried to get with other towns and do a co-op? Could pursue for salt and fuel. Where are we on the town audits? Elliott states he should know

by Friday. State won't wait any longer and the school is looking for a short-term loan of \$200,000.

Do you know how long we contracted with audit company?

11.0 – Other

Walt states the \$500,000 bond might not be enough looking at costs and asked if the board would want him to go for a million dollar grant with matching funds – rate depends on amount. The board agreed a million made more sense.

12. Approve Warrants

12.1 Payroll Warrants #14 & #16

Motion made by Durepo to accept and 2nd by Pelletier. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

12.2 A/P Warrant - #15

Motion made by Pelletier to accept, 2nd by Brooker. Discussion on A/P warrant being a preview as they cannot be run until voted to accept. Durepo made a motion to accept preview, 2nd by Brooker. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

13. Executive Session - Tax Abatement

Motion made by Durepo 2nd by Brooker to go into executive session pursuant 36 MRSA subsection 841 paragraph 2E in relationship to property abatement at 9:10pm. Out at 9:14pm


Motion to approve both abatements by Philbrick and 2nd Pelletier

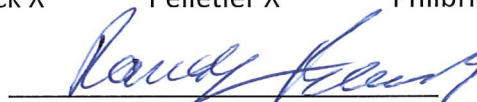
Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X


14. Adjournment -

Motion to adjourn by Durepo, 2nd by Pelletier at 9:15pm

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X


Irma Labreck, Chairperson


Randall Brooker, Vice Chairperson


Paul "Chris" Durepo, II


Jesse Philbrick


Fred Pelletier

TOWN OF LIMESTONE

BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS AND ASSESSORS
Public Hearing for General Assistance Ordinance
Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:30pm

1. Call to order Time - 6:30pm

Board Members Present:

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

Public Hearing General Assistance Ordinance


This has been updated by the State of Maine and the town of Limestone must have a public hearing to allow the selectpersons to vote to add the updated guidelines. Questions from Chuck Kelley about the changes and Elliott explained the state of Maine role in setting the adjustments. Motion made to accept by Brooker, 2nd Philbrick.

No further discussion. So voted.

Durepo X Brooker X LaBreck X Pelletier X Philbrick X

Adjourn: 6:32pm


Irma Labreck, Chairperson


Randall Brooker, Vice Chairperson


Paul "Chris" Durepo, II


Jesse Philbrick


Fred Pelletier