

ST. GEORGE SELECT BOARD & ASSESSORS

St. George Town Office MEETING MINUTES

May 23, 2022 – 7 p.m.

APPROVED

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Members present were: Richard Bates (Chair), Randy Elwell, Van Thompson, Steve Cartwright, Richard Erb and Irene Ames. Also present by Zoom: Loreen Meyer,

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Loreen Meyer spoke: She has been in communication with Town Manager Erb and confirmed she had seen Select Person Elwell visit the site. She reiterated that the area covered by gravel belongs to the HOA.

REGULAR SESSION:

- Adjustments to Agenda:

Old Business:

Tree Growth Application for Lot 11

New Business:

1. Town Manager's report regarding the lien for the Neild Estate
2. Assessor's return for 2022-23 County tax

- Minutes:

A motion was made by Selectperson Cartwright, seconded by Selectperson Elwell, to approve the corrected May 16, 2022 minutes. The vote was 4-0 in favor. Approved.

- Communications: None.

- Warrant:

The warrant dated May 18, 2022, was reviewed and signed by the Select Board. The total expenses were \$34,599.90; included fees: payment to the Knox County Registry of Deeds for placing property tax liens and releasing property tax liens, a payment to Parker Appraisal Co. for assessing fees, payment to Art Henry to move the floats into the harbor and other regular expenses. Assessing fees were higher than expected as an additional person was required and this has exceeded the budgeted amount. They have not yet finished this year's work.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - Richard Erb reported the following:

Paving Bids opened on Friday (two bidders: Performance Paving and Northeast Paving). Current vendor didn't enter a bid. Current price per ton for asphalt increased about 20% . Three

roads are scheduled to be paved: Harrington Cove Rd., Harts Neck Rd. and Cline Rd. This entails three miles of road and it's expected we won't be able to do all three. May be able to use ARPA funding. Scheduling work for Fall is the preference but Spring is acceptable.

Quitclaim Deed - Ronald Neild's attorney has paid the town \$7953.61. The release deed will be issued.

County Budget tax assessor's return, the authorization to include this year's tax computation. Saint George's share is \$976,220.23.

Current Town Office Clerk is moving and will not remain in her position so the town is seeking another candidate. Beth Smith is filling in.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Conservation Commission: Select Person Cartwright reported that he assisted the trailwork by the library. Other news: Jones Brooks trail was opened. Fort Point Trail received their grant with a local match and has issued a request for proposal for a bridge over the gully. Bids are due June 15th. On June 18th, there is a walk on Clark Island, with an educational program on invasive species. Dale Pierson, Ryan LeShane (Blueberry Cove) and Amanda Divine (Maine Coast Heritage Trust) are the leads.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tree Growth Application - Lot 11 owned by Malcolm Willard. Previously, 99 Acres were put into Tree Growth in 2006. In 2016, a subset of the property, 83 acres, was put into Tree Growth by the previous owner. Malcolm Willard became the owner in October 2020 and is applying for the same 83 acres to remain Tree Growth. Bob Gringras, our assessor's agent, has recommended that we do approve. The Tree Growth issue is separate from other issues of controversy surrounding the property. Select Person Cartwright asked if there are any issues which might invalidate the Tree Growth application and Chair Bates stated he does not think so. Select Person Elwell made a motion to approve the application and Select Person Cartwright seconded the motion. Voted 4 - 0, application approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Flower vending on town property. Town Manager Erb is not opposed to the Town Office parking lot's use by this vendor on a Saturday since the parking lot is unused. He suggested an application form be used, and suggested confirming the individual is following state licensing requirements. This vendor is also interested in selling on the turnaround past the library and at the ball field on the other days of the week. Select Person Thompson suggested a trial period. Select Person Elwell suggested creation of a policy. Chair Bates suggested a four month trial period. State mobile Vendor requirements are not applicable for cut flower sales. She will be

able to vend any time from dawn to dusk. Select Person Elwell made a motion to approve the vendor to sell on town property and Select Person Thompson seconded the motion. By a 4 - 0 vote, the trial flower vendor was approved.

The contract with Waste Management, Inc doesn't expire until October 2023 but they have asked if we are interested in extending the contract. We currently pay \$63.59 per ton, a low price. There is a consumer price index escalator on the contract. This year it will increase by 3%. There is little competition in the industry. Town Manager Erb does not want to mention the future bid pricing in open session. Erb requested this item be added to the agenda for the executive session for the next Select Board meeting. Select Person Cartwright asked if the public waste management options are a better value and Erb stated he does not think so. Trucking costs are the same.

Jerry Hall requested to be on the Budget Committee. Select Person Elwell made a motion to approve Jerry Hall's appointment as Budget Committee member. Select Person Thompson seconded the motion. Voted 4 - 0. Appointment approved.

Chair Bates requested we review Select Board Policy Manual pages 1 - 27.

On a motion made by Select Person Elwell, seconded by Select Person Thompson, at 8:10 p.m., followed by a roll call vote of 4-0 in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Taylor
Select Board Recording Secretary