

**EASTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
12 FEBRUARY 2024
6:30 PM
MINUTES**

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

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

During Public Comment, Darrell Adams informed the Easton Board of Selectmen that he had property located at 254 Center Road that he would offer to sell to the Town of Easton for placement of a new Fire Station. Chairman Flewelling informed Mr. Adams that the Town was in the very early stages of discovery in placement and construction of the new Fire Station but thanked Mr. Adams for coming in, along with his offer.

Selectmen Trask made the motion to approve the minutes of 8 January 2024 with the correction of the misspelling of "Malchom" to the correct spelling "Malcolm" in reference to the Francis Malcolm Science Center's agenda item at Regular Meeting. Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0

Selectmen Blackstone made the motion to approve and sign treasure's warrants #94- #103. Selectmen Trask seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller made the motion to approve the financial figures through 8 February 2024. Selectmen Blackstone seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0

Selectmen Trask made the motion to approve the letter of engagement with Marshall & Stevens Appraisal firm to reevaluate the personal property and real estate for both Huber Engineered Wood and McCain Foods USA. Selectmen Blackstone seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0

Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller made the motion to send the final draft of the Proposed 2024-2025 Municipal Budget and Warrant to the Town of Easton Budget Committee and set the Budget Committee meeting for 27 February 2024 at 6:30 pm located at the Odd Fellows Hall. Selectmen Trask seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Selectmen Allen entered the meeting at 7:45 pm

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed information from Northern Maine Development Commission regarding the submittal of the Congressional Directive Spending program application to Senator Collins and Senator King for funding assistance for the new proposed Easton Fire Department Station building. Northern Maine Development Commission also provided information concerning the administration of funding allocations for the new Fire Station. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed information from the Maine Department of Transportation concerning the railroad crossing on the Station Road and the poor condition of the crossing. Maine Department of Transportation noted that the crossing is set to be repair in 2024 State of Maine Fiscal Year. So, noted

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed documents from Maine Municipal Association Risk Management Services concerning accident with Easton Highway Department's 2022 Western Star Snow Plow Truck. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed information concerning the Property Tax Stabilization Law and the funding of the program. So, noted

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed an email from County of Aroostook signifying the tax amount of County of Aroostook's six-month budget to ratify the changing of fiscal years by the County of Aroostook. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed information from the Easton Animal Control Officer concerning the issue at 83 Center Road. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed the reimbursement of \$50,455.60 from Maine Department of Environmental Protection for Small Community Grant Program. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed the reimbursement of \$99,900.00 from the United States Development Agency's Rural Development program for the Easton Snowmobile groomer. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed an email from Girl Scout Troop concerning the "Bronze Award Project on Fire Safety. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed email from concerned Easton residents in reference to the availability of transportation to Easton Recreation Department's programs. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed the Easton School Department's financial figures through 31 January 2024. So, noted.

Easton Board of Selectmen reviewed Easton Recreation Department Programs. So, noted.

During the Manager's Report Town Manager Gardner stated that the date for the Easton Budget Committee is attentively set for 27 February 2024, 6:30 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall. Town Manager Gardner stated that the Easton Town Office would be closed the morning of 16 February 2024 to allow for the proper closing of the fiscal year books. Town Manager Gardner suggested that the Spirit of America Award be presented to the Easton Food Pantry and their volunteers, there was agreement around the Board members. Town Manager Gardner distributed a memo from Adam Bindar, who would like to build "spec" homes in the newly constructed subdivision (Village Acres). After a lengthy discussion it was decided to meet with Mr. Bindar and further the discussion of the "spec" homes.

Selectmen Beaulier-Fuller made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. Selectmen Trask seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Gardner
Easton Town Manager