

**TOWN OF NORTH HAVEN
SELECT BOARD
DECEMBER 30, 2020
4:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Demmons (Chair), Linda Darling (Vice Chair), Alex Curtis, Patsy Lannon (by phone) and Jeremiah MacDonald

BOARD MEMBER(S) ABSENT: None

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Rick Lattimer

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT: David Almy (by telephone)

1. Demmons called the Meeting to order at 4:02 pm
2. **Motion to approve the Minutes of December 16, 2020**
Made by MacDonald, seconded by Darling **Approved 4-0-1** (Lannon abstained)
3. **Public Comment:** David Almy thanked the Board members for their service during this very challenging year and expressed the hope that 2021 will be a better year for the Board and for all of us.

4. **Treasurer's Report**

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

Payroll Journal #48	in the amount of	\$23,648.03
Payroll Journal #48-A	in the amount of	\$4,229.15
Payroll Journal #49	in the amount of	\$34,651.25
Warrant #51	in the amount of	\$15,823.69
Warrant #51-A	in the amount of	\$9,919.11
Sewer Department Warrant #20	in the amount of	\$2,045.13
Water Department Warrant #24	in the amount of	\$2,817.50

Motion to approve Bills, Warrants, Payroll Journals and Journal Entries
Made by MacDonald, seconded by Lannon **Approved 5-0-0**

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Reports**

- a. Administrator:
 - i. Clinic — Staffing set through January
 - ii. Fire Department/EMS
 - Awaiting development of revised air ambulance regulations
 - Working on getting a hot water sink into the building

- iii. Floats and Docks
 - Thayer’s Y-Knot Boatyard to repair the Thoroughfare ramp; they are waiting for materials to arrive
- 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 — The heated sodium bisulfite lines have been installed
- vii. Sheriff’s Department

Date	Incident	Deputy
12.24.20	Public relations	Lemoi
12.24.20	Accident	Lemoi

- viii. Town Properties
 - The State may conduct a courtesy safety inspection of the Town’s departments next spring
 - Holiday lights arrived after Christmas
- ix. Transfer Station — See New Business, below
- 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* — Thankfully, 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. *Skating Rink* — The skating rink materials have been ordered.
- c. *Fox Islands Electric Cooperative* — Lattimer is following up on trimming tree limbs off the electric wires.

[Lannon excused herself from the remainder of the meeting at this point.]

8. New Business

- a. *Transfer Station Cost Factors* — Lattimer summarized the Town’s expenses and revenues related to the Transfer Station’s operations. Both disposal costs and recycling costs are increasing. The Board discussed these costs and the fees the

Town collects to offset them. In 2019, the Town collected fees that paid for 46.8% of the Transfer Station's operations. The Board discussed the idea of increasing fees so that the Transfer Station is less dependent on taxpayer support. Of course many people are both taxpayers and Transfer Station users, but renters and visitors use the Transfer Station without paying taxes (at least not directly). Increasing fees might be more equitable to both taxpayers and users alike. The Board would like to consider the matter further. Lattimer said he and Transfer Station Manager, Peter Cooper, would prepare an analysis and recommendations for the Board to consider.

- b. *Solid Waste Disposal Agreement* — The Town's current agreement with Ecomaine is coming to an end. Lattimer has explored alternatives to determine the most cost-effective place to dispose of the solid waste (household trash) collected at the Transfer Station. He recommends the Board authorize the Town to enter into an agreement with Waste Management at Norridgewock. Waste Management charges \$72/ton and has an annual price escalation cap of 4 percent. In contrast, Ecomaine would charge \$79/ton with an annual escalation cap of 7 percent. Gordon Libby, our waste hauler would charge \$50/load more to go to Norridgewock, but even with that increase, the Waste Management facility would be cheaper than Ecomaine.

Motion to authorize the Town to enter into a waste disposal agreement with Waste Management at Norridgewock for \$72/ton with an annual price escalation cap of 4% made by Demmons, seconded by MacDonald Approved 4-0-0

- c. *Fire Chief Search* — Chief Shaun Cooper notified the Board in September 2020 that he will not seek reelection. Lattimer presented the Board with a memo describing a plan to search for a new fire chief after Chief Cooper's term ends in March. The first step, which Lattimer has already begun, is talking with the Department's other officers to see if any of them would be interested in serving as chief. If that does not succeed, the next step is to find jobs that could be combined with fire chief in an attempt to make the position more attractive for an island resident. If that too fails, the final step would be to attempt to find someone from off-island who would be willing to serve. Lattimer did not ask the Board to take any action at this time.
- d. *Knox County Sheriff's Contract* — The County has prepared a new contract for 2021 that is identical to the previous contract. The Board expressed its appreciation to Josh Lemoi and the County for their law enforcement efforts on the island. The Board members signed the 2021 contract.
- e. *Memo to Town Employees* — Lattimer prepared a memo to distribute to Town employees that clarifies the difference between work they perform as Town employees and work they may be asked to perform as private contractors. Before distributing the memo, Lattimer wanted to share it with the Board. The Board did not have any concerns with the draft memo.

9. Other

- Darling noted that Josh Lemoi is also the Town's Animal Control Officer.

**10. Adjournment — Motion to adjourn at 5:32 pm made by Darling, seconded by MacDonald
Approved 4-0-0**