

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

March 24, 2014

PRESENT: Board of Selectmen: Ted Poirier, Scott Littlefield, Gerry Taylor;
Treasurer/Selectmen Clerk Angela Cushman, CEO Jim Roberts, Road Commissioner
Mike Souliere

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Theresa Greeley, Pete Lachapelle – Waste Management, Lissa Bittermann – ecomaine, Laurie Vezina, Lisa Morse, Jennie Metcalf, Shelly Sommer, Denis Elie, Mike Souliere, Millie Tuttle, Jeremy Ray, Tom Hooper, Michelle Littlefield, Karen McNaughton – Pine Tree Waste, Karl - Oceanside Rubbish, Kenny Hunter – CIA Salvage

*Selectmen Ted Poirier declared the meeting open at 18:05.
Agenda approved by Selectmen.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
No executive session.

APPOINTMENTS:
No appointments.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Audit Bid Packages. The Selectmen opened and read the following:

Audit Firm	Town	Fire Department
Smith Associates	\$47,275	\$12,385
RHR Smith	\$25,500	\$15,000
ME Municipal Audit Services	\$25,400	\$15,400
Ouellette Assoc	\$33,500	\$16,000

The Selectmen will award the bid on April 7th, 2014 at the Selectmen meeting.

2. Solid Waste Bid Packages. The Selectmen opened and read the following:

See attached worksheet for results.

The Selectmen will award the bid on April 7th, 2014 at the Selectmen meeting.

3. Jeremy Ray has been selected as the Dayton Superintendent who will oversee Biddeford and Dayton School Departments from an organizational point of view. Jeremy and the Dayton School Board were present to provide an update. Jeremy stated that in the next 2 weeks they should have a preliminary budget. There is some much unknown related to health insurance, transportation costs and other insurances. The business manager and Angela Cushman, Treasurer met with City of Biddeford Finance to discuss the possible banking options. Ted Poirier asked Jeremy if he thought Dayton has been fairly treated. Jeremy replied the good thing about Dayton is that I have not been part of the process and can look at it independently. The initial piece we have been working with the state to increase the federal funds coming to Dayton. We will be getting federal local entitlement funds that will amount between \$70,000 and \$85,000 which will offset special education costs. We will be receiving our own Title 1 funds at approximately of \$30,000, Title 2 for teaching training at about \$6,800 and there is a good chance that we will receive rural funds of about \$20,000. Jeremy has also been working with Department of Education to look at the remaining carry over funds for the local entitlement under special education costs that remain in the RSU. As of a week ago those were around \$700,000. This will not be the case at the end of the year but we will receive 14.78% of those funds. Jeremy has connected with the State regarding the buses and seeing if we can get one of the buses qualified for a new bus in round 2. Jeremy is very concerned about the condition of the buses. As a community as some point we will need to make a big decision on investing on the safety of those four buses. Carl Marcotte, Biddeford Public Works, reviewed those buses and was very surprised of the condition. The Dayton buses have high mileage. The State only allows funding for buses when a bus meets both marks of a category. Buses must be 10 years old and must have 125,000 miles. Mileage is not an issue it is the maintenance of the buses. Jeremy expressed there are still a lot of unknowns and we will be recommending establishing a contingency. The portable school building needs work. The interior of buildings need to be painted. There is a large deficit coming our way on the RSU side. The RSU owes Thornton Academy approximately \$766,000. Dayton owns 14.78% of any shortfall and on the Thornton Academy side the town only owes the percentage of our local additional allocation which 9.25%. The RSU froze the budget this year. Should the leftover be to the prior year shortfall or should it be applied to the Thornton Academy bill. Jeremy is recommending to Millie Tuttle, RSU School Board member, that applying the leftover to the shortfall from the other years because we pay a greater percentage of the shortfall than we do to Thornton Academy. Denis Elie stated that we have someone looking out for the town's interest by selecting Jeremy Ray for Superintendent. He is fighting to make sure we are getting our share. The RSU is a messy divorce and Dayton is small piece. We need to budget for the worst case scenario and if we are under budgeting that is fine. Jeremy feels the second year we can look at the economies of scale. For example, Honeywell provides Biddeford with instant call (robo call). Honeywell can provide the same service to Dayton for \$300 per year. Most companies will allow you to bid together but

keep things separate. The town will continue to be tied into the RSU for several years for some items for such items like a lawsuit for unemployment. Jeremy stated that the first year will be based on educated guesses. Jeremy feels 1-3% in the budget for emergency is good. Scott Littlefield asked about buses; the replacement schedule and where kept. Jeremy stated that during the school day probably the buses will be kept in the community and at night kept in Biddeford. The way funding works is at the beginning at the year you take all your buses that qualify and ask for new ones. None of the buses we are getting we put in for a replacement order. Jeremy is trying to put one of the Dayton buses into the 2nd round. Two of the buses qualify for replacement. The town may want to budget for the money up front and you get the whole piece back the next year if you buy it through the State. Or you can lease. We may not an answer until June or July. Biddeford just ordered two buses at the cost of \$162,000. Scott inquired about the bus driver contract. Jeremy stated that the drivers will be under the same contract for one more year. Then after that the teachers may be in one in group and then the support staff may decide to form their own employee bargaining unit. Lisa Morse asked about Thornton Academy taking a refund. Jeremy factors that contributed to the Thornton Academy balloon payment were negotiated uneven payments and the MET going went up by 4%. The budget only had a 1% increase for MET. Jeremy stated the budget still has a lot of moving parts and is an educated guess. Jeremy is concerned with a failed referendum in Saco or OOB even if we pass a budget. His concern is there would a reduction in force and because they are still in the same bargaining unit it could be a possible swing of employees this year that we would not have budgeted for. Jeremy states you will see an estimate for everything. The belief is that if we show every item then when money is cut then you can highlight what is being cut. Denis Elie stated that we need to be sympathetic to the teachers and staff. One of teachers has been there since 1973. This is going to be change. Denis feels this is the best thing for the teachers, kids and taxpayers of Dayton. Jeremy stated that they are looking to hire an assistant superintendent. A separate telephone number has been established for Dayton Superintendent Office. There are currently 350 students K-12 with 140 students at Dayton school. Jeremy is looking forward for this to be a good partnership and a benefit to both municipalities.

3. The Selectmen accepted the following petition for the sale of liquor in Dayton. The Town Clerk had validated the signatures and determined that the required number of signatures was met.

“1. Sale of liquor for consumption on the premises on days other than Sunday. Shall this municipality authorize the State to issue licenses for the sale of liquor to be consumed on the premises of a licensed establishment on days other than Sundays?”

“2. Sale of liquor for consumption on the premises on Sunday. Shall this municipality authorize the State to issue licenses for the sale of liquor to be consumed on the premises of a licensed establishment on Sunday?”.

PUBLIC FORUM:

CORRESPONDENCE:

SIGNED:

1. 03/27/14 A/P Warrant
2. 03/27/14 P/Y Warrant
3. 03/27/14 P/Y GMFR Warrant

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

ADJOURNMENT:

Scott Littlefield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 19:50.

*Minutes may not be verbatim they may have been paraphrased for clarity.

_____ Ted Poirier, Chair

_____ Scott Littlefield

_____ Gerry Taylor

amc