

**EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
11 DECEMBER 2023
6:30 PM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Bruce Flewelling, Doug Blackstone, Tammy Beaulier-Fuller, Scott Allen, Norm Trask, Cheryl Clark Easton Town Clerk and Jim Gardner Town Manager

Chairman Flewelling called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

No Public Comment.

Selectmen Allen made the motion to approve the minutes of 13 November 2023 Regular Meeting with typo correction as noted by Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller. Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller made the motion to approve and sign treasure's warrants #78-#85. Selectmen Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Selectmen Allen made the motion to approve and sign the Assessors Certification Assessment. Selectmen Blackstone seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Selectmen Trask made the motion to accept the Retirement Letter from Town Manager Gardner with an effective date of 1 May 2024. Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Selectmen Trask made the motion to partner with the Aroostook Area on Aging and sign the memorandum of agreement to establish Town of Easton as an Access Point for senior citizens programs. Selectmen Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed a letter from the Department of Labor concerning "Penalty Discussion" date to be established. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed the financial figures presented from the Easton School Department. Town Manager Gardner explained to the Easton Board of Selectmen that Easton School Department had received an email from Katahdin Trust Bank that the school had overdrafts amounting to \$73,000+. Town Manager Gardner explain to the Easton Board of Selectmen that no one at the Easton School Department or the Easton School Committee are overseeing anything coming out of the finance administration at the Easton

School Department. Town Manager Gardner stated that this type of management is exactly what put the Easton School Department in the deficits for two and maybe three consecutive years to total north of \$400,000. Town Manager Gardner asked the Easton Board of Selectmen to notify the Easton School Committee of the recent financial blunders and that the repeating of their past actions will be detrimental to Easton taxpayers.

During the Manager's Report Town Manager Gardner stated that he had missed putting the financial figures ending 7 December 2023 on the agenda. Town Manager Gardner went over the financials with the Easton Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Allen made the motion to approve the Financial Figures through 7 December 2023. Selectmen Blackstone seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Continuing on with the Manager's Report. Town Manger Gardner stated that the Easton Town Office will be closing at 11:00 am on 22 December 2023. Town Manager Gardner stated that street lights have been ordered for the Village Acres subdivision. Town Manager Gardner stated that Town of Easton has sent a request for proposal to Marshall and Stevens (Easton's industrial assessing agent) to do a full revaluation of the real estate property at both Huber Engineered Wood and McCain's Food USA. This appraisal needs to be completed for the 2024 negotiations with McCain's Food USA in the agreement signed by both the Town of Easton and McCain's Food USA. Town Manager Gardner explained that the engineers are finalizing the structural engineer report for the Easton Fire Department upper floor.

Town Manager Gardner was asked to leave the meeting prior to selectmen items.

Per Town Clerk Clark Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Selectmen Trask seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Gardner
Easton Town Manager