

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Gil opened the meeting at 7:00PM and apologized for the short notice of doing the meeting on zoom because of the road conditions not being good.

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE:

Gilbert S. Harris, Joanne L. Andrews, Dorothy M. Richard, Wendy M. Thorne, Heath D. Edgerly

ATTENDEES:

- Michael McLean, Joe Parsons

MINUTES:

- Wendy **motioned** to approve the minutes for February 16. Dottie **second**. Heath said that on page four about halfway down it says Ron said that they had voted on a new Fire Station and Dottie said that they had voted no, needs to be deleted because the citizens did vote yes. Dottie told him that the Fire Station itself had been voted down and that he is talking about the \$800,000. Gil brought up that they are not talking about the land issue but the actual Fire Station. Heath said that he did not think that Ron was here when that happened and he presumed he was talking about the property that they had lost out on. Dottie told him that was the way she had interpreted what he said and she based her answer on the 2015/2016 vote. **Four were in favor, Dottie did not vote.**

WARRANT:

- Gil brought up that they would have to sign them during the week because they are meeting on zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dottie read the announcements.
- Gil thanked Sue McIntyre for looking into grants for the Fire Station and how she used Social Media to be part of the solution and not to criticize and how even though she had not gotten the results she wanted it was a positive piece of civic involvement.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- Joe Parsons, Rec: Brought up addressing the email that he received about the dance sessions in the Town Hall and Gil made the comment about waiting until after Town Meeting because of the equipment up there. Joe said that he is not doing it on March 1 he is doing it on March 4 and on Thursdays. Heath made the comment about them being worried about the equipment being in the way. Dottie brought up that it is only putting it off for two weeks and the equipment has been set up. Gil said that if they had had their meeting there he was going to go up and see what kind of space they have. Joe asked what corner the equipment is

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in and Dottie told him that it is in the whole front part of the room. Joe told them that they were going to do the classes at the opposite end of the room with only nine people. Heath asked if they could move him to the other room in the Municipal Building and Joe asked which room is that and Dottie said that there is a Community Room downstairs at the Municipal Building. Joe asked if that would be for only two weeks and then they could move back to the Brick Town Hall and Dottie said two possibly three until the equipment comes out of there. Joe asked where they were with mounting the TV and the camera on the second floor of the Brick Town Hall, he also brought up the mirrors and Heath said that he does not think there has been any discussion on either of those. Gil asked if the TV is going out in the hallway and Joe said that the TV is going out in the hallway and the camera goes inside the second floor room and he brought up that they were good with the placement but he just wanted to make sure that there were no changes. Joanne said that she thought they had been installed already and Dottie said that the camera is installed but it is for the Town Meeting and that he purchased it to go out in the hallway. Joe brought up that nothing has been put up and that the TV has been put on a table to help with the overflow and Dottie said that he had attached it to the wall and Joe said that it would be moved out into the hall. Gil said that they would have to figure out how to get that done. Joe asked if they were good to order the mirrors and install them and Dottie said that she is still against that and Joe asked her why. Joanne said that they cannot get MMA to say that they will cover them liability wise and Joe asked if they had been contacted and Joanne said yes and they had responded in writing. Heath said that they had told them that they would have to weigh each event on their own and they weren't guaranteeing that they would cover any injuries. Joe asked if it was a complete no on the mirrors going forward and Joanne said that the other one should come down anyways. Gil said to leave it as it is for now and Joe said that he does not want to leave it as is and he wants to address this stuff and move forward and asked if it is a no to the mirrors and Heath said that there is no money left to purchase the mirrors and that it has gone back into the regular system and that to make the insurance company happy it would have to be its own room. Joe made the comment about not having it in the budget for this year and he had it ready in November. Joanne said that if they can't get the insurance on it then it has to be a no and that they can't subject the town to a possible lawsuit if a child gets hurt up there. Joe brought up the Board allowing the other mirror to be up there even though it is not shatterproof and Joanne said that the liability was brought up on that and that's when they contacted MMA. Joe asked if the mirror needs to be taken down and he was told yes and he asked if it should be taken down by a professional and Joanne asked how it is affixed to the wall and Joe told her that it is screwed in. Joanne said to unscrew it and take it down and she brought up having Rick do it. Joe brought up that it was okay to mount the TV and the camera and he was told yes and if they do not want to continue with the mirrors do they even want to put the camera and TV up there. Dottie brought up the cables going under the door and how they won't fit and the only way to do it is to drill a hole and they are not sure what is inside of the walls and Joe brought up that he had contacted an electrician to do that and if they can do it then move forward. Joanne asked about the camera

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and TV being used for the parents so they can see the kids and Joe told her yes. Dottie brought up that it is just a matter of finding a spot to put the hole through and Joanne said that they would have to get an electrician to put a plug up there. Heath brought up putting a half inch hole in the door and Dottie said that there is no power out in the hallway so there is nothing to power the TV with and Heath brought up going out through the same hole as the conduit for the camera system. Joanne asked if the plug was close to the inside of the door and Dottie said that the closest one is just inside of the door close to where he wants to put it. Gil brought up that it sounds like it can be done it just needs to be arranged. Heath brought up the question being asked a little differently and that they didn't say that they could cover it with Lexan or plywood cover when not in use and that the question has to be asked a certain way. Heath brought up Joe drafting a letter and Joe said that he just wants to know the direction to go in. Joanne asked how the rest of the Board feel and that she and Dottie feel that it is a liability issue. Wendy and Gil agreed as far as the mirrors with it being a liability issue. Joe brought up looking at another room to rent out and Heath asked if they could designate the Community Room in the Municipal Building to the Recreation Department and Gil brought up it being used by others and Heath asked if they could allow them to have one space so they don't have to revisit this. Joanne asked how that will rectify the problem with the liability and Heath brought up that the insurance company said they need to be in their designated space and Joe brought up putting them on wheels to move them to a safe spot. Joanne asked if Gil could distribute the letter from MMA for everybody to read and Heath brought up talking to the town's attorney for a second opinion. Joe brought up that this program will bring money back to the town and Joanne asked what it usually costs per child for a dance studio and Joe said that he didn't know but when they put the numbers together they undercut every other dance studio. Joanne asked about recitals and Joe told her that they do not do recitals. Joe made the comment about doing more to stop it then they are doing to progress and brought up that they are under budget every year and how he had been doing things to save money and brought up the basketball court and how he had not heard anything. Dottie brought up that they need pricing for everything and Joe said that he had given them the pricing and told them that it is a \$36,000 project and that he has been told that it can go under capital improvements and Dottie said that he had given them the price a couple of years ago but has not given them a break down since then. Joanne brought up him needing to have a plan to put out to bid so that they can have an actual cost and Joe said that is what he has and Dottie asked how old it is and she was told probably a year. Heath brought up having a meeting with Joe to put everything on the table. Joe made the comment on when he presents something and they decide to discuss it the next week and Joanne said that the money is there for the basketball court and the bleachers but they have to have a plan and she asked if anyone is going to volunteer to help him present a plan for the basketball court. Heath brought up Joe having something with all the paperwork on the basketball court and so they can put it into bid form to get a locked in price. Gil asked if Heath would be willing to work with him on that and he said he could but do they have to have the townspeople approval and Wendy said yes and that it has to come out of capital

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reserve and they need to have good bid estimates. Joanne said that she would push to have it so they can vote on it in June and Heath brought up the equipment people only locking them in for 30-60 days and they would need to find a contractor to do it and that he can aid Joe on this. Gil brought up targeting to have that ready to be voted on in June and Heath brought up doing it sooner and that they can have a Special Town Meeting at any time and Wendy told him that was correct.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Overlook camera: Dottie told them that there was no update on this and Gil said that they would leave it on the agenda until it is resolved.
- Parking Ordinance: Gil **motioned** to accept the parking ordinance that was presented. Dottie brought up that there is one thing that they need to agree on and that is the minimum penalty for each violation. Dottie **second**. Gil brought up \$25 and Dottie said that she had the same thing in mind. Heath asked who is going to enforce it and Dottie said that once they approve that they have to contact the Sheriff's office and let them know that they have it because they are the only ones who can enforce it. Heath made the comment of if they see something then yes and Dottie said the only way they can enforce it is if they see something and they can't do it unless they have an ordinance and sign in place. Joanne brought up that it would work a lot better if they have their own police force. Bill Jones asked if someone could read the ordinance and Gil read it. Heath brought up from other parking ordinances is that you cannot park on the pavement and that they have no particular parameters in the ordinance. Dottie asked which section he is talking about and he said section 4 and how there aren't really a lot of parameters. Dottie said that it is pretty specific because it says, plowing, sanding, and snow removal and that they don't have to worry about it in the summer because it is specific to snow removal. Heath asked where they would like to stick parameters and Dottie asked him what parameters he is talking about. Heath brought up that in Saco it says cannot park on any paved way and in this ordinance it just says any public throughway. Dottie said that this is just a basic one to get them a parking ordinance. Wendy made a comment about people parking on the side of the road for hunting. **All** were in favor. Kathy Ward asked about parking at the ballfield and Dottie said this ordinance will give the Sheriff some authority and if they want to call the Sheriff or he sees it then he can ticket all those cars. Heath said that he would have to look into it because he just read something that York County Sheriff won't enforce local ordinances only state.
- Citizen correspondence responses: Gil said that he had responded to two letters from citizens on social media posts that contain bullying and/or intimidation and he said that his response includes that the town does not have a policy for employees or officials and posting on social media and that the All About Limerick page is not administered by the town and the town does not have authority over it. Gil also said that town business is not conducted on any social media platform. Heath brought up talking to the attorney about it.

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- BTH street light bids: Gil said that he has noticed on Facebook that this is for putting lights along Main Street and that this is strictly for lights along the pathway at the Brick Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rural broadband bond: Gil said that there have been citizens who have posted on Facebook about information from the Portland Press Herald about the Maine Broadband Coalition and grants that may be available for rural communities to provide such a service. Gil told everyone to get fiber optic cable town wide would be over \$3,000,000 and would require a company to take care of the system. Average grant is between \$100,000 and \$200,000 and in order to apply for the grant they would need to ID the underserved and unserved sections of town and that there is a way for them to check their internet speeds on the Maine Broadband Coalition's website. Gil brought up it is something they should pursue but they don't know how they would go about it. Joanne asked if she was right that the state is working on a 1.1 billion package for broadband and Gil said yes that is part of the rural communities that the grants are for. Gil asked how they figure out who is unserved and underserved and he said Foss Road. Dottie said up on the Limington line is another. Gil asked that if anyone listening to the meeting who is underserved or unserved could get it to the Selectmen's Secretary and they can look into it. Dave Candage asked who owns the transmission lines that are already in service and Heath said the lines that run down the road are owned by the company. Gil brought up having someone put it on Facebook to let people know that they are looking into it.
- Social media policy: Gil brought up that he had gotten some examples from towns who do have social media policies and that this could be something that the upcoming Board could consider looking into.
- Heath brought up the tent that was covering their equipment that is in a pile across the road from the Fire Department and that he understands that the tent was tender and the pipes were not rotten. Gil said that from what he understands some of them were frozen into the ground and that he could ask Mr. McLean about it next week. Dottie brought up that she had talked to Chief McLean about it and the tent was donated 15 years ago and a couple years ago it had gotten partially destroyed and Charlie and Ricky repaired it and when they took it out the other day it fell apart again. Heath made the comment that they had taken it out with a loader and that this wasn't anchored and that some of the people on the Fire Department said that they would have taken it down for free in order to have it and that there was stuff on the ground and he asked if it was fire extinguishers being discharged and he was told that it would have been cleaned up. Heath asked if they have plans to haul that to the dump and Gil said that they would have to arrange to have it taken care of. Michael McLean said that Charlie had tried his best with trying not to destroy the tent but it got destroyed and they had done some training with the Fire Extinguishers and there are no chemicals in them that are bad for you and that they had gotten emails and they reacted and got rid of it and that they will take care of it and take it to the Transfer Station. Heath brought up waiting on everyone

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in the department's qualifications and Mike asked him to send the emails to his Limerick account.

- Fire Department officer qualifications: Gil said that last week he was asked to speak to concerns about an officer not having qualifications and this is another social media chatter that is looked at as intimidation and he said that the officer had shown him the qualifications and certifications and he read them off and that the Board had approved this person as an officer as a recommendation from the Fire Chief. Mike brought up that with the vote in March they will have a job description in place for the possible full-time chief here in Limerick. Ordinance in place move the job descriptions in and the SOGs will have to be updated and Mike brought up Heath making a good point about the current chief putting in officers and then the new chief having those officers and that in the ordinance it is up to 90 days. Heath brought up that if an officer gets told by another officer to do something then takes per diems with him and gets into a situation and he doesn't have the help of the other officer that is when the safety concern was brought up. Mike said that that is the importance of the safety training. Heath asked if the training costs the employees anything and Mike said no that it is part of the training budget and Heath made a comment on how Ron said that they use their own vehicle and gas and they don't get reimbursed for it and Mike told him that they do use their own gas. Heath asked if all the officers are trained as drivers and Mike said that it is every three years and most of them do some of them will get it come spring.
- Business Park Lots: Gil brought up that Heath and him had met with the Limerick Development Corporation and they were meeting to consider approving turning lot 5 over to the town so they can consider putting lot 5 and 7 together to sell and they were going to send a letter acknowledging that and a constraint. The secretary said that she had gotten something from them today and that she will scan it in and email it to them the next day.
- Heath brought up that he had talked to Courtney about tracking down insurance for the sign over by the Line School that got destroyed and the secretary asked for Heath to email her that number.
- Heath **motioned** for an Executive Session, 6:00 on the 29th for the two officers of the Fire Department that came forward and would like to speak with the Board. Heath made the comment about them speaking to the chairman and Gil said they have not yet and that he will be meeting with the gentlemen later this week and that he had only spoken to them to set up a meeting. Heath said that they had told him that they would feel more comfortable speaking to the whole Board. Gil brought up that to have an Executive Session requires a specific purpose and maybe he can define that with them and Heath said that safety concerns is one of them. Gil said that he would like to see what this meeting entails and then come back to everyone.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

- Delores Floyd asked a question about the Rec Department and Gil said that they have Heath to work with him on a proposal and Heath made the comment about several issues for the Rec Department needing to be resolved.

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- Dave Candage asked a question about letting the company update its equipment for the broadband issue and Heath said that if they continue a power line down a road that ends that the people on the road share costs if they want the power line down that road. Joanne brought up that some of the areas that don't have service is because there is not enough within a certain distance and Gil said that is why this is a rural situation. Gil asked if Courtney could put it on Facebook asking the people who are underserved or unserved to let them know and she said that she could do that.

ADJOURN MEETING:

- Dottie **motioned** to adjourn. Joanne **second**. **All** were in favor.
- The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15PM.

These minutes were approved by the Limerick Board of Selectmen on: March 1, 2021

End of Broadcast

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Davis

FOR DETAILS OF MEETING
SEE RECORDING
AT SRC-TV.ORG
"Limerick Selectmen's Meeting"
Under Brick Town Hall
February 22, 2021
By Gail Libby