

JOINT SELECT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

6:00 PM – Conference Room Minutes

Call to Order at 6:00 PM by Joint Board Chair, Maylen Kenney

Present – Barry Buck, Kim Archer, Scott Young, Joe Powers, Matt Gregg, Patricia Sutherland, Charles Beaulieu II, Terry Hanlon, Milford Maynard, Isaac Braley, Ryan Spooner, Shari Cheney, Hermon Condon, and Scott Cheney.

Absent – None

Staff Present – Sandra Fournier, Town Manager and Chris Woodworth, Road Commissioner.

Public Comments - None.

Approve Minutes of Previous Joint Board Meeting January 23, 2024 - Motion was made by **Sheri Cheney** to approve the minutes as presented. Second by **Archer**. Motion passed 15-0.

Old Business – None.

New Business

Elect Joint Board Chair – This year the Joint Board Chair must be appointed by the Town of Chapman. A motion was made by **Beaulieu II** to appoint Patricia Sutherland as the 2024 Joint Board Chair. Second by **Hanlon**. Motion passed 15-0

Consider 2024 – 2026 Auditing Services Bid Proposals – The Towns only received 1-bid from Chester M. Kearney. The Town Manager explained that it had become increasingly difficult for municipalities to solicit for auditing services. Most firms are not taking on new clients. Chester M. Kearney have a great turn-around time on audits and the office staff state that it's always a pleasure working with Chester M. Kearney and support continuing to work with the auditing firm. Motion was made by **Buck** to approve the bid received from Chester M. Kearney for 2024 - \$14,700, 2025 - \$15,000, and 2026 - \$15,000. Second by **Kenney**. Motion passed 15-0.

Consider East Chapman Culvert Repair Bid Proposals – One bid was received from The Allen Company for \$57,200 to replace the culvert on the East Chapman Road, at Dockendorf Brook. This project is a joint expenditure as the Board already approved this project to paid through ARPA funding. Motion was made by **Powers** to approve The Allen Company bid for \$57,200. Second by **Shari Cheney**. Motion passed 15-0.

Consider Air Packs and Bottles Bid Proposals - The Fire Department was awarded a FEMA grant to purchase new air packs and bottles. The Fire Chief stated that the 14-air packs are considered obsolete, but still have a usefulness to other departments within the County. The 24-air bottles have a shelf-life range of 12 – 9 years. The shelf life of a brand-new air bottle is 15 years. Motion was made by **Powers** to approve the bid received from the Town of Mars Hill for \$3,525 for all 14-air packs and 24-air bottles. Second by **Shari Cheney**. Motion passed 15-0.

Consider 2024 – 2025 ACO Contract Service with County of Aroostook (ScoPan) – This is a yearly contract with the County of Aroostook to provide animal control services to the

Unorganized Territory T11 R4, also known as ScoPan. Motion was made by **Kenney** to approve the Town Manager to sign the contract, pending the language under section 3 is changed to state *“To pay \$0.67 per mile (Federal IRS Rate) for each mile that the Contractors ACO uses a vehicle while working on ACO related issues in to ScoPan Township.”* Second by **Powers**. Motion passed 15-0.

Discuss Seasonal Roadside Mowing – The Road Commissioner addressed the Board with concerns on soliciting for roadside mowing services. In the past this item was a contracted service and has become increasingly difficult to solicit bids. In 2023 the Towns advertised and received zero bids. The Road Commissioner would like the Board’s permission to begin receiving quotes for a new mower and tractor to perform this duty inhouse. The Town contracts to mow over 144 miles of mowing, which equates to approximately 280 acres.

The Town Manager presented a brief financial summary on how a purchase would be made utilizing the Undesignated Fund balance and remaining ARPA fund balance. As this equipment purchase was not part of the capital equipment replacement schedule. With an estimated price of \$100,000, utilizing the remaining ARPA fund balance of \$23,000, the balance of \$77,000 would be split based upon the Highway formula towards each communities Undesignated Fund balance. Mapleton - \$40,070, Castle Hill - \$17,625, and Chapman - \$19,311.

A motion was made by **Maylen** to solicit once again roadside mowing services and receive new price quotes on the equipment purchase. Both items will be presented at the next Joint Board meeting to discuss and review. Second by **Kenney**. Motion passed 15-0.

Review and Approve Town Manager Appointments – The Town Manager presented the Board with a list of staff appointments for the 2024 year. Motion was made by **Kenney** to approve the appointments as presented. Second by **Powers**. Motion passed 15-0.

Other – Joint Board member Isaac Braley wished to discuss the backhoe for the Highway Department. This piece of equipment is scheduled to be replaced in 2031. Given the lengthy turn around time for replacement parts and given the fact the model is no longer manufactured by John Deere, it may be best to consider replacing this equipment sooner than later while there is a high trade-in value. A brief discussion was had with the other Joint Board members and the Road Commissioner if this may be feasible purchase to consider.

The Town Manager presented the equipment replacement schedule to the Board. Given the current reserve amount balance, at most the Town would be able to move the purchase of a backhoe from 2031 to 2027, without jeopardizing the purchase of other vital pieces of equipment for the department. The Town Manager suggested outside of this option would be to utilize each Towns’ Undesignated Fund balance to fund the purchase and in 2027, the reserve account would pay back each Towns’ Undesignated Fund. Using an estimated price of \$150,000 for a new backhoe, this would result in Mapleton - \$81,702, Castle Hill - \$35,937, and Chapman - \$39,375.

The Joint Board requested that the Road Commissioner solicit quotes for a new backhoe and what a trade-in value would be for the current backhoe. This will be discussed at the next Joint Board meeting.

Set Next Meeting Date(s): As there is need to follow up on a few agenda items, the Joint Board will meet again on May 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.