

**Town of Sumner - Select Board Minutes**  
**May 23, 2023 6:00 pm**  
**Budget Committee Meeting 5:00 pm**

**Members present:** Mary Ann Haxton, Don Munroe, Kelly Stewart, Shawn Corson, Sherry Sullivan, Laurie Arsenault

**Public present:** Matt Demillo, Wally Litchfield, Joel Chapman, Kristen Chapman, Lori Hand, Susan Runes, Frannie Babb, John Guy, Dorothy Hinshaw, Cheryl Savage, Bill Savage, Chris Tripp, Brian Bullocks, Douglas Fournier

**Reading of the Minutes was approved with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Munroe and voted.**

**Warrant #18**

Checks	15026 – 15037	\$124,096.93
Receipts	1759 - 1829	\$53,281.08
2022-2023 Tax Collected	\$1,292,394.94	87.59%
2021-2022 Tax Collected	\$1,275,991.14	88.23%

**Open Session:**

**RSU #10 Report: Joel Chapman**

Chapman stated that behavioral issues in the school system are worsening; Eastman is struggling to identify ways to regulate emotions and behaviors. A restorative practices position was created to offer additional support to staff and students. Chapman participated in the interviews for the restorative practices position.

**CEO/LPI Report: Fred Collins**

Sullivan stated that per Kelly Stewart's email, tenants would be moving into the Front Street property on June 1<sup>st</sup>. An update has not been received from CEO, Fred Collins.

**Roads Report: Shawn Corson**

FEMA Wash Out- Corson reported that he is caught up on washouts. Damon Road not passable to River Road, Paris Hill Road bridge is still out of service. Corson will also be meeting with FEMA for the December and May storms.

**ACO Report: Shawn Corson**

Corson reported that there was a call regarding a loose goose in town. Calls have remained relatively inactive.

**Fire Department Report: Doug Fournier**

Fournier reported that trucks will need tires and to complete hose testing. The firefighters will be going for physicals before the firefighter 1 and 2 training begins.

**Forms, Reports, Correspondence:**

**New Business:**

Haxton addressed a resident's concern regarding the town office hours of operation. Haxton stated that hours are reduced to accommodate the ongoing investigations with Bernstein Shur and the Oxford County Sheriff's Department. The investigations have created a larger workload for Sullivan during an already busy time of year. Haxton requested that residents remain patient as the town moves forward in the process. Babb raised concern that the compensation for the

number of hours open is unfair. Babb stated that the town office building should operate in accordance with the needs of the residents. Hinshaw questioned if Saturday hours would be an option in the future. Sullivan stated that it would be a possibility for Saturday hours but is unwilling to be available at those times due to the questioning surrounding wages and benefits. Babb questioned the status of the financial audit to which Sullivan replied that the audit is in progress but has been unsuccessful in contacting the town auditor on a consistent basis. Sullivan provided documentation to support the lack of response from Hoisington & Bean over the past year. Sullivan stated that the state auditor has not received official documentation from the auditor since 2018.

Town Office Repairs – Sullivan read an update from Don Munroe regarding the status of the building repairs. Munroe stated that the roof leak was repaired. The chimney needs to be mortared. Munroe will repair it in the upcoming weeks. The bladder around the stink pipe has caved in and looks brittle. Repair will be attempted but may need to be replaced. The mold in the boiler room was contained. Munroe completed a UV water filtration class and will be servicing the system as soon as possible.

Ballot Clerks for June 13<sup>th</sup> Ballot clerks will be Dorothy Hinshaw and Gail Eastman.

**Old Business:**

CEBE Grant Claire McGlinchey from CEBE helping with resilience stated our next step is to decide what we want to use the grant for; deadline is that grants are due is July 7<sup>th</sup>. CEBE will assist in grant writing There are eight ideas for Sumner’s resolution: energy efficiency streetlights, appliances, heat pumps, professional development-CEO training, capital investment plan-new construction. We have up to two years to use grant money.

Haxton made a motion to sell plots at Black Mountain Cemetery upon receiving the map plot list from Chris Bragg. Stewart seconded and the vote carried. Half plots will be sold for \$750.00.

Town Official Investigation Update- Investigation will be finished up this week or next week; the county investigation is ongoing.

**Upcoming events:**

RSU 10 Annual Budget Meeting May 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm at Mountain Valley High School

RSU 10 Referendum June 13<sup>th</sup> at 8 am

Annual Town Meeting August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm with a motion by Haxton, seconded by Steward and so voted.