

TOWN OF NORTH HAVEN
SELECT BOARD
JANUARY 20, 2021
4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Demmons (Chair), Linda Darling (Vice Chair - by phone), and Patsy Lannon

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Alex Curtis and Jeremiah MacDonald

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Rick Lattimer

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT: David Almy (by telephone)

1. Demmons called the Meeting to order at 4:03 pm
2. **Motion to approve the Minutes of January 13, 2021**
Made by Darling, seconded by Lannon **Approved 3-0-0**

3. **Public Comment:** None

4. **Treasurer's Report**

a. Approval of Bills, Payroll Journals, Warrants, and Journal Entries:

Payroll Journal #2	in the amount of	\$35,425.92
Payroll Journal #2-A	in the amount of	\$4,394.90
Warrant #2	in the amount of	\$182,725.33
Warrant #2-A	in the amount of	\$28,554.41
Sewer Department Warrant #1	in the amount of	\$21,898.48
Water Department Warrant #1	in the amount of	\$31,461.37

Motion to approve Bills, Warrants, Payroll Journals and Journal Entries
Made by Lannon, seconded by Darling **Approved 3-0-0**

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Reports**

a. Administrator:

- i. Clinic — See COVID-19 update, below
- ii. Fire Department/EMS
 - Maine EMS has changed the proposed regulations so that Penobscot Island Air's aircraft would not be characterized as "air ambulances." Assuming these proposed regulations are approved, PIA will be able to continue transporting emergency patients as they are currently allowed to do.

- Working on getting a hot water sink into the building
- iii. Floats and Docks
 - Thayer’s Y-Knot Boatyard has repaired and reattached the Thoroughfare ramp
- iv. Legal — Lattimer and Planning Board Chair, Pat Curtis intend to arrange a joint meeting of the Select Board and the Planning Board via Zoom.
- v. Roads & Bridges — No update
- vi. Sewer Department — No update
- vii. Sheriff’s Department

Date	Incident	Deputy
1.14.21	Radar detail	Lemoi
1.14.21	Erratic vehicle	Abbot
1.15.21	Alarm	Lemoi
1.16.21	Agency assist	Lemoi
1.18.21	Radar detail	Lemoi
1.18.21	Utility problem	Lemoi
1.19.21	Radar detail	Lemoi
1.19.21	Agency assist	Lemoi

- viii. Town Properties
 - The State may conduct a courtesy safety inspection of the Town’s departments this spring
- ix. Transfer Station — We will discuss our recycling contract with Ecomaine at our next meeting
- x. Water Department
 - Lattimer will work with the CEO to obtain a permit for the new shed at the Pumping Station
 - The Town received five proposals to paint the interior and exterior of the Standpipe; the Town needs additional time to evaluate them, so we have moved the award date to January 29, 2021

7. Old Business:

- a. *COVID-19 Update* — Our EMS crew, police officer, and one of our nurse practitioners have been vaccinated. Our Clinic is working with Maine CDC to determine how and when island residents will be vaccinated.

No new cases have been reported on the island. The nurse practitioners urge everyone to continue to be vigilant, as the number of new cases across the State continues to climb. The Clinic has the ability to test people who show symptoms or may have been exposed, as well as part of the screening protocol for patients who have upcoming surgical procedures scheduled on the mainland.

- b. *Fire Chief Search* — Chief Shaun Cooper has announced his intent not to continue as Fire Chief after Town Meeting. Lattimer has talked with other department officers to determine if any of them are interested. So far, no one has expressed interest. The

Town is exploring options to make sure we have someone to lead our Fire Department.

- c. *Sign for the Public Safety Building* — The Town is awaiting a revised mockup of a sign

8. New Business

- a. *Maine State Ferry Service* — Jon Emerson serves as the Town's representative to the Ferry Service Advisory Board. He summarized the results of the latest Advisory Board meeting.

- While the Ferry Service's fare revenue continues to fall below expected projections, the situation has improved somewhat from the summer of 2020, when it was off 25 percent. Whether additional federal funds will become available to help close this gap in needed revenue remains uncertain.
- The Ferry Service expects the new boat, the *Richard Spear*, to begin servicing Vinalhaven in June 2021. The Ferry Service will submit a design for a new North Haven ferry in 2027 with an expected completion date of June 2031. Emerson recommends the Town engage in discussions with the Ferry Service about the appropriate size and crew composition of our new ferry well before the Ferry Service finalizes its design.
- The Ferry Service plans to adopt an electronic ticketing system in late spring 2021.
- The Ferry Service is also considering a new line-up procedure in Rockland. If adopted, the new procedure might eliminate the ability to use line-soaker cars. Both Lattimer and Emerson plan to contact the Ferry Service to better understand the concept and to strongly encourage the Ferry Service to engage the affected islands — North Haven, Vinalhaven, and Matinicus — in discussions before making any changes.

- b. *2021 Town Meeting* — As Lattimer noted during last week's meeting, this year's town meeting cannot take place in person. Paul Gibbons, the Town's attorney, approved the action the Board would need to take to set up the process of voting by written referendum. With this in mind, the Board considered the following motion:

Motion to regarding 2021 Town Meeting: Pursuant to Governor Mills' Executive Order number 56 FY19/20 dated June 3, 2020 and the statutory authorities cited therein, as well as the continued state of civil emergency Governor Mills has repeatedly extended in order to protect public health from the effects of the COVID-19 virus, the Select Board for the Town of North Haven hereby decides to:

1. **Schedule our annual town meeting for Saturday, April 3, 2021;**

2. **Hold our annual town meeting in the form of a referendum in which voters will be able to cast their votes for specific Town Warrant Articles by way of secret written ballot;**
3. **To place on the referendum a question allowing the Town's voters to approve adopting a paper nomination process and a secret written ballot process for the election of Town officials as specified in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 2528.4, and in accordance with Executive Order number 56 FY 19/20 and Maine Revised Statutes Title 30-A, Chapter 121, subchapter 2; and**
4. **Consistent with Executive Order number 56 FY 19/20 to authorize the Town Administrator to work with legal counsel to prepare such written materials and schedule such public hearings as needed to hold the referendum described above, noting further that any hearings may be conducted remotely so as to protect people's health and safety as authorized by the Governor and other State of Maine officials.**

Made by Demmons, seconded by Lannon

Approved 3-0-0

9. Other

- Lattimer noted that people are asking about the Town's sponsoring (but not paying for) an electronic vehicle charging station on the island. The Board encouraged the Town to look into this possibility.

10. Adjournment — Motion to adjourn at 5:16 pm made by Lannon, seconded by Darling

Approved 3-0-0