

TOWN OF PATTEN

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www.pattenmaine.org

PATTEN SELECT BOARD

Meeting Minutes

These minutes are not verbatim.

Location: Public Works Garage, 21 Katahdin Street, Patten, ME 04765

Date & Time: Tuesday, October 1st, 2024, at 5:30pm

Called to order by Gregg Smallwood at 5:30pm.

ROLL CALL

Select Board: Gregg Smallwood, Chair; Dennis Kelly, Vice-Chair; Rae Bates, Janice Dancer, Theresa Schmidt

Town Employees: Gail Albert, Town Manager; Billie Doody, Town Clerk; Willow Brooks, Deputy Clerk; Kevin Noyes, Director of Public Works; Brett Morse, Ambulance Director; Julie Buhler, Library Director

Public: Cheryl Morse, Charlie Kenney, Laura Kenney, Randy Bossie, Linda Lyons, Kent Smallwood

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Planning Board Updates

There are no Planning Board updates at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Motion made by Gregg Smallwood to add the MMA Hazard Survey Report, 2025-26 NMDC Membership Dues, and the Brush Cutting Bid to the agenda. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Approve and Sign Warrant #20 for General Government, Water, Sewer

Motion made by G. Smallwood to approve and sign Warrant #20. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Approve and Sign Payroll Warrant #20

Motion made by G. Smallwood to approve and sign Payroll Warrant #20. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Approve and Sign Meeting Minutes for September 17th, 2024

Motion made by G. Smallwood to approve and sign the meeting minutes for September 17th. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

Approve and Sign Meeting Minutes for September 23rd, 2024

Motion made by G. Smallwood to approve and sign the meeting minutes for September 23rd. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Town Manager – Gail Albert

G. Albert: Gail, Kevin, and Julie met with the Lumbermen's Museum last week about ~~some~~ damage that was done to the walkway during the first year of the library renting space in the museum. The Town and Museum agreed the Museum would determine how to fix the pathway and send a proposal to the Town. This will likely take place in 2025.

Gail had a preliminary meeting met with the Friends of the Veteran's Memorial Library to discuss aspects of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Friends.

The E911 Committee met on September 30th, Jason Peavey was elected as Chair of the committee and members discussed a few challenges with addressing in Patten and emergency vehicle access to a specific property. The E911 Committee will meet again on November 12th, before the Select Board meeting.

NMDC and EMDC have been in touch with Gail about the Broadband project, Moose Net by Maine Connective is working to support connectivity between communities.

MMA Hazard Survey Report

A representative from MMA visited the different Town Departments last week for a Hazard Safety Inspection, only 5 minor corrective actions were noted in the report. The inspector was very impressed with Kevin, Brett, and Jason, and Gail thanked them for taking the time to prepare for the inspection.

OLD BUSINESS

Warrant Article for Ambulance Purchase

The Select Board was provided with financing information from Katahdin Trust for the new ambulance purchase, including what payments would look like for 4, 5, or 6 years either monthly or annually. There was a discussion about interest rates, and how there would be less interest paid if the payments on the ambulance were made annually.

Motion made by G. Smallwood to make payments for the new ambulance yearly over 4 years. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

The financing of this ambulance will be voted on by Patten residents at a Special Town Meeting on October 15th, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

Library Grant – Rae Bates

Rae asked the Board for permission to apply for a grant on behalf of the library (up to \$5,000 in literacy materials).

Motion made by G. Smallwood to allow Rae Bates to apply for the literacy materials grant for the Veteran's Memorial Library. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

NMDC Membership Dues

Northern Maine Development Commission provided the Town Office with an invoice for 2025-26 Membership dues, the Select Board agreed for Gail to save this information for the Budget Committee for the 2025 budgeting process.

2024 Tax Abatements

Some abatements must be made due to clerical errors in the Town Office's system for creating tax bills. Reasons include homestead exemptions that weren't applied, a tax-exempt organization that received a tax bill, etc. There was a separate abatement request from a resident that might need to complete a different form.

Motion made by G. Smallwood to approve the abatements for clerical errors, and table the abatement request that might require a different form. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 4/0/1 abstention.**

Brush Cutting Bid

The Town received one bid for bush hogging at the old landfill.

Motion made by G. Smallwood to accept the bid from Corey Lane for \$600 for brush cutting at the landfill. Seconded by D. Kelly, no discussion heard. **Approved 5/0/0.**

SELECT BOARD COMMENTS

Rae distributed to the Board the response she received from MMA Legal regarding rising costs of ambulance services, this item will be added to the agenda for the Select Board meeting on October 15th. Rae also discussed the Friends of the Veteran's Memorial downsizing their floor plan for the new library.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

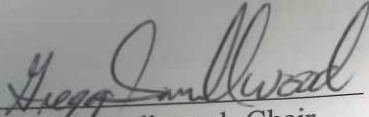
Brett discussed with the Select Board how the MMA Inspector was impressed with the work done to prepare for the inspection at the Ambulance Bay, and that Randy Bossie and Cheryl Morse donated their time to get the Bay ready as well.


EXECUTIVE SESSION under 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6) (A) and 1 M.R.S.A § 405(6) (E)

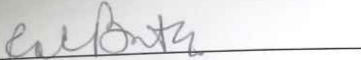
Executive Session minutes are part of a separate document.


Meeting Minutes for October 1, 2024

Approved by the Select Board on October 15, 2024


Gregg Smallwood, Chair


Dennis Kelly, Vice-Chair


Rae Bates


Theresa Schmidt


Janice Dancer