

**TROY SELECT BOARD'S MEETING
MINUTES April 19, 2023**

Present: Selectpersons: Brian Piper, Richard Montana and Thomas Byron; Clerk/Secretary/Tax Collector/Treasurer: Aimee Nelson.

Guest: Steven Farr, Alec Reynolds, Michael Chick, Thomas Fernands, Brian Blake, Jennifer Wixson and Joyce Benson

Meeting called to order by Select Person Brian Piper at 7:00 p.m.

A. Approval of April 5, 2023 Minutes

Vote: Unanimous

B. Approval of Warrants

Warrant 17:	\$8,526.02 signed- 01/10/2023
Payroll Warrant 18:	\$3,131.42 signed- 04/18/2023
Warrant 19:	\$65,028.70 signed- 04/18/2023

Vote: Unanimous

C. Old Business:

1. Fire Pond & Access- Selectperson, Richard Montana explained that Joyce Benson will be going back to Augusta to apply for grants for the project. The Town will need to get permits because the locations are considered wetland.
2. BB Cook Light- Selectperson, Thomas Byron purchased 2 solar lights and will be installing them soon. Thomas Fernands offered to help.
3. Bulky Waste Day- May 20, 2023 & September 16, 2023- 9:00am- 1:00 pm at the Troy Volunteer Fire Department.

D. Oil Bids: The Town of Troy received three bids. The Select Board opened up the bids:

First Bid: Fabian Oil Inc.: \$3.159

Second Bid: Dead River Company: \$3.0284

Third Bid: CN Brown Energy: \$3.179

Select Person, Richard Montana did a motion to accept Dead River Company's bid (It was the lowest bid) Select Person, Thomas Byron Seconded and Selectperson, Brian Piper said Unanimous.

- E. Guest:** Steven Farr wanted to discuss with the Select Board that in the past few years the town hasn't had a budget committee and he would like to have an Ordinance to require a budget committee. Steve said that it would help with answering a lot of the questions and concerns that get addressed at Town Meeting. Jenifer Wixson agreed she would support the town having a budget committee. Select Person, Thomas Byron commented that he would like to see more people coming to the Select Board meeting throughout the year instead of just coming for the Budget Committee. Thomas Fernands commented that years ago when he was a Selectperson for the town of Troy during Budget Committee meetings, all interested parties looking for investments (donations) would come to the meetings and present their plans and how many residents (use the services) they serve. Brian Blake commented that he did do that at a Select Boards meeting for funding for the Unity Library. Select Person, Richard Montana commented that most of the budget is set in stone (plow contract, audit, fees, ect) Select Person, Brian Piper committed that the Budget Committee can get together to work out the budget and the same thing will happen at Town Meeting.

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Jennifer Wixson said that the budget committee can do a budget and the Select Board can alter it as needed and then have a Budget Hearing and then Town Meeting. Thomas Fernands said that more people in the community need to get involved. Steve Farr said that having the budget process will get more people involved with what is going on and work through some of the problems that bog down town meeting. Thomas Fernands commented that town meetings are half the time they used to be. Alex Reynolds said yes more people could participate but younger people are intimidated about the Select Board meetings. Steven Farr commented that serving on 1 or 2 committees in town has helped him understand the way town operates, at first it was intimidating but he is happy to have learned that people that are new to town are welcome. Alec Reynolds commented that it is a natural way to feel until you feel like you fit in and warm up to people. Selectperson, Richard Montana said he doesn't see a problem with the budget committee and it doesn't have to be 5 or 6 Saturdays in a row. The Budget committee can get together and then present back to the Select Board. Joyce Benson commented that in the past the budget committee would met 5 or 6 Saturdays and then it went to 1 day and she didn't like the 1 day in case she had more questions but she thinks 2 days would work. Selectperson, Richard Montana proposed the idea of bringing a few names of people that want to be on the budget committee to the Select Board by November and the Select Board will appoint the budget committee. Once that's started the budget committee can meet and if they have any questions ask *STTS* Aimee Nelson. And then present to the Select Board what they have proposed for the budget and have a budget hearing. If that works then the town doesn't need an ordinance but if that doesn't work then they can propose an ordinance in the future. Jennifer Wixson commented that she would like to see at least 3 people on the committee and younger people would be nice. Everyone agreed to see how this year's budget committee goes before an ordinance is proposed.

Selectperson, Richard Montana said that everyone needs to get the word out and *STTS* Aimee Nelson will put it on the town website to let anyone interested in any of the committees and/or boards to contact Aimee at the town office. Steven Farr commented that he would like an email blast to happen, not everyone checks the web site and that way people know if something is going on in town.

Thomas Fernands commented for the town to stay off of a spam list/ black list any emails of 50 or more can get a domain name blocked. So the town would need to subscribe to Constant Contactor, MailChimp, or something similar. Steve said that the servers are not that expensive (around \$20.00 a month) and does the town have it in the budget? *STTS* Aimee Nelson said no the budget is tight. Steve said maybe it can be added to the Special Town Meeting. *STTS* Aimee Nelson said due to the time frame of the meeting it can't be. Jennifer said there is a disconnect in town and this may help. Selectperson, Richard Montana said he wants more people to get involved and why don't we put something on the town website and see who would be interested in getting emails before we spend any money. *STTS* Aimee Nelson would put something on the website that if residents are interested in getting emails then contact the town office to get on the list.

F. New Business:

1. March ACO Report- The Select Board reviewed the Report
2. March Checkbook- The Select Board reviewed the initialed the March Checkbook breakdown.
3. March Sub-Accounting- The Select Board reviewed and initialed the March Sub-Accounting breakdown.
4. Myrick Bridge Inspection- The State of Maine does a yearly inspection of the bridge on Myrick Road and emailed results to the Troy Town Office. The Select Board reviewed the results (email).
5. Special Town Meeting date- The Select Board decided on April 27, 2023 @ 6:00 pm at the Troy Town Office for the Special Town Meeting to raise \$14,900.00 for Winter Roads Maintenance. The Select Board signed the Special Town Meeting Warrant and *STTS* Aimee Nelson will post it Thursday, April 20, 2023.

G. Notification of Intent to Harvest: Reviewed

H. Transfers: None

I. Correspondence for Review: Reviewed

J. Adjournment: 8:16 p.m.

Minutes Approved at Select Board's Meeting: May 5, 2023 Aimee Nelson
*STTS- Secretary to the Select Board*STTS*