**Alexander Selectmen’s Meeting**

March 4, 2021

Alexander Grange Hall

6:00 p.m.

**In Attendance**

Selectmen

       Kevin Dean Chair

       David Davis Vice Chair

       John Knowles

       James Gibson Jr.

       Foster Carlow Jr.

Town Clerk

       Kristy Crawford

Others in Attendance; See Attached Sheet

Meeting Opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

**Additions and Deletions**

Add Planning Board and Historical Watering Trough

**Planning Board/Skip Colson**

* Skip Colson brought to the attention of the Board the issue that the Governing Boards of Alexander are not allowed to use the Fire Station Training Room or the Alexander Elementary School for Town Business/Meetings.  He described the difficulties of having to go to the Town Office, unlocking and collecting all the information he needed.  Go to the Grange Hall, unlock the building, turn on the heat, have his meeting and then do the process all over again in reverse, for a 30 minute or less meeting. The Training Room is definitely large enough for his 5 member board to meet in and to be able to socially distance. The Selectmen have the same issue of making sure they have all their info with them and if more people showed up for the meeting there wouldn’t be enough room to safely distance at the Grange Hall.  Other schools are allowing the public to use their buildings for recreation and public meetings.  AOS recently had a meeting at the Pembroke School.
* Skip felt that both buildings are being paid for by the taxpayers.  The Fire Department has no electric, heat or building insurance bills.  They are being paid from the Municipal Administration Budget along with repairs needed to the building.
* Who controls the Fire Department Building? David Davis said, the Assistant Fire Chief made the decision.
* It was brought up that this had to do with the original Grant written for the building.  But the Grant is now decades old, is there a time limit?
* Larry Hill brought up it is a cleaning issue at AES since students use the gym every day.  Question asked, Can it not be sanitized before the students arrive.  It is only a few chairs and tables?
* Again by Consensus of the Group Governing Boards of the Town should have access to facilities paid for by tax dollars.
* Other options to build a meeting room attached to the Municipal Building for committee meetings. Another suggestion made by John Dudley was perhaps to help the Grange with some of their building issues so meetings were accessible there.

Motion made by James Gibson Jr., 2nd by John Knowles  to write a letter to the School Board, Superintendent of Schools and the Fire Department about these concerns. James Gibson Jr. will work on a draft and others will bring ideas to the table.

**Minutes**

February 1st approved with corrections 1st by James Gibson Jr.,  2nd by John Knowles All in Favor

**Broadband/James Gibson Jr.**

* Site Survey continues with Tim McAffe, Eastern Maine Electric and Consolidated Communications.
* Connect ME has opened up Grants, JR will be working on the process and will ask Jane Manza for help if needed.
* Planning Board Chair, Skip Colson asked who gives permits to use the poles.  Answer, it is done by the state.  If help is needed with the permitting Skip offered to assist.
* Skip also asked the size of the COLO building, at this time it hasn’t been ordered but the approximate size will be 10x14

**John Dudley**

* John spoke to the 911 Road signs, some are still missing.  Larry Hill was unaware and will look into the issue.

**Town Clerk/Kristy Crawford**

* All the pieces of the new computer have arrived.  Danny Sullivan has them and is transferring files and setting up the programs.
* The new town website is finished and ready for the public to see. <https://alexandermaine.com/>
* Great progress was done in the Archive Room last week and Kirsty wishes to thank her volunteers, Jane Manza, Rhonda Oakes and Deputy Clerk Dana Porter.
* One of the large filing cabinets is broken and needs to be replaced, would like to purchase a new smaller one beside her desk and a new chair.  (Consensus of the Board, yes)
* Outdated electronics in the archive room need to be gone through and disposed of. James Gibson Jr will take care of this issue.
* Financial Report Profit Loss was provided. See attached.
* Road Acct Financial was gone over.  Larry Hill asked if State Road Assistance Money was included in the report.  Kristy said it was the second figure on the page.  See attached.
* Next week the 30 Day Notices for Tax Liens will be going out.  Shared a list of those properties.  See attached.
* Kristy still plans on sending reminders to those who have still not paid last year's taxes yet.
* Audit for the 2020 Fiscal Year issues continue.
  + Auditor has asked for Fiscal Year 2020 1st quarter 941.  They have not been able to find them.  It will cost the town $57 to get copies from the IRS.
  + The Auditor says the bookkeeping is messy and there is a going to need to be an $84,972.46 adjustment.  See Attached.
  + There were several issues with tax bills and abatements.   Most are easily corrected but one is major.  What should be done about the error of the bounced check for taxes paid in 2018 a discrepancy of amounts and the fact that the check bounced and Trio was not corrected to taxes not being paid.  The property has since been sold. See Attached.
  + Payroll Test and BMV Audit being done now.

Selectmen thanked Kristy for all her work

**Pokey Lake/Kevin Dean**

* No correspondence has arrived
* Willow Owen has called to see if a letter has arrived several times.  They will contact their lawyer to see where they stand.

**Solar Power/Jane and Joe Manza**

* Jane handed out a paper with a flow chart and lingo to help get the Board acquainted with how things work.
* Joe and Jane then gave an overview of the information that they got from Sundog Solar LCC
* As it stands the property at the Alexander Elementary School would be the optimal site for the solar panels, on the ground.  Not on the roof as the pitch and angle is wrong.
* Jane and Joe recommend that if the board wanted to go forward with looking into the possibilities of Solar Power that at least 2 more companies be contacted.
* Jane and Joe are willing to continue to investigate if the Board is interested.

Motion made by Foster Carlow Jr., 2nd by James Gibson Jr. To have Jane and Joe Manza continue with the investigation into Solar Power for the Town.  All in Favor

**Security Camera/James Gibson Jr.**

* James is now looking into off site monitoring.  He has contacted AES Principal Trevor Flood, the school is also looking into this issue.  It could be cost effective if this is looked into together.
* Offsite seems to be the way to go for several reasons\*
  + Tampering with or stealing of the main drive
  + And not having to go through hours or days of tape if an issue arises.
  + James will continue to investigate with Principal Flood.

**Foreclosed Property/Kevin Dean**

       Tabled

**Historical Water Trough/Rhonda Oakes**

* Rhonda brought up the issue where the town stood with the watering trough that was discussed several months ago.
* John Dudley was in attendance and asked if the selectmen wanted to move forward at getting it and putting it on the porch.
* The selectmen agreed and said they would make arrangements/help to get the trough back home to Alexander.
* John will contact the owner.

**Annual (March) Town Meeting/KevinDean**

* Will be held April 19th at the Alexander School Gym (as students will be on April break).
* Warrant needs to worked on

A motion was made by Foster Carlow Jr. to have a Selectmen’s Work Session on Saturday March 13th at 9:00 a.m. at the Grange Hall to work on the Town Meeting Warrant and the Letter to the School Board/Superintendent/Fire Department about building use. 2nd by John Knowles All in Favor

**Roads/Larry Hill**

* Larry said he received a letter from the State to join a Co-Op for the purchase of salt for winter roads.  The cost for last year was $70.79 a ton and Alexander purchased it for last year at $63.65 a ton.  He felt that the town should not join the Co-Op.  Selectmen agreed by consensus
* Larry received one call in the past week about a slippery area on the Cooper Road by Pleasant Lake.  He contacted Dale Earle and Dale went right out and took care of the issue and checked after on it.
* Larry received a flyer on a possible building for the storage and will be looking into it.  Larry asked, where would the money come from?  The selectmen reminded him that they have already approved that when the building is bought it will come from the Capital Improvement Account.

**David Davis**

* Reported that Bill Barnett is looking into LED Lights for the Municipal Building and is contacting Efficiency of Maine.

A motion was made by James Gibson to go into Executive Session for CWP and share some information, 2nd by John Knowles.  All in Favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rhonda Oakes

Selectmen’s Secretary