

**TOWN OF PARIS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

**Monday September 28, 2015
PARIS TOWN OFFICE - 6:00 PM**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order by the Chair of the Board.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by the Town Manager.
3. Chairman's correspondence.
4. Consideration of the minutes of September 14, 2015.
5. Consideration of the following warrants: (5 min)

 Accounts Payable Warrants: 23 (\$24,875.20) 25 (\$157,659.23)

 Payroll Warrants: 22 (\$32,612.25) 24 (\$29,711.70)
6. Licenses: None at this time

7. *Town Manager's Update (5 min)*
 - a. Maine Municipal Association is holding their Annual Convention on October 7th and 8th. Several staff members shall be in attendance, there is still time for Board members to attend if they are interested. The Town Office will remain open.
 - b. The Sun Journal has submitted a Freedom of Access Act (FOAA) request for all Select Board's personal emails regarding the Paris Fire Chief and/or his reporting requirements. There are several board members that we have not received emails from, the deadline for the request was last Friday.
 - c. All elected officials are required to take FOAA training within 120 days of taking oath of office and the town is required to keep the completion certificate on file. We are missing certificates for some members.
 - d. Absentee Ballots will be available October 5th at the Town Office.
 - e. Town Sexton (Dana Chandler, Overseer of Town cemeteries) and Town Manager met with the Fairview Cemetery Association members and walked the cemetery. MMA stated the process of voluntary takeover of Fairview Cemetery starts with the association dissolving prior to the Town taking over the cemetery, which will need to be approved at Town Meeting.
 - f. Oxford Hills Domestic Violence Task Force is holding a "Paint the County Purple" campaign vigil on October 5th at Moore Park at 6 pm.
 - g. The Select Board Chair and Town Manager met with Neil Lanteigne, Paris property owner asking for assistance from the Town of Paris with getting access over a closed road in the Town of West Paris to his property. We walked the "road" to visually see what Mr. Lanteigne requested.
 - h. The Sign Ordinance has been finalized by the Planning Board for the Select Board to review, please expect this to be on the agenda in October.
 - i. The Police Department held the detective oral exam on September 25th conducted by three outside agencies. The department had two internal candidates and the interim Chief, exiting Chief and Town

Manager agree with the results of the exam. The new Detective of the Paris Police Department is Richard Belanger.

- j. The Police Department is auctioning off the 2007 Crown Victoria, as soon as the new Interceptor SUV is ready for patrol.
- k. Results of "open house" at the Fire Department...
- l. Andrea Smith of DECD – Office of Community Development is not available on Monday nights nor October 13th; she recommends the Board draft their questions and email them to her in lieu of her attending a Paris Select Board Meeting.

8. Citizen's Comments (20 min)

9. Select Board Comments (10 min)

10. Unfinished Business (50 min)

- a. Consideration and discussion of Land Use Ordinance.
- b. Consideration and discussion of citizens' initiative (petition) and impacts on services.
- c. Consideration and discussion of approving the language for the November ballot.
- d. Consideration and discussion of stop signs at Paris Hill Road intersection of Tremont St and Lincoln Street.

11. New Business (30 min)

- a. Consideration and discussion of setting a date for poverty abatement hearings.
- b. Consideration and discussion of approving a new Town Manager evaluation form.

12. Executive session MSRA Title 1 §405 (6) F

Up and coming dates to mark on your calendars:

- Selectmen Meeting – October 13, 2015 – 7PM at the Paris Town Office.
- Selectmen Meeting – October 26, 2015 – 7PM at the Paris Town Office.
- Selectmen Meeting – November 9, 2015 – 7PM at the Paris Town Office.

Current vacancies on Boards/Committees:

- Appeals Board – 3 full members, 2 alternate member
- Budget Committee – 1 alternate member
- Planning Board – 2 alternates
- Rec Committee – 2 alternates
- OCRR – 1 full member - 1 alternate
- Policy and Procedures Committee- 2 full members
- Paris Road Committee – 2 full members

Pending Items:

- ✓ St. Lawrence & Atlantic contract

Adjournment

TOWN OF PARIS, MAINE

TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SEPTEMBER 28, 2015 SELECT BOARD MEETING

DATE: 9/25

/15

CC: FILE

5. Consideration of the following warrants:

Accounts Payable Warrants: 23 (\$24,875.20) 25 (\$157,659.23)

Payroll Warrants: 22 (\$32,612.25) 24 (\$29,711.70)

Background:

These are your "payables" for the last two weeks that pertain to the vendors and employees that are paid by the Town. Accounts Payable Warrant 25 is high due to roadwork payments of \$147,171.81. Payroll Warrants 24 & 22 is high due to outside details and traffic grant hours (Town is reimbursed for these hours).

Recommendation:

The Select Board signs the payables.

6. Licenses: NONE

10. Unfinished Business: (50 min)

- a. Consideration and discussion of Land Use Ordinance.

Background:

The Land Use Committee met on September 10th and voted to change the minimum lot size in the rural areas to one acre, and have the minimum road frontage at 150 feet. This corresponds to the change in the comprehensive plan voted on in June. The Board some time ago agreed to move the Land Use Ordinance to a vote as soon as this change to the proposed ordinance was authorized. If the board wants this to be voted on in

the November election then they must make this decision now and authorize the language of the question on the ballot.

Recommendation:

The recommendation is the Select Board should make a motion to bring the Land Use Ordinance to a vote in the November election.

- b. Consideration and discussion of citizens' initiative and impacts on services.

Background:

The Citizens' Initiative passed to the Board on September 14, 2015 states as follows: *Shall the Town of Paris be required to receive the approval of 50% of its registered voters before any expenditures of the municipality can result in the mil rate exceeding the state average as determined by the Maine Revenue Service Tax Division starting with the July 2016 budget.*”, has been validated by the Town Clerk. I sent the language to the Town Attorney for legal review. His opinion is the question asked in the petition is an ultra vires request; this means it is beyond the power of the voters to do what is being asked in the petition. I have attached the explanation of this legal term and the email from the Town Attorney further detailing the opinion. The Select Board has two options: one to reject the petition based on the attorney's opinion; or two, to move the petition to vote placing an advisory message under stating that this is a recommendation or advisory opinion only. I asked the department heads to look at their budgets and inform the Board what each department would look like under Selectmen Hodgkins scenario (Admin Budget -200,000 less, PD Budget -300,000 less, Highway Budget -150,000 less, FD Budget -150,000 less, and Capital Budget -347,000 less). Each department head will be ready on Monday to discuss how this type of cut will affect services to the residents. Prepare yourself... these cuts are drastic and the service reductions are equally as drastic.

For example: The 44% cut to the Administration Budget results in the office only open for 20 hours per week. Reduction of one Deputy Clerk, office will be open 2 ten hour days consecutively; the Town would no longer register motor vehicles; Clerks would take excise tax only and then residents will have to go to a DMV Branch or online to register vehicles. The office would no longer sell hunting/fishing licenses, or register snowmobiles, ATVs or boats. All staff would be reduced in hours including the CEO, Bookkeeper, and Town Manager.

Recommendation:

No recommendation at this time.

- c. Consideration and discussion of approving the language for the November ballot.

Background:

The Select Board by law must authorize the language on the ballot, specifically the wording about passing ordinances. I have provided a copy of the language regarding the Land Use Ordinance, should the Board choose to move the ordinance to a vote.

Recommendation:

The recommendation is for the Select Board to make a motion to approve the language of the November ballot.

11. New Business (30 min)

- a. Consideration and discussion of setting a date for poverty abatement hearings.

Background:

The Town received three poverty abatement applications. One of the applications does not meet the precedent set by the Town many years ago of having liened tax years ready for foreclosure. Thus, the Select Board has a requirement to hold a hearing on the two applications that meets the liened tax years ready for foreclosure. Please be prepared with your schedules to find a date when it works for the board to meet with these two applicants,

Recommendation:

No recommendation at this time.

- b. Consideration and discussion of approving a new Town Manager evaluation form.

Background:

The Board has a new evaluation form for the Town Manager; it was requested for this to be added to the agenda.

Recommendation:

None at this time