

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2024
GOULDSBORO SELECT BOARD MEETING

Present: Dana Rice Sr., Robert Harmon, Danny Mitchell, Jr. Jackie Weaver
Absent: Peter McKenzie
Zoom: Joshua McIntyre, Town Manager
Staff: Brianna L. Mitchell, Town Clerk
Audience: 15 (Fifteen)

Meeting held at the Gouldsboro Town Office.
Mr. Rice called the meeting to order at 5PM



APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2024

Mr. Harmon made a motion to approve the minutes of December 5, 2024; 2nd by Ms. Weaver. Passed 4/0.

PAYROLL WARRANT #25

Mr. Mitchell moved to approve Payroll Warrant #25 in the amount of \$34,508.54; 2nd by Mr. Harmon. Passed 4/0.

A/P WARRANT #26

Mr. Mitchell moved to approve A/P Warrant #26 in the amount of \$95,433.12; 2nd by Mr. Harmon. Passed 4/0.

SELECT BOARD REPORTS

Ms. Weaver – Nothing at this time.

Mr. Harmon – Mr. Harmon asked Town Clerk Brianna Mitchell about the credit card fees and why we have a fee. Brianna replied she looked into trying to get rid of the fee but unfortunately the fees are charged at the State level and in order for us to be able to accept credit card payments, the fee has to remain. It is 2.5% for any amount above \$40 and anything under \$40 is only a \$1 fee.

Mr. Mitchell - Nothing at this time.

Mr. Rice - Nothing at this time.

Mr. McKenzie – Absent from meeting.

TREASURER- See attached

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Coastal Resilience- Bill Zoellick reported the committee is continuing to meet and talk to FEMA about the causeway in Corea.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer in Charge Jim Malloy reported Sergeant Robbins has made it back from Wreath's Across America. He had a great trip and will make a slideshow of pictures to show at a Select Board meeting.

Jim also reported Officer Damon Dore resigned for personal reasons. That being said, Jim has hired a part time officer, Taylor LeBlanc.

FIRE DEPARTMENT / EMS – See Attached

Chief Ken Monroe reported the power stretcher in the ambulance stopped working. The ambulance is currently at Autotronics being looked at and hope to find out more about the repair.

Ken reported the heater at Station #3 ran out of fuel. No Frills delivered and is up and running again.

Engine 1 is still not repaired yet. They are trying to find parts to fix it.

The Emergency Management radios are with Brianna and ready to be assigned when Josh is back in office.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – See Attached

CEO Mike Connors reported:

- He has issued 3 permits since the last Select Board meeting.
- Lucinda's Lane landowners are aware of the need to create an after-the-fact subdivision. Landowners have significant health issues and financial constraints. Will revisit the issue after the Holiday Season.
- The generator at the Town Office has been replaced on Monday, December 16, 2024. The Rec Center generator replacement is scheduled for December 30, 2024. Units purchased with ARPA funds.
- The Town purchased a 12' enclosed cargo trailer with ARPA funds for public work/Infrastructure use. Trailer to be used for tool and material storage and transport.

RSU#24 REPRESENTATIVE – Absent

TOWN MANAGER – See Attached

Old Business

ARPA Funds Expenditures

Town Manager Josh reported to the Select Board that the 6 Emergency Management radios were purchased and are now in. There are still some extra funds to be used. Josh and the Emergency Management Coordinator Jackie Johnston had a meeting earlier in the week to discuss about possible purchases to use towards the emergency shelter. One of the things being some room dividers. They are a bit pricey quoted at \$7,528. Josh would like to know if the Select Board would like him to go ahead and purchase these or maybe can offset some of the funds for salt/sand expenses. *By consensus, the Select Board would like to use the remaining funds to offset for the unexpected salt/sand expenses this season.* Josh also asked the Select Board about the purchase of the 2 starlink movable kits (\$350 each) and the lowest monthly bill would be about \$50 for each starlink monthly subscription. Josh mentioned we can pay for a half of year monthly subscription with some of the ARPA funds but will have to build into the budget moving forward for this expense. This would be used for emergency

situations. They can be moved anywhere and if the cell towers happen to go down the cell phones can go off the starlink router. *By consensus, the Select Board would like to go ahead with the purchase of the starlink kits.*

New Business

Consideration of tax payment plan agreement for resident

Treasurer Aleta Fusco and Town Manager Josh McIntyre put together a payment plan for Ida May Young as she and her son has requested to waive the foreclosure to get caught up on 2022 taxes. The payment plan includes a monthly payment plan of \$175.02 beginning January 20, 2025 and will finish the 2022 taxes by December 20, 2025. *By consensus, Select Board are willing to waive the foreclosure for the family to get caught up but the Select Board requests the payment plan be changed to include the 2023 taxes in the monthly payment as well.* If the plan does not include the 2023 taxes, by this time next year the resident will have to ask for another payment plan and will continue to be several years behind. Town Manager Josh will recalculate the figures to include the 2023 taxes as well and notify the resident.

Approval of MOU with Hancock County for Animal Control in 2025

Our contract with the Hancock County Animal Control is due for signing as the current contract goes until 12/31/2024. Signing the new 2025 contract will continue these services from January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025. Mr. Mitchell made a motion to continue and sign the ACO contract for the calendar year 2025; 2nd by Mr. Harmon. Passed 4/0.

Annual Report dedication / in memory pages

The Select Board would like to dedicate the upcoming Annual Town Report to Morna Briggs, who was our Boston Post Cane holder for many years, and include an in-memory page for Holly Deusenberry as she was apart of many of our town committees and volunteered a lot of her time in our community.

Maine Power Options

Gouldsboro has never been apart of Maine Power Options. Josh has looked into this to get better electricity and heat rates. Josh mentioned all of our Versant bills totaled to a little below \$25,000 for the last fiscal year so we would be eligible for the membership fees to be waived. The Select Board would like Josh to continue with collecting more info and sending MPO our electricity bills to find out more in-depth numbers on cost savings.

Discussion of Maine Paid Family & Medical Leave costs

The State of Maine has created a new law that all employers are required to pay 1% of employee income. Josh would like to know whether the Select Board wants to pay for the 1% which would equal to about \$9,000 a year going off last year wages, or split 0.5% of wages with the employees and the town would have to contribute about \$4,500. Mr. Harmon made a motion to split half with the employees; 2nd by Ms. Weaver. Passed 4/0.

Discussion of update to Town's Comprehensive Plan

The Select Board, the Comprehensive Plan Committee and Averi Varney with HCPC had much discussion about reviewing the Comprehensive Plan that the Committee has been working on going on 4 years. The Select Board would like the Comprehensive Plan Committee to review a marked comp plan draft of changes the Select Board would like to see done. It was also mentioned to hold a

workshop in the future to discuss changes. Does not seem it will be possible to bring to June 2025 Annual Town Meeting due to needing to thoroughly review the comprehensive plan draft and other timelines required before it can be brought in front of the voters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nothing at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Harmon made a motion to enter into executive session at 6:19PM; 2nd by Mr. Mitchell. Passed 4/0

Mr. Harmon made a motion to exit executive session at 6:30PM; 2nd by Mr. Mitchell. Passed 4/0

No actions were taken.

ADJOURN: Mr. Harmon moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:31PM; 2nd by Mr. Mitchell. Passed 4/0.


Respectfully submitted,
Brianna L. Mitchell, Town Clerk

Please note: These minutes are not verbatim. A tape recording of the meeting is available at the Town Office during regular business hours.

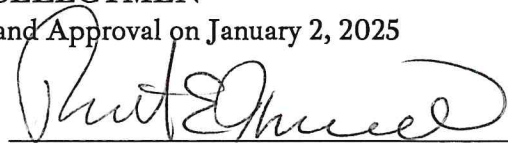
Enclosures: Agenda, Minutes of 12.05.24, Payroll Warrant #25, A/P Warrant #26, Treasurer’s Report, Schoodic EMS / GB Fire Calls Report, Ambulance Service FY25 Accounts Receivables, CEO Report, Town Managers Report, ARPA funds correspondence, Tax Payment Agreement for Liened Property Ida May Young Map 043 – Lot 037, Deaths Report for Town Report Correspondence, Maine Paid Family & Medical Leave letter, MMBB Programs Overview Guide, Thank you letter from Northern Light Health, Hancock County Commissioners Special Meeting agenda 12/17/2024.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Minutes of December 19, 2024 and Approval on January 2, 2025



Dana Rice, Sr.



Robert Harmon



Danny Mitchell, Jr.

Absent.

Peter McKenzie

Jackie Weaver