# **MINUTES**

Attested as a True Copy by

Mark Robinson, Town Clerk

# TOWN OF FAYETTE SECRET BALLOT ELECTION AND TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Tuesday, June 14, 2022 and Wednesday, June 15, 2022

To: Wendy Zamler, a resident of the Town of Fayette, in the County of Kennebec, State of Maine:

# **GREETINGS**:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are required to notify and warn the voters in the Town of Fayette in the County of Kennebec, in the State of Maine, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Fayette Central School at 2023 Main Street in Fayette, on Tuesday, June 14th, 2022, at 8:00 a.m., there and then to act on the following Article 1 and by secret ballot on Articles 2 thru 5 as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from eight o'clock in the forenoon until eight o'clock in the afternoon;

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at Fayette Central School in said Town on Wednesday, June 15-2022, at six o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 43 as set out below, to wit:

# ARTICLE 1 To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

**ARTICLE 2** To proceed with the voting, by secret ballot, as directed by statute, on the election of Town Officers for the ensuing year(s) – two Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor for a three-year terms; One School Committee Member for a three-year term.

**ARTICLE 3** Shall the citizens of Fayette limit the funding of Starling Hall to \$5,000 annually for the maintenance of the Starling Hall? Vote for one: yes or no

Note: Funding will come from the appropriation of real estate taxes.

The following articles (4 and 5) are to see what action the Town will take in appropriating sums and authorizing the Select Board to enter into agreement(s) to provide high speed internet service to all residents of Fayette.

**ARTICLE 4** Shall the Select Board of the Town be authorized to: (a) negotiate and enter into one or more agreements providing for the design and construction of a broadband WIRELESS network to be owned and operated by a third party to serve all of the residents of the Town of Fayette, (b) appropriate a sum not to exceed \$385,275.00 for the foregoing, (c) apply for, accept and expend revenues from Federal, State, and private grant sources to offset the costs of said broadband wireless network, and (d) fund the foregoing appropriation by borrowing, on behalf of the Town, a sum not to exceed \$385,275.00 on such terms as the Select Board determines are necessary and proper pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. §5772 and other applicable Maine law, including

State Revenue Sharing	\$88,000
Workers Comp Ins Proceeds	\$2,120
Local Road Assistance	\$40,888

**Explanation:** The list of municipal revenues and estimated collections above serve as non-tax and previously raised revenue to be used to reduce the amount necessary to raise and appropriate through taxation. Current tax rate is \$18.85 per \$1,000 of assessment.

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes Selectmen Recommend: Yes

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 27** To see if the Town will vote to transfer excise tax money, sum not to exceed \$1,000 received from the sale of snowmobile registrations from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the Fayette Ridge Riders Snowmobile Association. Funding is used to maintain all snowmobile trails and landowner agreements throughout the Town of Fayette.

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes Selectmen Recommend: Yes

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 28** To see if the Town will vote to transfer boat excise tax money, sum not to exceed the amount collected from the sale of boat registrations from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as of June 30, 2023 to 30 Mile River Watershed Association. Funding is used to support water conservation projects on Fayette's lakes and ponds.

Budget Committee Recommend: Yes Selectmen Recommend: Yes

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 29** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of \$8,000 to reinstall the basic security system for Starling Hall.

Budget Committee Recommends (3 in favor- 3 Opposed)
Select Board Recommends Yes (3 in favor- 2 Opposed Sparling and Pond)
DISCUSSION TO MOVE VOTE TO NOVEMBER ELECTION AS REFERENDUM BALLOT

ARTICLE 30 Shall the Select Board of the Town be authorized to: (a) appropriate a sum not to exceed \$500,000.00 to provide matching funds for grants from Federal, State, and private grant sources for the renovation of Starling Hall (b) fund the foregoing appropriation by borrowing, on behalf of the Town, a sum not to exceed \$500,000.00 on such terms as the Select Board determines are necessary and proper pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. \$5772 and other applicable Maine law, including the issuance, at one time or from time to time, of general obligation bonds (and notes in anticipation thereof) of the Town of Fayette in a sum not to exceed \$500,000.00, including fixing the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rates, places of payment, premiums, calls for redemption with or without premium, forms and other details of said bonds and notes, and to provide for the sale thereof, for the purpose of providing one dollar to match for each dollar of grants awarded from Federal, State, and private sources for the renovation of Starling Hall.

Note: Financial Statement for warrant Article #2. Total Town Indebtedness: \$605,000 A. Bonds outstanding and Unpaid: \$605,000 B. Bonds authorized and unapproved: \$0 C. Bonds to be issued if this Article is approved: \$500,000 Total: \$1,105,000 2. Costs: At an estimated maximum interest rate of 3.698% for a 20-year maturity, the estimated costs of this bond will be: Principal \$500,000.00 Interest \$143,391.09\* Total new debt service \$643,391.09\* based on available Maine Municipal Bond Bank calculation.

# Budget Committee Recommends NO (2 in favor, 4 Opposed) Select Board Recommends NO (1 in favor, 4 Opposed) DISCUSSION TO MOVE VOTE TO NOVEMBER ELECTION AS REFERENDUM BALLOT

**ARTICLE 31** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of \$387,179 to support the General Government budget. Total expense to authorize \$387,179.

MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2021-2022	2022-2023
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED
General Government	\$289,311	\$273,377	\$289,628	\$293,510	\$303,455	\$409,693	\$387,179

		Last Year	Proposed
<b>Estimated Summary of Accounts:</b>			_
	Selectmen Stipend	\$3,750	\$3,750
	Selectmen Payroll Tax	\$287	\$287
	Town Manager Payroll	\$64,402	\$64,402
	Town Manager Payroll Tax	\$4,926	\$4,926
	Town Manager Health Ins.	\$20,112	\$24,505
	Town Office Staff Payroll	\$63,622	\$68,139
	Town Office Payroll Tax	\$4,867	\$5,213
	Town Office Health Ins.	\$00,000	\$31,258
	Code Enforcement Payroll	\$24,011	\$32,500
	Code Enforcement Payroll Tax	\$1,672	\$2,486
	Training and Mileage	\$000	\$600
	General Operations	\$50,950	\$54,000
	Assessing	\$99,850	\$25,600
	Record Preservation/Mapping	\$1,600	\$1,600
	Elections	\$1,600	\$2,153
	General Assistance	\$3,000	\$3,000
	Senior Spectrum	\$500	\$500
	Legal Services	\$5,000	\$5,000
	Audit	\$7,000	\$6,000
	Town Office Heating Fuel	\$1,000	\$1,000
	Starling Hall	\$3,550	\$4,560
	KVCOG MMA memberships	\$4,692	\$5,000

the issuance, at one time or from time to time, of general obligation bonds (and notes in anticipation thereof) of the Town of Fayette in a sum not to exceed \$385,275.00, including fixing the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rates, places of payment, premiums, calls for redemption with or without premium, forms and other details of said bonds and notes, and to provide for the sale thereof, for the purpose of paying the Town's portion of the costs of the foregoing broadband wireless network?

# Select Board recommends: Yes (4-1 Jon Beekman Opposed) Broadband Committee recommends: No

Note: Financial Statement for Option 1. Total Town Indebtedness: \$605,000 A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid: \$605,000 B. Bonds authorized and unapproved: \$0 C. Bonds to be issued if this Article is approved: \$387,275 Total: \$992,275.00 2. Costs: At an estimated maximum interest rate of 3.698% for a 20 year maturity, the estimated costs of this bond will be: Principal \$385,275.00 Interest \$110,490.32\* Total new debt service \$495,765.32 \*based on available Maine Municipal Bond Bank Calculation

ARTICLE 5 Shall the Select Board of the Town be authorized to: (a) enter into one or more agreements providing for the design, acquisition, construction and equipping of a broadband FIBER OPTIC network to be owned by the Town of Fayette and operated by a third party to serve all of the residents of the Town of Fayette, (b) appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for the foregoing, (c) apply for, accept and expend revenues from Federal, State, and private grant sources to offset the costs of said broadband FIBER OPTIC network, and (d) fund the foregoing appropriation by borrowing, on behalf of the Town, a sum not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 on such terms as the Select Board determines are necessary and proper pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. §5772 and other applicable Maine law, including the issuance, at one time or from time to time, of general obligation bonds (and notes in anticipation thereof) of the Town of Fayette in a sum not to exceed \$1,000,000.00, including fixing the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rates, places of payment, premiums, calls for redemption with or without premium, forms and other details of said bonds and notes, and to provide for the sale thereof, for the purpose of paying all or a portion of the costs of the foregoing broadband fiber optic network?

Select Board recommends: No (1-4 Jon Beekman in Favor) Broadband committee recommends: Yes

Note: Financial Statement for Option 2. Total Town Indebtedness: \$605,000 A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid: \$605,000 B. Bonds authorized and unapproved: \$0 C. Bonds to be issued if this Article is approved: \$1,000,000 Total: \$1,605,000 2. Costs: At an estimated maximum interest rate of 3.698% for a 20 year maturity, the estimated costs of this bond will be: Principal \$1,000,000.00 Interest \$286,782.19\* Total new debt service \$1,286,782.19 \*based on available Maine Municipal Bond Bank calculation.

**ARTICLE 6** To see if the Town of Fayette will vote to lapse all balances into the undesignated fund balance (surplus) with the exception of those special revenue accounts which must be carried forward by law.

Note: This applies to federally funded school programs and from year to year other federal and state funded programs for municipal operations.

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

**PASSED** 

# SUGGESTED SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

# **ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485**

# **Cost Center Summary Budget Format**

**ARTICLE 7** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

Elementary Education Pre-K – Grade 8 \$ 984,226.00 Secondary Education \$ 582,090.00 Gifted & Talented \$ 10,009.00

> School Committee Recommends \$1,576,325.00 Select Board Recommends \$1,576,325.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$1,576,325.00 PASSED

**ARTICLE** 8 To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

Elementary Education Pre-K – Grade 5	\$69,931.00
Middle School	\$121,175.00
High School	\$12,363.00
Special Education Administration	\$81,092.00
Special Services	\$21,636.00
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School Committee Recommends \$306,197.00 Select Board Recommends \$306,197.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$306,197.00 PASSED

**ARTICLE 9** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.

School Committee Recommends \$0.00 Select Board Recommends \$0.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$0.00 PASSED

**ARTICLE 10** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction.

# Select Board Recommends \$0.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$0.00

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 11** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

Guidance	\$4,500.00
Health Services	\$19,419.00
Improvement of Instruction	\$1,159.00
Library Services	\$7,773.00
Technology	\$108,593.00
Student Assessments	\$2,000.00

School Committee Recommends \$143,444.00 Select Board Recommends \$143,444.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$143.444.00 PASSED

**ARTICLE 12** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

School Committee	\$19,306.00
Superintendent's Office	\$64,725.00

School Committee Recommends \$84,031.00 Select Board Recommends \$84,031.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$84,031.00

**PASSED** 

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 13** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for School Administration. (P)

School Committee Recommends \$148,861.00 Select Board Recommends \$148,861.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$148,861.00

**ARTICLE 14** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

School Committee Recommends \$132,950.00 Select Board Recommends \$132,950.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$132,950.00

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 15** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

School Committee Recommends \$168,115.00 Select Board Recommends \$168,115.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$168,115.00 PASSED **ARTICLE 16** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

School Committee Recommends \$23,971.00 Select Board Recommends \$23,971.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$23,971.00 PASSED

**ARTICLE 17** To see what sum the Fayette School Department will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures Food Service

School Committee Recommends \$50,000.00 Select Board Recommends \$50,000.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$50,000.00 PASSED

# ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. Section 15690

PLEASE NOTE:

Actions taken pursuant to items 1 - 3 must be taken by a recorded vote.

1. Fayette School Department Contribution to Total Cost of Funding Public Education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690(1 A-B)):

**ARTICLE 18** To see what sum the Town of Fayette will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**Recommend \$1,271,847.00**) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

School Committee Recommends \$1,271,847.00

"Explanation: The Fayette School Department's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars."

Select Board Recommends \$1,271,847.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$1,271,847.00 PASSED

# 2. Appropriation of Additional Local Funds (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (3 A-B)):

**ARTICLE 19** Shall the Town of Fayette raise and appropriate \$812,936.00 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$812,936.00 as required to fund the budget recommended by the Fayette School Committee.

The Fayette School Committee recommends \$812,936.00 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$812,936.00.

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Fayette School Department's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the (municipality/district) budget for educational programs.

School Committee Recommends \$812,936.00 Select Board Recommends \$812,936.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$812,936.00 PASSED

# 3. Total Budget Article (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (4A)):

**ARTICLE 20** To see what sum the Town of Fayette will authorize the Fayette School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023 from the Fayette School Department's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

School Committee Recommends \$2,683,894.00 Select Board Recommends \$2,683,894.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$2,683,894.00 PASSED

ARTICLE 21 In addition to the amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the Fayette School Committee be authorized to accept and expend federal or state funds and such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously anticipated

School Committee Recommends YES
Select Board Recommends YES
Budget Committee Recommends YES
PASSED

**ARTICLE 22** Shall the school committee be authorized to accept all additional monies from the State Legislature to offset local taxes

School Committee Recommends YES
Select Board Recommends YES
Budget Committee Recommends YES

PASSED

**ARTICLE 23** To see what sum the Town of Fayette will authorize the School Committee to transfer from the schools undesignated fund balance.

School Committee Recommends \$138,500.00 Select Board Recommends \$138,500.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$138,500.00

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 24** To see if the Town of Fayette will authorize the School Committee to expend an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for the purpose of capital needs. This appropriation would be drawn from the Municipal Educational Capital Reserve Account.

School Committee Recommends \$50,000.00 Select Board Recommends \$50,000.00 Budget Committee Recommends \$50,000.00

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 25** Shall the Fayette School Committee be authorized to enter into a five-year contract with RSU#73 for non-exclusive school privileges to allow Fayette resident students in grades 6 to 12 to attend RSU#73 schools

Select Board Recommends Yes, given the condition that transportation will not be provided by the Town (5 in favor- 1 Opposed)

Budget Committee Recommends Yes, given the condition that transportation will not be provided by the Town (3 in favor- 1 Opposed)

**PASSED** 

**ARTICLE 26** To see if the Town shall accept and appropriate the categories of estimated funds listed below to reduce the 2022-2023 Property Tax Commitment:

\$270,000
\$20,000
\$16,000
\$120,000
\$2,000
\$3,000
\$6,200
\$20,500
\$2000
\$25,500

Insurance	\$40,900	\$40,500
Veteran's Memorial	\$350	\$200

Last Year

\$3,230

\$2,140

\$ 200

**Proposed** 

\$3,768

\$2,500

\$ 200

Budget Committee Recommend: \$387,179 Selectmen Recommend: \$387,179

**ARTICLE 32** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of \$107,323 to support the Public Safety budget. Total expense to authorize \$107,323

	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED
Public Safety	\$86,345	\$92,220	\$86,676	\$88,012	\$88,012	\$136,584	\$107,323

Summary of Accounts:			
	Fire Protection	\$58,182	\$54,452
	Rural Patrol	\$3,000	\$3,000
	Streetlights	\$500	\$200
	Ambulance	\$15,343	\$26,973
	Dispatch	\$16,139	\$16,230

**Animal Control** 

**Humane Society** 

Budget Committee Recommend: \$107,323 Selectmen Recommend: \$107,323

**ARTICLE 33** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of 12,628 to support the Recreation and Cultural Services budget. Total expense to authorize \$12,628.

Supply

MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED
Recreation and Cultural	\$11,428	\$11,428	\$12,428	\$12,428	\$12,428	\$12,628	\$12,628

		Last Year	Proposed
Estimated Summary of Accounts:	Books	\$3,750	\$3,750
	Staff	\$2,580	\$2,780
	Operations	\$6,098	\$6,098

**Budget Committee Recommend: \$12,628** Selectmen Recommend: \$12,628

**ARTICLE 34** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of \$524,793 to support the Public Works budget. Total expense to authorize \$524,793.

MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED
Public Works	\$302,054	\$437,432	\$456,990	\$467,184	\$467,184	\$508,961	\$524,793

		Last Year	Proposed
Estimated Summary of Accounts:			
	Staff Payroll	\$168,340	\$170,000
	Staff Payroll Tax	\$12,878	\$13,005
	Staff Health Insurance	\$12,878	\$17,522
	General Operations	\$14,750	\$16,966
	Signs	\$1,500	\$1,500
	Equipment Repair/Maintenance	\$38,000	\$38,000
	Sand	\$15,000	\$15,000
	Gravel	\$30,000	\$30,000
	Pavement Maintenance	\$100,000	\$25,000
	Rental/Hired Equipment	\$11,000	\$12,000
	Clothing	\$800	\$800
	Hay	\$500	\$500
	Fabric	\$500	\$500
	Culverts	\$6,500	\$6,500
	Discretionary Equipment Purchase	\$3,000	\$43,000
	Salt	\$25,000	\$35,000
	Radio/Repair	\$600	\$600
	Tools	\$400	\$400
	Training	\$200	\$200
	Supplies	\$15,000	\$15,000
	Motor Fuel	\$26,000	\$40,000
	Cemeteries	\$7,000	\$8,000
	Soldiers Memorial	\$200	\$200
	Public Works Garage Roof	\$0	\$35,100

Budget Committee Recommend: \$524,793 Selectmen Recommend: \$524,793

**ARTICLE 35** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of \$57,220 to support the Municipal Debt Service budget for a total expense to authorize \$57,220.

MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED
Municipal Debt Service	\$222,908	\$222,908	\$222,908	\$222,908	\$222,908	\$153,230	\$57,220

Note: \$200,000 bond Richmond Mill Culvert (0.94%) ISSUED October 29, 2020, will be paid November 1, 2030. 2021 Plow truck ordered yet to be delivered \$198,742 3.15% interest fixed for six years.

Budget Committee Recommend: \$57,220 Selectmen Recommend: \$57,220

**ARTICLE 36** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation the sum of \$76,231 to support the Solid Waste budget. Total expense to authorize \$76,231

MUNICIPAL EXPENDITURES	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	PROPOSED
Solid Waste	\$41,365	\$68,500	\$73,935	\$73,578	\$73,935	\$75,929	\$76,231

**Estimated Summary of Accounts:** 

Readfield Transfer Station Partnership Share

\$75,231 \$1,000

Hazardous/Bulky Waste Programs

# Budget Committee Recommends \$76,231 Selectmen Recommend \$76,231

**ARTICLE 37** To see if the Town will vote to raise from taxation \$20,000 dollars to support the Employee Health Care Reserve Account for the high deductible plan instituted six years ago for the 4 municipal employees that receive health insurance.

# Budget Committee Recommends \$20,000 Selectmen Recommend \$20,000

**ARTICLE 38** To see if the Town will vote to carry forward unexpended "**Keep Me Warm**" funds raised throughout the year as will be determined with the completion of the financial audit for the year ending June 30th, 2021.

Budget Committee Recommends Yes
Selectmen Recommend Yes

**ARTICLE 39** To see if the Town will vote to approve the Capital Investment Plan amount to raise from taxation \$269,000.

\$229,000 Road Paving \$25,000 Fire Station Parking Lot \$15,000 Town Office Reserve

# Budget Committee Recommends \$269,000 (5 in favor 1 opposed St Clair) Selectmen Recommend \$269,000 (4 in favor 1 opposed Sparling)

**ARTICLE 40** To see if the Town will vote to carry forward unexpended funds from the 2021-2022 Fire Protection Account to the 2022-2023 Fire Protection Account.

# Budget Committee Recommends Yes Selectmen Recommend Yes

**ARTICLE 41** To see if the Town will vote to transfer funds from the Town's undesignated fund (surplus) sum not to exceed \$25,000 to pay surcharges associated with the new plow truck.

# Budget Committee Recommends (5 in favor 1 opposed Swimm) Selectmen Recommend No

**ARTICLE 42** To see if the Town of Fayette will vote to increase the Property tax levy limit established for Fayette by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a property tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. This year's LD 1 calculation is greater than the limit and a vote must be taken.

Budget Committee Recommends Yes
Selectmen Recommend Yes

# Town of Fayette, Maine

# MODERATOR'S CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTIONS FOR LOCAL OFFICE SECRET BALLOT ELECTIONS

I hereby certify the following as the results of the election of officials for the Town of Fayette held on June 14, 2022:

For Selectmen/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor, a term of three years: 2 Seats

Lacy Badeau

236 Votes

(ELECTED)

Wesley Bowen

101 Votes

Michael Carlson

204 Votes

(ELECTED)

**Nathaniel Sparling** 

171 Votes

For School Committee Member, a term of three years: 1 Seat

Write-In: Lana Sturtevant

30 Votes

(ELECTED)

For Article 3, Starling Hall Spending Cap

Yes

283 Votes

No

156 Votes

2589 Main Street

Fayette, Maine 04349

Phone (207) 685-4373

Fax (207) 685-9391

e-mail: fayette@myfairpoint.net Website: www.fayettemaine.org

# Town of Fayette, Maine

For Article 4, Wireless Broadband

Yes 188 Votes

No 235 Votes

For Article 5, Fiber to the Home

Yes 163 Votes

No 265 Votes

# Out of a total return of votes cast 449

Dated: June 15, 2022
Deputy Moderator: Mark Robinson

2589 Main Street

Fayette, Maine 04349

Phone (207) 685-4373

Fax (207) 685-9391

e-mail: fayette@myfairpoint.net Website: www.fayettemaine.org

# **How People Voted on Broadband Questions**

Yes on 4, 5 blank	6 Votes
No on 4, 5 blank	1 Vote
4 blank, yes on 5	10 Votes
4 blank, no on 5	0 Votes
Yes on 4, Yes on 5	69 Votes
No on 4, No on 5	148 Votes
Yes on 4, No on 5	113 Votes
No on 4, Yes on 5	89 Votes
Blank Votes	13 Votes
Total Votes	449 Votes
Total Yes Votes on 4	188 Votes
Total No Votes on 4	238 Votes
Total Yes Votes on 5	168 Votes
Total No Votes on 5	261 Votes

Total # of people who voted Yes for either 4 or 5: 287

Total # of people who voted No for both 4 and 5: 149

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

7:00 pm VIA ZOOM and IN PERSON Tuesday, June 28, 2022

ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN Toby Pond, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, Jon Beekman, Nathaniel Sparling

PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE Brent St. Clair, George Boff, Michael Carlson, Spencer Frandsen (TextMyGov representative)

**PLEDGE** Stated

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** No report.

# TOWN MANAGER REPORT Last Select Meeting of the fiscal year

- Closed 4th of July
- June 30th last day of fiscal year
  - Final audit complete for July 12th

# 22-56 KENNEBEC COUNTY EMERGENCY PLAN

Wait until July 12th meeting for more information Mark will send out link again to members

#### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

# **22-59 TEXT MY GOV**

Spencer Frandsen gave a presentation about Text My Gov about how it works, with a demonstration

- Creates automatic responses for any questions, and sets reminders of events or issues to be sent out to residents who subscribe (free)
- \$3,000 annually, \$1,500 set up fee for the first year
  - 2 year contract

#### 22-60 MEETING TIME LIMIT

Amend Administrative Ordinance if wanted

- Could set a time limit i.e. at 9pm, motion to either continue or end meeting
- Could set time limits for each article/discussion differing depending on issue Will try setting time limits for next meeting

# 22-61 ELECTION/TOWN MEETING

Turnout successful for both

- Expected low turn-out for primary election
- Communication and reminders likely contributed to better turn-out
- 104 absentees
- 449 total voters
- Biggest crowd yet for annual town meeting
  - Likely due to subject matter and week night availability

Discussed the passage of capping Starling Hall funding to \$5,000 (Secret Ballot Article 3) and passage of Town Meeting Article passing \$8,000 petition to install security system and movement of \$500,000 article fundraising to match grant to November election

- Incorrect, lack of sufficient public notice in time of public hearing
- Mary Denison recommends both Town Warrant Starling Hall questions be dealt with in November (citizen approval for security system cannot stand legally)
- Adequate public notice: 7 days before public hearing (4 days were given in this case)

Jon is concerned that Town Meeting vote shouldn't stand due to similar circumstances with school articles

Lacy suggests addressing deadlines and procedures for referendum/ Town Meeting votes in Administrative Ordinances

Brent recognized School Board did poor job with approving articles in time

Mentioned his referendum secret ballot question (Article 3) was presented 60 days in advance

#### 22-62

Motion by Jon, seconded by Nathaniel

Vote: 5-0

# 22-63 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Brian, seconded by Toby

Discussion: fix Lacy's name in Tuesday, May 31, Brian mentioned he asked Nancy on Tuesday, May 3rd to go back ten years for more information and has not heard back yet Vote: 3-0-2

Sparling and Beekman abstained due to lack of attendance at all meetings

# 22-64 SELECTMEN COMMENTS

Toby- Katie Yates left grant-writing company; liked mirror on Maple Lane, noticed red speed limit signs are up

Brian- Secret ballot question 3 passed, what effect does the cap have? (maintenance definition?)- Brent says a secret ballot can be overturned by another secret ballot; discussion around a possible cheaper security system

Lacy- asked members to consider which committees they would like to be a part of or leave; suggests getting a better handle and idea of what's going on with Starling Hall Jon- would like to see a presentation from road committee; suggests the link to GeoMaps be on the website

# SUPPLEMENTAL TAXES

Motion by Jon to approve, seconded by Toby

Discussion: discussed whether appropriate communication and notification was sent via certified mail which was confirmed as assessing agent issued this supplement of \$500 following direct communication via mail previously; Toby suggested waiting to confirm if they received the notifications of the upcoming fine

Vote: 4-0-1 to approve Holman abstained

# **MOVE TO 22-65 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Toby, seconded by Jon Vote: 5-0 Ended at 8:35

# 8:50 OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to approve Red Zone letter of support by Sparling, seconded by Jon Discussion: Jumpstart Pilot Program- RedZone has asked BOS to sign a letter supporting their asking for a grant to provide free internet to the town, not exclusive to competition

Vote: 5-0

#### **ADJOURN**

Motion by Jon, seconded by Nathaniel

Vote: 5-0

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

7:00 pm VIA ZOOM and IN PERSON Tuesday, July 12th, 2022

**ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN** Toby Pond, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, Jon Beekman, Michael Carlson

**PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE** Brent St.Clair, George Boff, Chris Lynch (Representative for Matrix), Cale Ellis, Mary Ellis, Richard Polsinello, Theodore Marshall (Kennebec Emergency Management Representative)

**PLEDGE** Stated

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** Discussion of new year's legislative officers- currently Lacy Badeau is Chair and Brian Holman is Vice Chair.

Jon Beekman moved to keep legislative officers the same, Toby Pond seconded Vote: 5-0

Lacy Badeau is Chair, Brain Holman is Vice Chair

- Lacy: Comprehensive Plan has been accepted; has to be approved at Town Meeting, or could use November since Starling Hall questions will be referendum questions)
- Jon: Public Waste Committee meeting tomorrow
- Mike: Joe Young has stepped back from broadband committee, will ask someone who used to be a member if he is interested in rejoining committee

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Fayette lost Dr. Daniel Onion, Health Officer, very quickly. He gave much of his life in service to people and he will be greatly missed.

Jessica Leighton has started full time

The decision made last meeting on June 28th regarding tree growth penalties was a fine for late submittal of applications

- Mark suggests the board reverse the decision as there was not proper communication to those fined
- Cale and Mary Ellis came to speak on their behalf of the bill, speaking to the Board asking for reversal of the bill
- Motion to reverse June 28th decision to fine the Ellis' from Toby Pond, seconded by Jon Beekman (Vote: 5-0)

# MATRIX PRESENTATION

Chris Lynch gave a presentation on behalf of Matrix, asking for a letter of support from the Board of Selectmen, would like to send out survey with tax bills to gauge interest in their company from residents.

# **Old Business**

# 22-56 KENNEBEC COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Theodore Marshall gave a presentation via zoom, discussing the details and urgency of signing up for the Kennebec County Emergency Management Plan.

Jon Beekman moved to accept the plan, Toby Pond seconds

Mike Carlson and Brian Holman would like to read more details before voting Vote: 2-3 to revisit on July 26th, next meeting

# **New Business**

# **22-59 TEXT MY GOV**

Text My Gov representative got back to Mark, offering a one year contract proposal and information that ARPA money would be eligible for this use

Motion from Brian Holman to send out a survey by mail to see who would be interested, seconded by Lacy Badeau

Brian and Lacy rescind their motion and second

Board would rather have an app or something similar, and/or an electronic sign outside the town office or school; would not like to enter into a contract with TextMyGov

# 22-68 CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Jon Beekman to accept as written, seconded by Mike Discussion: appeals members not listed because they were just appointed recently Vote: 5-0

# 22-69 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Jon is currently the Solid Waste committee rep., lacy is alternate; they would like somebody else to take over and asked if anyone would be interested; Mike Carlson offered to be primary rep., Lacy staying alternate, Brent St. Clair appointed as alternate community person (appointed by chair)

 Motion to approve Brent St. Clair as community alternate from Jon Beekman and seconded by Toby Pond, vote 5-0

Brian is the representative for FOSH and Road Committee and Building Committee Veterans Memorial Committee- Lacy is primary representative, need to request volunteers as well

Need to appoint two new budget committee members; will make applications

# **22-70 WARRANTS**

Motion to approve Warrant #1 by Mike Carlson, seconded by Toby Pond Vote: 5-0

# **22-61 MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes from June 28, 2022 made by Toby Pond, seconded by Brian Holman

Vote: 4-0-1 Mike Carlson abstained

# 22-64 SELECTMEN COMMENTS

Brian- liked the road foreman summary; would like to get rid of the two buses, add to July 26th agenda to discuss sending them out and how we write bid offering Toby- cut brush? Mark responded that some was chipped up, and some was used as fill for a resident; would like to find manufacturing information from selectmen minutes in the past ten years to see where the chipper was purchased from Jon- next meeting in the library, June 26

Mike- discussed that they are beginning the process for the Jackman Mills culvert Lacy- welcome Mike Carlson to the Board

Brent- last selectmen meeting, the town meeting vote was tabled

 Mark would like to have Mary Denison's input on this and she said town meeting vote is inadequate concerning Starling Hall funding due to inadequate notice of public hearing and should be handled at November election

Donations to groups looking to get support from residents- would like them to have to get signatures equal to 10% of those who voted in last gubernatorial election in order to get donations; Lacy will look for Readfield's wording of their donation request form

# **MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:45 PM**

Motion by Jon Beekman, seconded by Toby

Vote: 5-0

Ended at 9:04 pm

**ADJOURN AT 9:04 PM** 

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

7:00 pm VIA ZOOM and IN PERSON Tuesday, July 26th, 2022

**ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN** Michael Carlson, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, Jon Beekman absent Toby Pond.

**PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE** Jessica Leighton (CEO), Brent St.Clair, George Boff, Chris Lynch (Representative for Matrix), George Boff, Theodore Marshall, Wesley Bowen, Richard Polsinello, Dan, Mark Jarrell

# **PLEDGE** Stated

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Wesley- hole on the road on Knox Hill that has been there all summer - Mark said they'll get to it before winter

# CEO REPORT

- CEO Jessica Leighton spoke to discuss changes to the Land Use Ordinance that the Planning Board has been looking at.
  - August 15th- a few changes made- a solar ordinance for solar farms with guidelines
  - August 23-BOS next meeting- these changes will need to be approved
  - Putting them on a referendum ballot for the November election
  - First public hearing- September 19
  - Jon-could we get the proposed changes asap to expedite the process and have time to go over them with enough time before August 23rd meeting (Jess will get them to the BOS within two weeks of meeting- August 9)
- LD 2003 got passed and a couple others- Affordable Housing- some changes coming having to change the ordinance to reflect an accessory dwelling unit on every lot regardless of if it is allowed currently or not (email from MMA summing it up)
  - Won't go in effect until July 2023
  - Lacy- have they decided how many per lot are allowed?
  - Jess- it's not definite as of now she reads it that one accessory dwelling unit as long as it meets septic requirements where a single-family dwelling unit it (a municipality is required to allow up to 4 dwellings per lot- up to 2 with an existing lot, so would only be an additional 1)

# **Old Business**

# 22-56 KENNEBEC COUNTY EMERGENCY PLAN

- Mark- Some of the things in the plan will need amendment due to already completed projects
- Theodore Marshall in person presenting and answering questions
- Motion to sign Kennebec County Emergency Plan by Jon, seconded by Mike
- Vote: 4-0
- Jon: FEMA has awarded Fayette \$25,000 to install a generator at Starling Hall

### **Matrix Broadband**

Chris Lynch presented the letter of support he wrote, asking to be signed by the BOS Motion to authorize Town Manager to sign the letter of support endorsing the draft letter and any needed amendments by Jon, seconded by Mike Discussion: would like to send out a survey/poll to gauge interest

Asking for a kiosk in Town Office for residents to show support

Vote: 4-0

# SELECTMEN REPORTS

Mike- year in review at Solid Waste meeting- showed a profit in the last year; discussing user fees in the future; discussion about rotating the meetings amongst participating towns; town picnic poorly attended mostly due to heat; made between \$200-300 Brian- FOSH meeting lots of talk about the safety and security of having a system put in-\$135 every 3 months at his company

Jon- wrong in my analysis of what's required from us for Freedom of Access- required to do it every time we are re-elected- zoom webinar August 21st from 2-4:30 paid by town

# TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Relatively quiet two weeks

Events in Mt.Vernon lay heavily on our town-thoughts and support go to the people of Mt.Vernon

Public Works department all got covid, now have a full crew back Significant washouts from recent rainstorms (Sandy River Road) Assessors scheduled hearings for end of August

# **New Business**

# 22-55 TOWN EQUIPMENT SALE

Suggested dates and language advised by Mary Denison Wesley Bowen- no long term on street parking or storage?

- Should read no long term on street parking or long term on street storage in Fayette

Jon- what are they worth for scrap? Look at difference of what we get as a bid vs. scrap Lacy- where is this going to be posted? On the website, facebook, and email

# 22-76 CEMETERY CONVEYANCE

Row 6 Lot G&H out of Fayette Cemetery Pool Motion from Mike, seconded by Jon Vote: 4-0 Signed by BOS

# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Needs to get out to public and need to understand what it means, why we have it, requirements - plan how to communicate

Public hearing for land use ordinance changes- communicate here to explain why november election is being used for this and Starling Hall and use it as a time to explain and take questions about comprehensive plan

Jon- put together a list as a cover sheet and make it available with info we want to communicate; we have a comprehensive plan so we can be eligible for grants; we decide our destiny instead of others

Mark- ratification requirement to be dealt with in November Motion to have referendum ballot question in November

Mark- LD 209 doesn't go into effect until April 2023- discussed requirements, reimbursement, eligibility, confusion

# **22-78 WARRANTS**

Motion to approve payroll warrants #2 by Jon, seconded by Mike Discussion: would like the warrants earlier than at the meeting- in the packet or by email

Vote: 4-0

# **22-79 MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes for July 12 by Brian, seconded by Mike Discussion: both fines were reversed from June 28th meeting

Vote: 4-0

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN COMMENTS**

Lacy- large number of deer- watch out

# TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS

Readfield's petition wording for public hearing and warrant requirements Need to get petition signed to get expressed interest if an organization is looking for donations or funding from town

Have a press release from Neighbors Driving Neighbors- need more Fayette involvement

Event to celebrate Oak Hill conservation area on August 18th at 5 pm MMA voting ballot for nominees for this round on executive committee

- Jon makes a motion to vote affirmatively for all 4, seconded by Mike
- Vote: 4-0

Problem existing on fellows farm roads north and south and some sandy riversignificant telephone outage existing since Saturday- poor response from Consolidated Communications

#### **ADJOURN**

Adjourn at 8:27 Motion by Brian, seconded by Mike

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

7:00 pm VIA ZOOM and IN PERSON Tuesday, August 9, 2022

**ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN** Michael Carlson, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, Toby Pond

PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE George Boff, Brent St. Clair, Ron Hewett

PLEDGE Stated

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

# SELECTMEN REPORT

None

# TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Been very hot- impacts production for those working outside

Lots of interest in new tax relief program - working on more reach out

 Every fayette resident who is 65 or over will be receiving the application in the mail

Revaluation result coming out this week; fire station is location for hearings; week of august 29th

- Total exceeds \$233 million

This week is the Annual Manager's Institute in Sugarloaf, starting tomorrow Likely not going to see the plow truck until January Yet to find a reasonable alternative to our current pick up truck

# **Old Business**

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 22-81 CEMETERY ORDINANCE

Cemeteries maintained by the municipality

Discussion over changes in cemetery plots, demands placed on Ron in terms of maintenance, and revising the fees (have looked at Fayette citizens having different fees than those from outside of Fayette looking for a plot)

- Ron Hewett suggested contacting other towns to see what they've been doing with their cemeteries
- Current rate: \$500 for 4
- New cemetery should have flat headstones, but would be difficult in old cemeteries (good question for other towns)
- Signage would help for new rules, specifically planting regulations

- Transfer of ownership to the town for North Fayette cemetery

# 22-82 FINANCIAL AUDIT

Discussed Management Discussion and Analysis, which highlights the rest of the audit (pages 3 to 3-7); this audit represents continued positive financial contributions and the town's fund balance for year ending 2021 is the highest it's ever been for the Town of Fayette

Question and answer with the board and the public

# 22-83 LOCAL ROAD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Discussion of the application for the local road assistance program we see every year

- Requirement for selectmen to approve and sign it
- Motion to sign by brian, seconded by Toby
- Vote: 4-0

# 22-84 RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES GRANTS

Grants available to us from the Risk Management Division at MMA, to consider applying for, discussed deadlines and asked for interest in specific one or ones Discussion: generator for public works- ideally they would have one at the garage- look at funding for that

Mike- suggests, from the perspective of Starling Hall, security emergency system, water shutoffs to look for Starling Hall

Anything useful for the fire department or Town Office? Fire department has opportunity elsewhere, Town Office all set

Could be used anywhere

Waiting for further interest or discussion later on

# **22-85 WARRANTS**

Motion to approve town payroll warrants #3 by Brian, seconded by Mike

Vote: 4-0

Moving discussion to later about school warrants

# **22-86 MINUTES**

Motion to approve July 26th minutes by Brian, seconded by Mike Discussion: Toby asked for clarification on solar farm discussion Vote: 3-0-1 Toby abstained

# 22-87 SELECTBOARD COMMENTS

Mike- During budget season, Nancy Cronin and I discussed open communication between selectmen and school committee; suggests a once a month attempt at updates and communication on both behalfs; from Mark's perspective, he thinks once a month is too often, he has previously suggested that the Selectmen shouldn't have to worry about what's going on at the school until there's something at the concern, which should be brought up by budget committee representatives, Joel Swimm and Ellie Andrews

- Brent agrees and thinks they got too involved with the school in the past
- Motion for Mike Carlson to be liaison to the school board by Lacy, seconded by Brian
- Vote:4-0

Toby- suggests putting the chipper up for bid, researched other options

- Changing meeting August 23rd to 5:30 to do site visits

Brian- suggests making some decision on the security system for Starling Hall, worrying about liability for the town

- Fire, temp alarm, smoke alarm, emergency exit signs
- Could reconnect it to seacoast security, but may be more expensive to do so

# **ADJOURN**

Adjourn at 8:27 pm Motion from Toby, seconded by Mike

Vote: 4-0

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

7:00 pm IN PERSON Thursday, August 25, 2022

**ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN** Michael Carlson, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, Toby Pond and Jon Beekman

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE Brent St. Clair

**PLEDGE** Stated

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SELECTMEN REPORT

None

#### TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mark said the revaluation notices and tax freeze applications created a prominent response from taxpayers and demand for office services. Mark relayed bad news regarding the 2001 Freightliner frame that would not pass inspection. The double frame is corroded to a point that it will not pass. Additionally, leave springs, rear main seal and oil pan gasket need replacement. It may not be the best to continue to invest in the vehicle. Merrill's in Jay confirmed the Road Foreman's concern. We only started looking Daigle and Houghton, S.A. McClain in Limerick, Abbott Construction in Lebanon and Copp and Son in Cumberland/Gray. To our knowledge the new Truck is currently in Mexico, the country. Mark relayed the expected delivery of the Jackman Mill Road culvert tomorrow. FW Webb was the winning bidder. Brent St. Clair repaired the washout on Sandy River Road near King Brook.

#### Old Business

None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

# 22-88 PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Mark reviewed the Planning Board recommended changes to the Land Use Ordinance and moratorium on Solar. Mark indicated that he would have a draft ballot question for the Board of Selectmen to review at the next meeting.

# 22-89 WORKERS COMPENSATION RESOLVE FORM

Upon review the Board of Selectmen approved signing the Maine Municipal Association's Workers Compensation Resolve Form on a motion made by Jon Beekman seconded by Toby Pond Vote 5 in favor o opposed.

# 22-90 WARRANTS

Motion to approve town payroll warrants #4 by Brian Holman, seconded by Mike Carlson Vote: 4-0-1 abstention (Beekman)

# **22-91 MINUTES**

Motion to approve August 9th minutes by Brian Holman, seconded by Mike Vote: 4-0-1 abstention (Beekman)

# 22-92 SELECTBOARD COMMENTS

Jon Beekman asked about an Efficiency Maine offer to install and operate level 2 charging stations. Further investigation is required by Mark. Lacy asked if Mark has spoken to other Towns about the other offers to lower electricity supply. Jon Beekman encouraged all to attend the Starling Hall event this weekend. Lacy inquired about a sign for Matrix. Michael Carlson asked what to do about better internet? Will we have another question that makes clear the voters of Fayette support efforts to have broadband provided to the Town? Do you want improved internet in the Town of Fayette yes or no? Mark relayed that Matrix will be moving ahead with or without MCA grants. Toby asked about the Truck repair and expressed concerns about purchasing used equipment from the aforementioned businesses vs investing the money in the repair of the truck we know about. Lacy asked about the property tax stabilization freeze and new construction impacts? Mark said great question.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment at 8:07 pm

Motion from Toby, seconded by Mike

Vote: 5-0

# Selectmen's Meeting

September 6, 2022

Attendance: Mike Carlson, Lacey Badeau, Brian Holman, Jon Beekman and Toby Pond

Town Manager Mark Robinson

Members of Public Brent St. Clair

**Public Comments - None** 

# **Selectmen and Committee Reports**

Mark was asked if we have done anything with the money allotted for the 4-hour safety details. Mark: We have not. We had the *keep me warm suppers* in the past. We haven't had any requests or discussion. We can start them. We're healthy money-wise with the Keep Me Warm funds.

Heating oil is going down a little bit. The keep me warm program has never paid the school except to buy those white tables. But we just resurfaced the floor in the gym, and if people want the keep me warm suppers and continue to want to use the gym, the concern is the immediate impact of bringing in 100 people into the gym, and the impact to the floor. It's an issue. It puts the Superintendent into an awkward position.

Does someone want to do the keep me warm program meals? We could really use them this year. Given the cost of heating fuel...maybe we want to need the money for fuel assistance. No discussion about the suppers. School had an open house last week.

Mark: No one has approached me yet on this.

Question on the \$14,900. That was for the floor.

What is the bill from Surf Pro? Mark: It was to clean carpeting.

#### School Warrants

# **Town Manager's Report**

Question - We are still getting signatures for school warrants Mark stated the attorney from MMA said that you have the option to sign off on school warrants. But we have no control over the school warrant.

Jon Beekman stated that we have had some issues in the past due to some charges in the past and brought it up. What do we want to do? Mark stated we should seek an opinion from our auditor. The board can develop a policy, where it doesn't have any responsibility approving school warrant if it so chooses. Or, we can continue doing what we're doing?

Remote Meeting - will discuss later but will review what Readfield and MMA have.

Discussion: Town owned Property and Visitation Discussion

Mark – Recommend a town steering committee be developed to advise the selectboard, regarding development, use, plan, and best options for how this property should best be used to serve the townspeople of Fayette and discuss this the next meeting. Recommend 7 members. Relate the comprehensive plan from a financial perspective as to how this property can benefit the town. Draft charge will be developed and brought to the board.

# Town Manager's Report:

30-day notices will be issued. The revaluation hearings happened the week of the 29<sup>th</sup>. There were about 50 meetings. People are still calling to discuss with the assessor. Setting up meetings with Ellery once per month. Next meeting you will be getting tax calculations on September 20<sup>th</sup> to set the tax rate. We can get draft recommendations and email out to everyone from Ellery. We can honestly say that the way the budget played out we can say that the tax bill is the result of the revaluation.

Went to the Governor's Mansion to say goodbye to Sadie our intern. Out of 15 municipalities, Mark was the only Town Manager there. Picture taken with the Governor. Sadie will be back to help work the elections. Mark did not do a post-employment interview with her. But she did say that she was amazed with all the passwords we have. Each system requires different passwords.

Matt did not pass his CDL class A for the first time. Retest on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### Old Business:

Site visit to Phillips Property/Campground Road and Discussion of other Town Owned Property

Discussion – Property was not cleaned up properly/if at all. Mark suggested making a community victory garden there, community park and create a legacy for the two WWII veterans in that subdivision. Very small lot. Idea of cleaning it up, getting soil cleaned, add new soil and use for a garden. Cost of demolition, not cheap; we'd have to budget for it. Engaging the neighbors in supporting this. Two neighbors work at Longfellow's. Start a steering committee to plan for long term use of town properties. Recommend, seven participants including a board member. One member or 2 of the selectboard, planning board member, and comprehensive plan and members of the community selected by the board. Select board will determine the charge of this steering committee. KLT – encourage Chris Riley who is a member of KLT or other members to participate on committee.

Mark will get an estimate for demolition in the next 8 months and investigate cost of having our own staff do it. Mark will put together a charge and request volunteers for the Steering Committee with applications in by Dec 1. Maybe keep this committee for other properties if they are interested in participating in the future. ARPA money funding is not required to be obligated until year end 2024 and must use the ARPA Grant money used by 2026. MMA has clear information on ARPA money.

Freightliner Truck Status - Josh Meader works on truck frames and can repair the frame/chassis now, which will maybe buy us a year of time and hopefully sticker \$3,000-

\$4,000. I can proceed further. Others suggested getting a new truck and some never even heard of repairing it but replacing the frame. What Josh does may be unique. Is repairing this opening up liability. Leaf spring work can also be done somewhere else. Ensure that whoever does this work is insured. Mark will check into insurance for repair work as soon as possible.

# November 8, 2022, Ballot Questions

Question 1 - Broadband Question — Mark stated all available grants require matching funds from a local source. Town voters voted down both questions. Majority of voters voted for some form of broadband but because of the cost to be raised, this was voted down. Andrew Butcher, from Red Zone got call that grant wasn't approved — said that Fayette voted against all broadband questions My thought is that Fayette voters do want broadband but don't want the cost to be paid via real estate taxation.

Jon Beekman suggested to eliminate first sentence altogether. Then say, shall the selectboard be authorized to apply for, accept and expend revenues from all sources to pay for internet and or wireless/fiber delivery.

Selectboard accepts changes to Question 1.

# Question 2 – Starling Hall

Motion to accept the question, as is.

Motion to recommend - Motion accepted.

# Question 3 - Security System in Starling Hall

The selectmen are authorized to pay up to \$8,000 to reinstall a security system in Starling Hall.

Motion to recommend - Motion accepted as amended.

# **Question 4 -**

Motion to recommend as written. Motion accepted.

# Question 5 - Traveled Way

Delay this until next meeting.

# Question 6 -

Delay until next meeting.

# Question 7 Moratorium on Solar 3,000 sq ft for residential

Motion to accept.

Motion accepted.

# **Donation to request – Non-Profits**

Do we want to adopt a practice for non-profits to request funding by Feb 1st date, then we review them at the same time and make decisions? We can compare them at the same time. Warrant article as a recommendation. One article that encompasses all requests that goes through the warrant.

Formal process for non-profits to put in an application by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

# **Motion to Approve Town Warrant**

All in favor - Approved

Comment - Great work on ditches by crew!

Move to adjourn

Second to adjourn

Adjourned

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

7:00 pm IN PERSON Tuesday, September 20, 2022

**ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN** Michael Carlson, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, and Toby Pond Absent: Jon Beekman

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE Barry and Lori Bonnevie, Wesley Bowen, Joe Longtin, Joseph Maxwell

**PLEDGE** Stated

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

# SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORT

School Update – Mike Carlson: Insurance claim on piping/plumbing to pellet boiler in progress. Two quotes required by insurance company. Difficult getting second quote, delay resulting in more damages. Janitor's closet is getting repaired.

Maintenance person gave two weeks' notice.

Next Solid Waste Committee - meeting in October.

# TOWN MANAGER REPORT

I met with Joel Greenwood and two of his associates from the Kennebec Valley Council of Governments, (KVCOG). The purpose to identify ways to take greater advantage of their services and membership fees that we pay annually to them. We spent a lot of money and volunteer time to develop plan.

Important to educate the public about the plan; that it lays out the future direction of the Town. Volunteers and the Town Office staff can help with that but looking to KVCOG to develop a strategy for us to hold public events to highlight key segments of the plan. This can occur on a month-by-month basis.

Also, will have KVCOG's assistance with the implementation of new laws and updates our *Land Use Ordinance* how to address the language of the ordinance, and the impact of the NEW Accessory Dwelling law on the Town. The Accessory dwelling law which goes into effect on July 1, 2023, conflicts with our laws.

**Repair of Freightliner**: 2001 Freightliner frame issue discussed with repair shop owner. His liability insurance is satisfactory. Vehicle delivered for repair next week. May have future work for shop.

# **Old Business**

None

# **New Business**

# 22-100 Property Tax Commitment for 2022-23

Reviewed three different suggestions from Ellery and email from Jon Beekman, and discussed overlays. \$13.25 - \$13.35 mill rate. Mill rate in letters was \$13.50.

Effect of revaluation hearings created assessment adjustments of nearly a million dollars in lowering assessments. Overlays are used for valuation adjustments, general assistance, for expenditure overages that are

unintended, or unexpected throughout the course of the year. What doesn't get utilized or spent, goes back into the general fund, and builds up a surplus. The overlay will be used to absorb additional changes in assessments over the course of the year. Ellery Bane discouraged an overlay any lower than what the \$13.25 tax rate provides \$56,000 is a reasonable overlay. So, this million plus is what keeps us in the black as we are for paying for things like road paving, tuition, and other expenses, so tonight, you are setting the new tax commitment rate, tax bills will be issued in the next week.

When you revalue you increase the towns total value. We are coming in this year at a lower number of total requests from the local taxpayers, then the previous tax year. When you incorporate this into the new tax calculations with this new value this year, this allows you to lower the tax rate. That is the effect of the revaluation. You will see people with a higher tax bill even though collectively we have lowered the tax rate. We are not collectively asking for any more tax money than last year. But because some property is valued higher, even at a lower mill rate, there are some folks who will see their tax bill go higher, some lower, and some will not see much difference in their tax bill. It is a reshuffling of value throughout the entire town. I was happy to identify that in this tax bill that you're voting on tonight.

# Motions for setting a tax rate:

Mike Carlson Motion: A motion that the Board of Selectboard set the mill rate for \$13.67 for the fiscal year 2023. Motion seconded.

Discussion: I was leaning the other way towards the \$13.25 as we have a healthy surplus for those unexpected and we could revisit this later in the year.

We must hold a special meeting for any spending over \$50,000.

Discussion: Concern voiced about that taxpayers have already received their estimated tax bills on a mill rate of \$13.50. Mill rate going up will not be terribly popular. But I also have concerns about the economic conditions that were in with record inflation, heating oil so incredibly expensive, the mill rate never goes down after we raise it. I looked at Wilton, and they have had the same tax rate for the past 6 years. Their evaluation is skyrocketing. We never lower the mill rate. Mark, do you remember us ever lowering the mill rate. The only time we lower the mill rate is post revaluation.

Mark: History – When the last revaluation was conducted in 2007 the mill rate was \$21.00, and the new mill rate post revaluation cut it in half to 10.2. That is a significant drop. That is because, our total town wide value doubled. That is the only time the mill rate typically goes down, unless something dramatic happens.

Discussion: Concern with putting away extra money for rolling stock or capital improvement. Those are thing that are done at town meetings with voter approval. Recommend sticking with one of Ellery's recommendations for that reason. People are upset that we have this much surplus. Taxpayers perceive surplus as their tax money. Having million or million and a half depending on how you look at it is taxpayer money. I think taxpayers should have a say in how that is raised. I do not support the 13.67.

**Motion:** Set the mill rate at \$13.67

Motion denied.

Motion:

Set the Mill rate at \$13.25

Motion denied.

**Motion:** Set the Mill rate at \$13.35

Motion denied.

Motion: Set the Mill rate at \$13.30

Motion denied

Motion: Set the Mill rate at \$13.29

Approved

Tax rate set at \$13.29

# 22-101 School Bus Sealed Bid Opening

1995 Bus

Motion: Accept bid of \$300.00 cash or \$400.00 towing credit

Approved 2004 Bus

Motion: \$450 cash

**Approved** 

# 22-102 Donation Request Process - Not Discussed

# 22-102 General Assistance Ordinance

Motion to approve the Annual General Assistance Ordinance as required by October of every year.

**Motion Approved** 

# 22-103 Cemetery Conveyance

Motion to approve the Cemetery Conveyance to Blanche and Kevin Davis in the Fayette Mills New Yard Cemetery ROW 6 Lot I

Motion Approved

# 22-104 Final Ballot questions November 8th election

Mark: We kept everything the same that we introduced at the June town meeting.

Motion to approve as 5 -1 as written

**Motion Approved** 

Question 6: Solar moratorium; This is giving the town the opportunity to put an ordinance in place. We have a draft ordinance.

Public hearing at the next meeting on October 4, 2022.

Mark: Any concerns about including a letter from Joy, regarding Starling Hall inserted into the tax bill? Agreed to include letter.

# **22-105** Warrants

No action taken on the school warrant because we don't know if it's been approved or not.

Motion to approve Town Accounts payable/payroll warrants #6

**Motion Approved** 

# 22-106 Board of Selectmen Comments

- 1. Explore solar lighting for the town.
  - Mark: The streetlights, the school, Town Office, Public Works Garage are all upgraded to LED. Keep your eye out including the school/town for incentives for not only solar lights but also solar panels, with the big push for green energy. This building uses so much energy.
- Increasing pay-scale for town positions to attract people and those here to stay.
   Mark: You can identify things in our budgetary process. We have just been chasing the market. We are looking for part-time plow drivers this winter.
- 3. Brian Holman and Toby Pond expressed concern regarding the new culvert on Jackman Mills Road. Mark stated that the crew did the work. The beaver that is just out of sight is what is causing the water due to a big dam that's down the stream. Paving over the culvert at Jackman's Mills will happen eventually. It would be nice if we did not have to do a re-do. Let us see how it performs The Selectmen expressed the concern that it is pitched too low.

Mark: If we need to correct it, then we will have to think about it.

Animal damage control agents are minimal. We have people who will trap for us, but we would have to pay for it. We must go through IF&W to get that approved. We would have to pay to trap them. They have a list of people that we can hire.

- 4. Verso Paper Mill is closing. Process starting in one month. Pretty significant impact on Jay. Something to keep in mind. Hopefully, something positive will come from this.
- 5. Lacy Badeau stated that the lot rate for the cemetery plots sales were in line with Livermore, everyone else charged more. This is something we should look at in the future.
- 6. Brian Holman commented on damage done to edge of road from Lucas Tree on Asa Hutchinson road edges are chewed up.
  - Mark stated he would investigate it.
- 7. Zoom requirement for attendance at meetings: In Readfield you can attend by zoom if you have a good reason.
- 8. Is there a public beach at the Tilton Pond boat landing? The State of Maine owns it. There is no public beach there. There is a public beach in North Wayne where the dam is. Fayette residents have the right to use that because the town helped pay for the restoration of the dam.
- 9. Speeding issue at Baldwin Hill Road especially on Sunday where the church is. Solution: Someone will talk with the congregation to slow down.

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn Approved

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

7:00 pm VIA ZOOM and IN PERSON Tuesday, October 4th, 2022 Following closure of Public Hearing at 8:47 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF SELECTMEN** Toby Pond, Lacy Badeau, Brian Holman, Jon Beekman, Michael Carlson

**PUBLIC HEARING ATTENDANCE** Brent St. Clair and Joel Swimm Joel Swimm passed along a letter to the Board of Selectmen regarding his concern about the Jackman Mills Road culvert need for a guard rail. And need to restore shoulder on curve near 3 Lakes Farm.

# PLEDGE Stated

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS None**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** Mike Carlson asked if anyone will be attending the solid waste committee meeting. Lacy inquired about the status of the School Committee signing warrants.

# **TOWN MANAGER REPORT none**

# **22-107 WARRANTS**

Motion to approve Warrant #7 by Mike Carlson, seconded by Toby Pond Vote: 5-0

# **22-108 MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes from September 6, 2022 made by Toby Pond, seconded by Brian Holman

Vote: 5-0-1 Jon Beekman abstained

# 22-109 SELECTMEN COMMENTS

Toby- Relayed that his Uncle 40 year veteran of Lucas Tree reviewed the chipper his opinion need to have a manual on hand and safety chains needed, bed knives need to be changed and given current standards recommended selling the chipper. Toby gave positive comments on Fayette Corner Road culvert job.

# ADJOURN AT 9:00 PM

# SELECTBOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022, 8:16 P.M.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS Toby Pond, Mike Carlson, Lacy Badeau, Jon Beekman, Brian Holman, Mark Robinson

#### PUBLIC ATTENDANCE

PLEDGE Stated

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS** None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mike Carlson – **Readfield Transfer Station** is operating at a loss due to loss of revenue for recycling. Not getting money that they used to get. There may be an increase of 10% to the town assessment for the upcoming budget. Also, there will be an increase user fees effective in January due to a downturn in the recyclables market. Coverings/roofs for the receptacles are still on the capital improvement list for the transfer station.

Mike Carlson - School Board – Members can come into Town office and sign warrants. Why they have the meetings when they did because public cannot attend. The school board based on a request from the public asked if we would consider changing the selectboard meeting schedule? We are open to changing times up or back a little if we are asked in advance.

Maranacook is no longer accepting any more Fayette students going into sixth grade. It is a bumping issue/class size issue. Any discussion of Fayette absorbing sixth grade? This used to be a K – eighth grade school. Maybe open a conversation with Kents Hill again for high school students?

Jon Beekman – Encourage everyone to attend the Trunk and Treat on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>, noon to 4:00. No charge. Serving hot dogs.

MMA awarded The Town a \$3,000 grant towards the wing plow laser guides. We went out for a quote for that.

Be aware, that catalytic converters have been stolen from cars in public parking lots.

# TOWN MANAGER REPORT

We have robust tax payments, and absentee votes. Everything is well in hand.

They are canceling school on election day. Should we have a detail? 4 pm - 7 pm are the busy voting times.

Adding guard rails discussion continued. Watson Heights corner guard rail request. Possibly put up a warning sign regarding speed limit near Tilton Pond, from route 17 where it curves to the right.

Plows and sanders are ready to roll. We just need the title paperwork for the plate.

#### **OLD BUSINESS** None

#### **NEW BUSINESS** None

# 22-110 Municipal Valuation Return and Tax Certificate

Required signatures received.

Tax reporting/receipting policy. Four percent is the interest rate charged for late taxes.

Motion to approve, Jon Beekman, seconded by Toby Pond

Discussion none

All in favor, Unanimous

Approved

# 22-111 Zoom Policy

Keep it simple. ..." In the event that a board member is unable to be physically present at Selectboard meeting due to extenuating circumstances, he/she can attend remotely via zoom."

Motion to Accept

Brian Holman made motion

Mike Carlson seconded

No discussion

All in favor - Unanimous

# 22-112 Land Committee Charge

Discussion East Road and Campground Road properties.

Jon Beekman would like to see the committee hold an opportunity for public input and someone to record the meeting. Recommend that none of the committee members have a vested interest in the property.

Discussion of having one or two selectboard members participate on the committee? Include a report back to date e.g., by the end of May 2023. Committee in place by December 2022.

Lacy Badeau will gather information from other towns to get samples of what they are using their land for.

# 22-113 Warrants

Motion to approve Town and School Accounts payable/payroll warrants.

Motion to approve #8 made by Toby Pond. Seconded by Brian Holman.

Discussion Lacy Badeau asked about Eagle Rental Charge \$7,100. Mark answered her question.

All in favor

Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrant

Motion to approve, Jon Beekman, seconded by Toby Pond

Discussion none

All in favor, unanimous

22-114 Minutes - Motion to approve Selectboard meeting minutes for October 4, 2022

Motion to approve, Toby Pond, Jon Beekman seconded.

All in favor of minutes, unanimous

Discussion none

22-115 Board of Selectman Comments

Lacy - Encourage residents and town officials to check out Efficiency Maine website for energy conservation rebates. There are rebates available for heat pumps too.

Insurance company requiring two quotes for repair of boiler. Reached out for a quote from engineer in N. Carolina regarding the piping to the boiler. Recommend that after the repair is done to boiler it should be evaluated and there should be a disclaimer for a total repair if the boiler if the boiler does not work properly for a period of 3-4 months. School should consider alternative sources of heat e.g., Geothermal? There are a lot of options available.

Motion to adjourn made by Toby Pond, seconded, Jon Beekman

9:05 PM Adjourned