

AGENDA
TOWN OF PORTAGE LAKE
REGULAR SELECT BOARD MEETING
May 17, 2023
6:00 P.M.

1. Call Meeting to Order & Attendance
2. Approval of Minutes
 April 12, 2023 regular meeting
3. Old Business:
 - a. Fire Dept. washer was delivered on May 10, payment from ARPA funds
 - b. Ashland Subsidies Issue Update: Forensic Audit Info
4. New Business:
 - a. 2 Scholarship Applications
 - b. ATV Club Grant Certification
 - c. Review of Remote Participation in a Meeting Policy
 - d. Chub Fishing Derby
 - e. Removal of Abandoned Vehicles on Station Rd.
 - f. Sale or disposal of old town equipment near Sand Shed
 - g. Payables Warrants
5. Town Manager's Report
 - a. MMA Safety Inspection on May 12: Some compliance issues found
 - b. DOT will be putting in centerline rumble strips from Ashland to Portage this summer
 - c. School budget for FY '24 is going up by about \$77,000
 - d. Town Emergency Operations Plan update
 - e. Manager out of office on June 8 for training in Augusta
6. Other Select Board Business
7. Public Comments (as time allows)
8. Executive Session per 1 MRSA §405(6)(A) Personnel Matters
9. Adjourn

Next Regular Select Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Wednesday May 24 @ 6 pm: School Budget Town Meeting vote

Wednesday May 24 @ 6:30 pm: Select Board work session

PORTAGE LAKE BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS
Record of Regular Meeting
May 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
Portage Lake Municipal Building Conference Room

Members Present: Michelle Eastman, Chairperson; Barry "Beech" Kenney, Bruce Laveway.

Members Absent:

Others Present: Corrine Routhier, Jodi Page, Sarah Bauzenberger, Sandra Bartlett, Dave Pierce.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Michelle Eastman.

Approval of Minutes: Selectboard reviews the minutes from the April 12, 2023, regular meeting. **Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes for the April 12, 2023, regular meeting as written. Motion carries.**

OLD BUSINESS

Fire Dept. washer was delivered on May 10, payment from ARPA funds: The washer has been delivered but is not hooked up yet. Brian would like to keep both washers. New outlets will need to be installed to accommodate both washers to be paid out of Town Hall Repairs. We are currently waiting on an available electrician.

Ashland Subsidies Issue Update – Forensic Audit Info: We can, for a cost, hire a Forensic Accountant to go in and perform a forensic audit on Ashland's books specifically looking at our money trail. It was suggested the board members meet with the Ashland board members before proceeding with a Forensic Audit. The plan is to be added to Ashland's agenda for their board meeting in July.

NEW BUSINESS

2 Scholarship Applications: The Board reviews the scholarship applications from Kaili Condon and McKenna Condon. Bruce recused himself from voting on McKenna Condon's scholarship. **Motion made and seconded to award Kaili Condon a \$1000 scholarship. Motion carries. Motion made and seconded to award McKenna Condon a \$1000 scholarship. Motion carries.**

ATV Club Grant Certification: The Board reviews the ATV Club's grant application to the State of Maine. **Motion made and seconded to accept the application. Motion carries.**

Review of Remote Participation in a Meeting Policy: If the Town of Portage wants to conduct an official meeting via Zoom, the Remote Participation in a Meeting Policy needs to be adopted. Before the Board can approve this policy, a public notice needs to be posted and a public hearing held. Discussion tabled until more information can be gathered.

Chub Fishing Derby: Michelle would like to bring the Chub Fishing Derby back. Since the PLA was responsible to organizing the derby in the past, Michelle will ask them if they would like to reinstate the tournament. Discussion tabled until next month.

Removal of Abandoned Vehicles on Station Road: The Board will move forward with the removal of the abandoned vehicles on Station Road.

Sale or disposal of old town equipment near Sand Shed: Equipment will be bundled, a price set of \$500 for the bundled plow equipment or best offer and \$50 for the screener bundle or best offer. Signs will be

posted around town and on social media platforms. All profits will go back into the Public Works fund.

Motion made and seconded to bundle the equipment and sell it. Motion carries.

Payables Warrants: The Board reviews the Treasurer's warrants and signs them for approval.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) **MMA Safety Inspection on May 12:** This was a preliminary inspection and some compliance issues were found. We are working on becoming compliant before the next State Inspection.
- b) **DOT will be putting in centerline rumble strips from Ashland to Portage this summer.**
- c) **School budget for FY '24 is going up by about \$77,000 over last year.**
- d) **Town Emergency Operations Plan Update.** The plan is to meet again at the end of June.
- e) **Manager out of office on June 8 for training in Augusta.**

OTHER SELECTBOARD BUSINESS

Corrine had the Board members sign the Personnel Policy Update that was approved at April's meeting.

Comments from the Public (as time allows): Dave Pierce informed everyone there will be a Forest Committee meeting next Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend. He asked about any applicants for the CEO position. The one applicant that applied later withdrew her application. He also inquired about any legal counseling we have gotten regarding the subsidy situation with the Town of Ashland.

At 6:50 p.m., a motion was made and seconded to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) for Personnel Matters. Motion carries. A motion was made and seconded to end the Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. The public portion of the meeting resumed at 7:10 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to give Jason Poulin a 5% raise equal to \$1.15 more per hour. Motion carries.

Next regular Selectboard meeting is Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

- **Wednesday, May 24th at 6 p.m. there will be a School Budget Town Meeting vote**
- **Wednesday, May 24th at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Selectboard work session.**

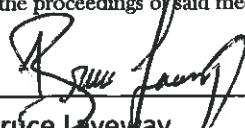

Regular Selectboard Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

We, the undersigned, being Officers of the Portage Lake Board of Selectpersons, do hereby certify that the foregoing meeting is a true and correct record. We hereby consent to confirm, ratify and approve all actions taken at said meeting, all and singular, and the foregoing records thereof, and acknowledge and certify that the same are true and correct records of all the proceedings of said meeting and hereby approve the same.

Approved: _____


Barry Kenney

Signed: _____


Bruce Lavey

Michelle Eastman, Chairperson