

MEETING MINUTES

April 5, 2023,

4:00 p.m.

Place: Town Office, 70 Snare Creek Lane-Lower Level Jonesport, Maine

Opened by: Selectperson Fish, Selectperson Cilley, & Selectperson Alley Absent.

Attendees: Julie Jordan, Diane Smith, Jim Howell, Clifford Norton, Nancy Beal, Jessica Greeley, Cynthia Beauvais and Irene Rogers.

Approval of Minutes: *March 29, 2023, Meeting Minutes, March 29th, 2023, public hearing minutes*

Both sets of minutes were approved with a change on item 5 of regular meeting minutes. Instead of “requesting funding.” Changed to “requesting proposal.”

Motion to accept by: Selectperson Fish, seconded by Selectperson Cilley, Approved.

Signatures:

A. Warrant:

B. Certificates of appointment: Erik Blackwood will have an interview set up with selectboard before he is appointed.

Members of the audience who want to speak must raise a hand. It is at the discretion of the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to allow a member of the audience to speak during the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Broadband:** The Broadband Committee, along with Elaine Abbott and Jessica Hamilton with the USDA on Zoom, led the selectboard through the procedure of gathering information to help the residents make the best choice of fiber optic for Jonesport. Julie Jordon explained what the four internet service providers offer in the area. The Committee was interested in what the selectboard wanted as the next phase of the plan. Selectperson Fish felt that each of the four ISPs should meet in a public session to explain their plan for future fiber optic services in this area. The Committee is working on a survey to be presented to the townspeople. Clifford Norton interjected that education is important before the survey goes out so residents can answer the survey, when they receive it, with some knowledge of how fiber optic works and what benefits it will give the Town. All the members of the Committee clarified how in this rural area fiber internet is the way of the future. Jessica Hamilton, who is originally from Jonesport, explained how fiber optics can open up a whole new field of opportunities. Clifford Norton has fiber optic at his business and told the selectboard that there is no drag. His is through Consolidated Communications. Elaine Abbot of Sunrise County Economic Council is working with 15 small communities at present and advised the Broadband Committee to contact Maine Broadband Coalition for grant resources and also the MCA for discounts residents may qualify for. Cynthia Beauvais asked if there were funds available for the cost associated with the survey, such as radio ads, newspaper notices and also the cost of producing the survey. ARPA funds will be used for these associated costs.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. **Trailer at old sand pile 21 days ends April 11th:** This was just FYI.
3. **Kingfish appeal, John Hamer request:** John Hamer, attorney, asked that the Selectboard authorize him to accept service on behalf of the Town. Selectperson Fish made a motion to allow acceptance of service by John Hamer, seconded by Selectperson Cilley.

MISCELLANEOUS and FYI:

4. **Local residents interested in sand removal, bushhogging etc.:** This was just FYI.

5. **Crowley wedding: Jessica Greeley was present.** The Selectboard discussed the letter concerning having a wedding reception on the ballfield behind the library. Ms. Greeley will need to check into insurance for the event and obtaining a liquor license for that day.
6. **Jadah's app for animal shelter, cost is \$100.:** Selectperson Fish made a motion to pay the cost of \$100 for the application fee so Jadah's Cat Shack can become licensed as an animal shelter. Selectperson Cilley seconded the motion.
7. **Dredging Sawyer Cove:** Selectperson Fish made a motion to approve a letter from the selectboard giving permission to dredge Sawyer Cove. Selectperson Cilley seconded the motion.
8. Selectperson Fish made a motion to pay Jim Carver up to \$5,000 for layout of the road construction, seconded by Selectperson Cilley.
9. Marc Perry, as assessor of the town, will be contacted to ask his hours for April 25th and May 2nd so appointments can be scheduled.

Some of the signs along Route 187 need to be requested from MDOT, such as the crosswalk sign out in the bay.

Motion made by Selectperson Cilley Seconded by Selectman Fish to adjourn the meeting at

5:30 PM