

TOWN OF LIMESTONE

BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS AND ASSESSORS

MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

1. - Call the meeting to order
2. - Pledge of Allegiance & Prayer
3. - Adjustments to Agenda –
4. - Approve Minutes – Select Board Meeting May 10,
5. - Committee & Board Reports –
6. - Manager’s Report –
7. - Public Comments –
8. - Old Business –
 - 8.1. TM coverage for July
 - 8.2. Green 4 Maine review
 - 8.3. Annual Town warrant review
9. - New Business –
 - 9.1. Proposed Solar Moratorium Ordinance
 - 9.2. Proposed Replacement Fence Ordinance
 - 9.3. Proposed Permit Fees
 - 9.4. Police Cruisers discussion(sale and funds to go to re-eval account)
- 10.- Elected Official’s Reports & Statements –
 - 10.1. Chairman has a request to form a Road Committee
- 11.- Other –
- 12.- Approve Warrants –
 - 12.1. Payroll Warrant(s) - #
 - 12.2. A/P Warrant(s) –
13. Executive Session – Discussion concerning personnel employment discussion with Eaton-Peabody per Title 1 M.S.R.A. §405 (6) (A)
- 14.- Adjournment -

TOWN OF LIMESTONE

BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS AND ASSESSORS

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 6:30pm

1. Call to order Time – 6:30pm

Board Members Present:

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _x Philbrick _x

2. Pledge of Allegiance & Prayer

3. Adjustments to Agenda At 8pm expecting call for #13 and will move to Exec. Session then.

4. 4.1 Approval of May 10, 2023 selectboard minutes motion made by Brooker to accept as read, 2nd by Pelletier. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _x Philbrick _x

5. Committee and Board Reports -

Pelletier – none

Philbrick – none

Durepo – volunteer Rec. Committee has been quiet. No good plan to roll into summer. Asked Elliott to repost ad. Elliott states he has ad on website, community channel, and Opportunities Aroostook. Durepo asks if he could change up the ad somehow? Labreck states the lack of applications might also be because the town meeting could change the position from full to part-time and they are waiting to apply.

Brooker – Elliott has been taking care of most of Trafton items. Brooker states he took parts out to Job Corps. He is also concerned at the low numbers of campers reserved at Trafton to date. (5)

Labreck – LWS District purchased a new KIOTi tractor, deciding what to do with the old one. Still good with LDA. Still no one to take care of Trafton. Durepo asks if we have advertised anywhere for Trafton help – in trade magazines or places that others advertise for campground help.

6. Managers Report -

-Foreign Trade Zone letter of support – Elliott provided sample letter in packets. Questions from Brooker and Durepo on benefits to Limestone and the footprint/terms once signed – is it forever? Elliott will report back with answers.

-Quit claim deed (book & page added for each transfer) Green 4Maine Holding replaces previously signed deed with new deed that is complete. Elliott had concerns on blank spaces and other lists so corrections have been made and selectpersons need to sign the updated one. Motion made by Durepo to sign, rescinded his motion. Motion made by Brooker to accept changes and sign, 2nd by Pelletier. Some discussion on whether we needed to have a vote as it was already voted on. All in favor. So voted.

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _x Philbrick _x

-Solar Moratorium Ordinance (Planning Board) need public hearing prior to town meeting – discussion around too many applications for solar projects and grid can't support anymore. Put hold on it (moratorium) until things get settled out. Durepo questions why limit development? The grid is not the town's problem. What financial impact would it have on our town? Elliott states the planning board heard from residents about quality of life, property values etc. Durepo makes a

motion to table until planning board gets back to us. Durepo rescinds his motion for more discussion. Brooker states there is no room on grid so this is all in the future. He is concerned by size of panels if project is larger than .1 MW. Brooker states that's only 2 panels and won't run a house. Durepo makes a motion to table until planning board has a chance to answer questions. 2nd Brooker. No further discussion. So voted.

Durepo_x Brooker_x Labreck_x Pelletier_x Philbrick_x

-Fence requirements ordinance – (planning board) need public hearing prior to town meeting. Current fence distance is 31" and planning board is recommending 24" from property lines. Brooker states that's not a lot of room especially where the surveyor can be off as much as a foot. Plowing in the winter and fences are a problem too. The ordinance also has height of fence on adjoining street to see traffic and what side of fence goes to neighbor. Used information from State fence law for most of ordinance. Pelletier made a motion to set a date for public hearing, 2nd by Philbrick. No further discussion. So voted. 1 opposed.

Durepo_x Brooker_x Labreck_x Pelletier_x Philbrick_x

-Schedule of permit fees and expenses

Everything now is \$10 permit fee. Pelletier states looking at the permit fees proposed from planning board some are pricey. Durepo agrees and states it may keep people from building. A lot of storage buildings in Limestone because our fees are low compared to Caribou. Philbrick agrees and also states the \$50 demolition fee he is not in agreement with because if its no good, let the guy tear it down, get rid of it. Brooker states we are paying code enforcement/tax assessor more money and \$200 is not a lot for a half a million-dollar building. Durepo states it would be more like \$2,000 for a \$500,000 building and that doesn't cost that much for code enforcement. Pelletier states taxes we get from those buildings are good for town. Durepo states if it goes to the town meeting there needs to be a spokesperson there to explain it. Pelletier rescinds his motion and Philbrick rescinds his 2nd to the motion to go to public hearing.

-Plow bids – there are 5 bids and we have the money in the budget to purchase a 10-foot heavy duty plow. Bids are opened with HP Fairfield at \$14,491.25, Cote's at \$8,790, Caldwell's at \$7,670, Mike's Moonlight at \$9,410 and Traction at \$8,943.87. Only one quote (Mike's) had installation charge as part of quote (\$500). Durepo asked department head which plow was his preference and he stated HP Fairfield. Discussion on whether it would also need to purchase a pump or if the current one would fit. The last plow lasted 3 years. Brooker made a motion to purchase the lowest bid of \$7,673 from Caldwell's, 2nd by Pelletier. Labreck abstained. 1 opposed. No further discussion. So voted.

Durepo_x Brooker_x Labreck_x Pelletier_x Philbrick_x

-Efficiency Maine and heat pumps – Elliott wants to be sure we are still moving forward with funds for 2 heat pumps for the town office. Selectboard in agreement with no changes. Efficiency Maine to sponsor.-Elliott gives update on sidewalk project. He has supplied information of property owners to Surveyor, who is in the process of contacting each home along sidewalk project.

-LCS pool repair – the \$126,140 pool repair is now \$180,000 and the school is asking town for \$60,000 as town share. Philbrick asks why pool cost has increased. Labreck asks about the benefactor that was supposed to pay and Elliott explains he found more wrong he wants repaired so they have gone over the amount of the donation. Labreck states she has asked several times about the pool cost and has been told a grant was written and a benefactor and there would be no cost to the town. Questions about if MSSM and LCS are paying. The donor is MSSM board person, school is putting in \$10,000. Discussion on the mil rate, Elliott states looks to be about 6mil increase. Pat St.

Peter states it could be 6-8mil increase. Philbrick makes a motion bring to town as a warrant, 2nd by Pelletier. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _x Philbrick _x

Durepo asked for explanation and St.Peter states municipal budget is down and school budget is up and the income is down. An ambulance payment of \$79,000 will help that \$499,000. Discussion on revenue sharing last year versus this year and overlays. The general fund balance is waiting on the auditors which they plan to have shortly. Durepo asked for the amount of revenue from solar and Elliott states \$8,392 from solar and \$12,000 from cell tower. Two solar coming on line July but can't be taxed until online. Assess until April. Durepo states the Tax Assessor needs to be here to ask these questions and get the answers.

-Police Cruisers- Elliott states 1 department has suggested an offer of \$35,000 for the 2021 (33, 888 + lights of 3k, radar, radio) Elliott thinks \$38,000 would be a fair offer. Elliott states many police depts contacted him but not interested in 2016 only interested in 2021. One Chief wants 1st refusal. Pelletier states the value is higher than \$38,000, more like \$39,000 and when negotiating at least start at \$38,500. Pelletier also states maybe we should keep one on hand just in case things go south with current policing situation and we end up going back to police dept. He states we've done away with the police dept. before and gone back. Brooker states we should leave to Elliott to get what he can for them. Brooker makes a motion for Elliott to sell them with the best interest of town and 2nd by Philbrick. No further discussion. So voted. Pelletier abstained.

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _ Philbrick _x

7. Public comments - none

8. Old Business

8.1 TM coverage for July – Elliott has contacted someone that will consider it

8.2 Green 4 Maine Review – won't be ready for town meeting still working TIFF

8.3 Annual town warrant review – Durepo asked Elliott for minutes from budget committee. The budget committee should have made recommendation at the selectboard meeting but didn't have a quorum.

13. Executive Session - Pelletier made motion to go to executive session concerning personnel employment discussion with Eaton-Peabody per Title 1 M.S.R.A §405 (6) (A), 2nd by Philbrick.

Time 7:59pm.

Result:

8:44pm adjourned

9. New Business

Covered under 6. Manager's Report

10. Elected Officials Reports & Statements

10.1 Chairperson has a request to form a road committee. Labreck appoints Brooker to head up the Road Committee

Philbrick – pothole on Main St in front of the previous sandwich shop. Elliott has identified already and is getting it taken care of.

Pelletier – Starting filling in holes but they need to continue and come back to the previous roads. Elliott states no truck for hotbox possibly Thursday depending on the weather.

Labreck – Would like to see a report from the town manager that employees turn in to him from each dept on what they are doing. We must do something about the trash. Elliott & Saucier drove around with the list from Philbrick and Labreck's complaints and will be sending out letters to areas

with violations. Elliott would like to go back to see the Violations and Cost like ticket we used to leave at places that had violations. Durepo - Flag upside down at Rotary Park. Pelletier states the police dept used to take care of the flags so you need to think about who will do that now. He picked up 5 needles at Albert Michaud Park when he was there with his grandkids. Brooker states a bright light down there would go a long way to curb some of that activity.

11. Other –

Caswell sends their money owed (\$14,000) to Limestone in June.

Renewed Solar account until December have been making payments.

Having staff start A/P on Monday and doing it weekly.

Reboot Falcon cost will be less due to Police Dept. – fax and 2 cell phones. The 3 lines at the library are necessary as one for elevator and 1 for alarm must be dedicated to them.

Approve Warrants

12.1 Warrant #57 Motion made by Durepo to approve #57 2nd by Brooker. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _ Philbrick _x

12.2 A/P Journal #381 Motion made by Durepo to accept 2nd by Philbrick. No discussion. So voted.

Durepo _x Brooker _x Labreck _x Pelletier _ Philbrick _x

14. Adjournment 9:10 pm

Motion to adjourn by Durepo, 2nd by Philbrick.



Irma Labreck, Chairperson



Randall Brooker, Vice Chairperson



Paul "Chris" Durepo, II



Fred Pelletier



Jessie Phibrick