

**Town of Portage Lake
Special Town Meeting Minutes
Friday August 23, 2012
Portage Lake Municipal Building
6:00 P.M.**

Aroostook, ss

State of Maine

The meeting was held at the Portage Lake Municipal Building on Friday the twenty-third (23rd) of August, 2013, at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, then and there, to act on the following articles to wit:

There were 11 resident voters, and 2 resident non-voters present.

ART. 1 To elect a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Moved and seconded to nominate Frank Hallett as moderator.

Moved and seconded to cease nominations. All in favor. Motion carries.

Two written ballots are cast for Frank Hallett, who is elected moderator to preside over said meeting.
(Frank Hallett repeats the oath as moderator.)

ART. 2 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$100,000 from anticipated revenue sources for the purpose of reducing 2013 tax commitment.

Motion made in the positive, seconded.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: I thought the building permits were used to put back into the Code Enforcement Office?

David Pierce: It has been. Does it say it is going to take it from that?

Judy Moreau: I think we did at the Budget Committee meeting.

Larry Duchette: To put the fee toward reimbursing...

Judy Moreau: Right. I almost think we voted that way too, at Town Meeting.

David Pierce: Right, but that doesn't say we are going to take funds from that for this does it?

Larry Duchette: It's on the list.

David Pierce: It's on the list?

Judy Moreau: Building permits and the plumbing permits.

Larry Duchette: They are all considered other revenues so they end up going toward reducing taxes, which if it gets thrown back in to her budget, then that in turn is helping to reduce taxes.

Judy Moreau: Right, I understand that. I thought you were adding whatever figure there was from the building permits, say there was \$50, I thought you were going to add it to make up the \$100,000.

Larry Duchette: And it does, because it is other revenue. It's generated income.

Judy Moreau: Yes, but if we already voted to put it toward the Code Enforcement Officer's salary, then you can't spend it twice.

Larry Duchette: But her salary is a part of our budget...

Judy Moreau: I understand.

David Pierce: We can strike that out of there if we need to. It's all the same money.

Judy Moreau: But we already voted to spend it one way; you can't spend it twice.

David Pierce: You're right. Maybe that shouldn't have been listed.

Motion carries.

ART. 3 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$4000 from the TIF account to improve our share of Fish Lake Rd. (Irving and P&C will also be doing their share to the amount of \$7410; Maine Woods Co. LLC is contributing half of the cost)

Board of Selectpersons recommend approval.

Motion made in the positive, seconded.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: How long has this road business been discussed? Anybody?

Larry Duchette: Three months. Four months.

Judy Moreau: OK. How much did it cost the town? Do you have any figures?

Larry Duchette: I don't have the all the costs put together yet; I don't have all of the building.

Judy Moreau: So this \$4000 may be more? May be less?

Larry Duchette: it will be less. That is a high number just to make sure I didn't have to come back and ask for more money. We will come under budget.

Judy Moreau: OK. If Irving is to pay, I'm going to go with round numbers if you don't mind, \$7,000 and the Town to pay \$4,000, that's \$11,000. What's half of Seven Islands?

Larry Duchette: Again we don't have all of the numbers, nor will we until all of the billing comes in. And they're not done with the project as of yet, because Irving hasn't come in to finish grading yet.

Judy Moreau: So you have no idea what half of Seven Islands is going to be?

Larry Duchette: Not off the top of my head. I don't have those numbers, but when they are available and all of the bills put together they will be public knowledge.

Judy Moreau: If this has been going on for three or four months, I can't see the urgency for doing the work before you have the OK to do the work.

Danny Higgins: If this doesn't pass, taking it from TIF account, it will come out of the road budget. And the reason all the bills haven't come in is because Irving has to do a final grade. All other work has been completed with the exception of the final grade. And the reason why we are waiting is because we want the road to settle, in other words to compact.

Judy Moreau: I understand all of that Danny. What I can't understand, and probably never get it through my head, is why didn't you come to the Town to get some money and get permission to work on that road, which we do not own-It is not a Town road-before this?

Danny Higgins: The only thing I can say, Judy, is that years ago, back in the '50s and 60's, we used to call that Anderson Road. Isaie Cyr had hovels up there, Elan (sp) Caron had hovels. We've always used that road.

Judy Moreau: We still don't own it. We still don't own it. It is not a bona fide Town owned road. How can you....

David Pierce: It goes to our industrial park. It's part of the Town.

Judy Moreau: But it's still not a Town owned road.

David Pierce: We've already gone over this before.

Judy Moreau: We own the golf course. Right?

Danny Higgins: The land, yes.

Judy Moreau: The land. A few years ago there was a big bru-ha-ha because the snow plow turned around and plowed a length of that road. Since then it has become a Town road. Is that what is going to happen to this piece of road in the future? And if it is, tell us now so we can prepare ourselves.

Larry Duchette: That is not our intent to ever accept that as a Town road.

Danny Higgins: Once Irving puts a final grade on it, it will be up to Seven Islands to maintain it. Do you follow me? Not the Town, but Seven Islands. Does that help you at all?

Judy Moreau: Not in the least.

David Farnum: The article specifically says that Maine Woods Company LLC is contributing half the cost. I would like to know exactly what they are contributing for half the cost. It was explained at the Selectboard meeting we were at that Irving was providing an excavator and dozer and the people to run it, and P&C was providing the gravel and the culverts, and the Town was going to provide a couple of wheelers. I'd also like to know who is paying for the grass and spreading and seeding. Anyway, it was never told what Maine Woods was actually doing other than paying for half the cost. If the cost for us, P&C and Irving is a total of \$11,410, I'd like to know what...

David Pierce: You want a breakdown of their \$11,000?

David Farnum: I'd like to know what they are doing. You are talking a lot of money, and as far as I know they didn't provide any equipment, any material or any labor.

Danny Higgins: Who didn't?

David Farnum: Seven Islands.

David Pierce: Their road foreman, Johnny Jondro, was there. They laid the whole thing out and they oversaw the work. And I'm not sure, but the seed was theirs, probably. I'm sure you can get a breakdown of what it was, but it should be somewhere around \$11,000 worth of stuff.

Larry Duchette: These are just estimates on what the costs are, and a breakdown will be available when the job is completely done. The agreement was that Maine Woods, excuse me, Seven Islands, will pay half of the cost of this project. Everybody was at the table at that meeting; DEP was there, Seven Islands was there, Maine Woods, Irving, and that was the agreement made.

David Farnum: My question is what are they doing for their half? Everybody else's was spelled right out.

Larry Duchette: I do not have an answer to that question.

Clayton DeMerchant: My question is how can we vote to pay for this if we don't have no bill on it? How much it is going to cost us? How can we vote on it?

David Pierce: There was an estimate that the Town share was going to be \$2,600. Larry figured that would be a little low, so to cover everything he is asking for a maximum of \$4,000. So it has been an

estimate and not all the bills have been paid, but we are looking to appropriate the money so those bills can be paid.

Judy Moreau: If this has been going on for three or four months, I can only imagine if I was running a business that I would have a little bit more than estimates and maybes and ifs and ands and buts.

David Pierce: You never have complete numbers until the job is done. Doing road work or any other work there is only estimates; you never have precise numbers until the work is done. It happens every day.

Judy Moreau: Excuse me Dave. The other night I sat in a meeting with the State of Maine who is going to do 5.5 miles of road up north near Soucy Hill. They had the exact number of miles, inches, whatever, and....

David Pierce: And that is an estimate. That's not exactly what it is going to cost. I'm not going to argue with you. That's what they said it is going to cost, but that's an estimate. That's not an exact number.

Judy Moreau: I'm just saying if this has gone on for three or four months, this information is incomplete. Even though it is coming out of the TIF.

Marcelle Gagnon: So if it is under \$4,000 that we are taking out of the TIF account, if it is less than that the rest will stay in the TIF account?

Larry Duchette: Yes, it will stay right there. We are only going to pay what we owe.

Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Corrine M. Routhier". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Corrine M. Routhier

2013 Revenue Sources

Motor Vehicle Excise
Boats Excise
Agent Fees
Interest Earned
Interest Charged
Tree Growth Reimbursement
Veterans Reimbursement
Building Permit Fees
Plumbing Permit Fees
GA Reimbursements
Town Hall Rental
Nashville Trans. Sta. Fee
Nashville Election Fees
Nashville Fire Protection
Land Lease Agreement
Fax/Copier Fees
Insurance Dividend on Work Comp
Insurance Dividend on Property & Casualty