

# TOWN OF LIVERMORE

## Board of Selectpersons

### MEETING MINUTES

August 22, 2017

6:30 PM

**BOARD:** Tom Gould, Mark Chretien, Scott Richmond, Wayne Timberlake, Megan Dion

**DEPT HEADS:** Don Castonguay, Roger Ferland, Tim Cox

**RESIDENTS:** Dwight Hines, Patty Cox, Don Moreau

**PRESS:** Pam Harnden

#### MEETING

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes - August 8, 2017
  - a. Mark made a motion to accept the minutes as written; Second by Wayne. VOTE: unanimous
3. Reports:
  - a. Cemetery Committee Report – TIM COX
    - i. Mr. Cox presented various complaints from residents & the cemetery mowing contractor including excessive decorations and overgrown permanent plantings. There is also an issue with some items blowing onto other graves. Mr. Cox presented pictures taken recently at Lakeside Cemetery. He asked if the Cemetery Committee could enact a policy OR if the Board would consider an Ordinance. He referenced a private Livermore Falls cemetery in which he posted signs and it has worked well. He stated he placed signs at an East Livermore cemetery as well, but it isn't working as well. Megan asked if there are written bylaws. Tim stated, "Yes." Scott suggested that if we have written bylaws, we should put signs up. Tim asked about enforcement. Amy will check with MMA regarding by-Laws and proposed changes. Scott stated if we have a policy, he felt it would be within the Sexton's Authority to enforce these issues. Tim stated that Perpetual Care money goes to the Town to offset maintenance and mowing.
    - ii. Amy has been researching the amount of interest available for use. Tim stated he would like to use the interest for tree removal. Tom asked about the rules related to using the funds. Tim assumes there was a policy dating back to when the Town acquired cemeteries from churches, associations, etc. He has some records that he acquired after Mr. Stires passed away. He will locate those and bring them to the Town Office. He says there are two private cemeteries – the rest are Town. (The private cemeteries include half of the cemetery on Maple Lane and half of the cemetery on the Goding Road.)

b. Fire Department Report – DON CASTONGUAY

- i. Donald reported the department currently has 17 members, with 2 on-call medics. He reported the response is fairly good during day and excellent at night.
- ii. Donald gave an update on the trucks:
  1. Engine 2 is in good shape.
  2. Rescue has had welding done on the frame; the cascade system is operational; it has had brake and exhaust work. The lettering is almost done.
  3. Engine 1 has some problems including major rust issues and wiring. Donald would like to fully refurb the truck and thereby extending the life of the truck 15 years. He said this should be done within the next two years. He said the truck has had grounding issues since it was purchased. There are also some issues with the pump which should be looked at. He stated the Town paid \$195,000 for the truck and it would be close to \$400,000 to replace it now.
  4. Brush truck is still in good condition.
- iii. Donald stated the new building generator was placed tonight. It will be hooked up for propane Monday and should be online in a month.
- iv. Donald presented quotes on replacing the apron in front of the bay doors. (The apron has sagged in front of the bay doors, causing water and ice to back up and rot out the trim.) The quotes are from Auburn Concrete - \$6,500, Jason Gibbs - \$6,500 and Marco Grimaldi - \$10,000. Donald said he prefers concrete would also consider repaving depending on the cost. He added it would be almost \$4,000 to cut out the existing payment and dig up and area extending 25 ft from the building. Scott said his concern with concrete would be the salt usage. Wayne said he has had concrete for 15 years and has had no issue with salt eating into it. There was discussion on sealing it, however the concrete needs to age a year before a sealant can be applied. Donald will gather some information regarding the cost of paving and report back to the Board.
- v. Donald told the Board that he was able to save the Department some money by switching paging programs. The current provider costs \$550/year. The State has its own portal that is available free of charge. It includes an App called "I am Responding" that is loaded on members' cell phones. Donald stated each member can text a response and it includes mapping for \$300/year. He is exploring putting a US Cellular tablet on Engine 1 at a cost of \$10/month. He said it would be used for record keeping such as emergency contacts, etc.

c. Town Clerk Report – N/A

d. Highway Foreman Report – ROGER FERLAND

- i. Roger reports that tree removal is done on Robinson. He said that during excavation, they ran into granite and he expects the bill to be closer to \$6,000 instead of \$3,000.
- ii. Roger asked Amy to give the Board an update on the Turkey Land Turn Around. Amy said the Turn-Around Agreement was all set as far as the Town is concerned. Mr. Serewicz is waiting for a response from RSU 73 before removing the fence. Roger stated Mr. Serewicz asked about cleaning up the turn-around and the possibility of planting some grass on the edges of the turn-around. Roger felt that it might be best to wait for Spring to give the grass a chance to get started without plowing equipment ripping it up.
- iii. Roger reports that the Department has been ditching on Waters Hill Road. They started on the North Side and have approximately 450 ft done.
- iv. Scott asked Roger about Bruce Manzer's time line to start on Robinson Road. Roger said it will be 2 – 3 weeks and that he has a few culverts to do before paving.

e. Treasurer Report – AMY BYRON

- i. Amy reported that Excise Tax collected to date in August is \$28,445.52 – 104% of the monthly goal based on last year’s revenue projection.
- ii. Amy expects that Budget Numbers will be “rolled into” TRIO this week. She said she has been working with Paul and things are looking good to get the Tax Bills out this week or next if the Board votes on a Mil Rate. (Four scenarios will be presented later in the meeting.)
- iii. Revenue continues to stream in and no TAN advances are anticipated. The balances are higher than they have been in the past several years.
- iv. Amy reported there are 97 accounts in Lien Status for 2017 – totaling \$81,127.96 (She will be filing Liens later this week.)

f. Administrative Report – AMY BYRON

- i. Amy reported that she will be meeting with a potential phone system provider. She should have some budget numbers for the next meeting.
- ii. Amy plans to attend NIMS 402 training in Livermore Falls instead of Auburn. It is scheduled for September 7 at 6 PM.
- iii. Amy said that due to the Labor Day holiday, she will need time cards by Thursday morning. She will be processing payroll on Thursday – any time on Friday or Saturday should be estimated and adjustments will be made on the next pay cycle.
- iv. All Town Departments will be closed on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day.
- v. Amy reminded the Board Members who may wish to attend the County Spirit of America presentation, that it will be held at the County Building on Wednesday, September 13 at 6:30 PM.
- vi. Amy provided the Board with copies of a proposed revision to the Limited Commercial Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Board intends to hold a Public Hearing in the future and at some point, present this to the Residents for a vote.

4. Old Business

a. FY 2018 Tax Rate Review

- i. Amy reviewed all four scenarios and the effect on Overlay. Tom reminded the Board that the Town is apt to “get hit” next year with increased property values and a larger school bill. He suggested it may be easier to handle small incremental changes rather than remain steady and face a large increase next year. Amy reminded those present of the increase in Homestead Exemption. She said that a Mil Rate of 16.4 on a \$200,000 valuation would be the break even point. (Property owners with a value less than \$200,000 would see a slight decrease in their tax bill.)
  1. Mark made a motion to set the FY 2018 Mil Rate at 16.4; Second by Wayne  
VOTE: unanimous

5. New Business

a. Go Gold in September!

- i. Amy presented a draft copy of the Go Gold Proclamation and asked for the Board’s permission to join the cause.
- ii. Scott made a motion; Second by Mark. VOTE: unanimous

6. Public Comment

a. Dwight:

- i. Mr. Hines reminded the Board that Jay's Town Manager, Shiloh recently received an award. He also reminded the Board that Livermore Falls Town Manager, Kristal Flagg resigned. He went on to talk about local TV stations and said there are connections to 5 stations locally and he would like to see more.
- ii. He told the Board fund raising for Hearts & Souls is going well and the non-profit has found a coordinator.
- iii. He stated he has had no answer from MMA. He said that Senator Keim was appointed to a committee on legal representation and he expects new legislation on the "right to know". He went on to say that "PDF only" advice from MMA is bad and it shows bad faith on MMA's part.
- iv. He stated he may present a recall petition on ballot this year. He hasn't decided yet.

b. Don Moreau:

- i. Mr. Moreau stated he felt the voters keep elected officials in check. He does not see the need for a recall petition.

7. Adjourn – 7:47 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Amy L. Byron, Administrative Assistant to the Board