TOWN OF EAGLE LAKE

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING**

**September 15, 2021**

1. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Arthur Carroll at **5:35** P.M.

The Board members present included: Arthur Carroll, Brian Devoe, Raymond Saucier,

and Wendy Dube.

Others in attendance were: Town Manager John Sutherland and Deputy Clerk

Apryl Gagnon.

2. PUBLIC HEARING: To gather public input for updating the General Assistance Ordinance:

The Public Hearing opened at 5:30 p.m. by Board Chair, Arthur Carroll. The Board

reviewed the new updates in the General Assistance Maximums for the Town of Eagle

Lake’s General Assistance program. The Town of Eagle Lake follows State of Maine

recommendations for General Assistance. They reviewed the updates from 2020-2021 to

 2021-2022. John Sutherland explained that General Assistance is based on income to

help determine need. Heating assistance during the cold winter months are one of the

biggest needs for General Assistance in our community. John stated that during the

previous winter, he was surprised by the fact that zero requests were submitted for heating

assistance. Arthur Carroll asked if there were any comments from the public regarding

proposed new maximums. Hearing none, Arthur proposed closing the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Moved by Wendy Dube to accept the General Assistance Maximums for the upcoming

year, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

3. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

a. Micro Loan

 TR02122020 was contacted on September 8, 2021 and informed that the account

 is behind. The account holder came in the following week and applied two payments

 to his account.

 All other accounts are up to date.

b. Apartment number 14 is currently behind in rent for August and September. John

 Sutherland has spoken with tenant and he plans to come in and pay for August and

 have rent up to date by the end of October.

 All other accounts are current.

 Travis Delisle has completed the roof replacement at Pond Brook Estates.

 Apartment # 11 has moved out. The apartment was inspected by the Town Manager

 and Maintenance and no major issues were found other than normal wear and tear.

 Maintenance has started to clean the apartment and the security deposit will be

 returned to the tenants.

c. Roads

 Jim Bouchard plans on beginning the work on Sly Brook Road on Monday,

 September 13, 2021. As of September 15, 2021, he had not started the road work.

 John Sutherland will be in contact with Jim to get an update on when he plans on

 starting to work on the road.

 Chris Cote has started flushing out the culverts on Albert Street. Chris informed John

 that the culverts had not been flushed out for a number of years and it will be a lot of

 work to get the flushing caught up so the water will drain properly. John and Chris

 are going to plan on scheduling this to be done on a yearly basis as part of the

 summer work plan.

d. NASWA

 NASWA had their public hearing for the License Amendment Update on Tuesday,

 August 31, 2021. Three NASWA Board members and John attended. They went

 through the material and John informed Eric Hamlin, from Maine D.E.P., about the

 meeting. Eric was pleased that the Board had a public hearing and that he looks

 forward to working with John to update NASWA Operations License for the transfer

 station.

 One issue that NASWA always had was lack of water for putting out fires

 from the brush pile. The issue was resolved with the purchase of a 1,500-gallon

 water tank and a water pump from a resident of Winterville. This will be a huge

 asset for Reynold Hebert when he burns the brush pile during the summer months.

 NASWA’s next quarterly meeting is Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at

 the Eagle Lake Town Office.

e. Eagle Lake Fire Department

 Last month, the Eagle Lake Fire Department did a training using the Jaws of Life to

 disassemble a car. They used a battery powered unit which lasted the whole

 training, and Robert St. Germain is recommending that the Fire Department get one

 of these battery powered units for the Eagle Lake Fire Department.

 Rene is working on getting four of his firefighters ready for Fire Fighter 1 training

 this fall.

f. Junk Yard Update

 Ricky and Vicky have made significant progress in cleaning up their properties on

 Old Main Street and Aroostook Road. The Board asked John to convey their

 appreciation to Ricky and Vicki for the amount of work they have done to clean up

 these properties.

 Bruce Dube asked John about some assistance for the letters to be sent out to the

 abutting property owners and what the time frame would be for a public hearing.

 Bruce was reminded that he received a letter stating that he is expected to cease

 storing metal at his site until he gets his scrap metal permit approved by the Board of

 Selectmen. Bruce informed John that he is storing his scrap metal at another site until he gets Board approval for his site. The Board discussed that Bruce needs to

follow the proper chain of events before the Board even agrees to approval of the permit which consists of letters to the property abutters, a plan of operations, along with the application for the Board, then a Public Hearing for abutters to voice any opinions or concerns that they may have. Once these steps are taken, the Board will make their decision.

4. MONTHLY FINANCIALS-August 2021

Review monthly financials for August 2021.

a. Bank Reconciliations; Including Pond Brook

 Moved by Wendy Dube to accept the Town Bank Reconciliation and Pond Brook

 Estates Bank Reconciliation for August, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

b. Sample Check Audit

 Moved by Wendy Dube to accept the Sample Check Audit for August 2021, seconded by

 Brian Devoe.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

c. Sign Warrants

 Moved by Brian Devoe to accept and sign the Warrants for August 2021, seconded by

 Wendy Dube.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

d. Micro Loan

 Moved by Brian Devoe to accept the Micro Loan Reconciliation for August 2021, seconded

by Raymond Saucier.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

 No Comments.

6. REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES:

 The Board reviewed the minutes of August 18 and August 20, 2021.

 AUGUST 18, 2021 BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING

 Moved by Brian Devoe to accept the August 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Raymond

 Saucier.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

 AUGUST 20, 2021 BOARD OF ASSESSOR’S MEETING

 Moved by Raymond Saucier to accept the August 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes, seconded by

 Wendy Dube.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

7. REVIEW AND CONSIDER BIDS FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS

 Fuel Bids

 Dead River came in with a bid price for heating oil with a fixed rate of 2.3732 and rack rate of

2.45879. Daigle Oil came in with a bid price for heating oil with a fixed rate of 2.485 and rack

rate of 2.8705.

Moved by Brian Devoe to accept the bid from Dead River with a fixed rate price of 2.3732 and

rack rate of 2.45879 based on price, seconded by Wendy Dube.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

 Winter Road Salt Bids:

 New England Salt Company placed a bid for the annual winter road salt at $80.05/ton. Maine

Salt Company placed a bid for the annual winter road salt at $80.00/ton. The Board commented

on how close the bid prices are.

Moved by Raymond Saucier to accept the bid for Winter Road Salt from Maine Salt Company

at $80.00/ton based on price, seconded by Brian Devoe.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

 Winter Road Maintenance for Sly Brook Road Bids:

 Patrick Caron placed a bid for a 3-year contract for snow removal on Sly Brook Road.

 For year 2021-2022 - $48,000

 For year 2022-2023 - $48,000

 For year 2023-2024 - $48,000

 Paul Lozier placed a bid for the 3-year contract for snow removal on Sly Brook Road.

 For year 2021-2022 - $35,000

 For year 2022-2023 - $36,000

 For year 2023-2024 - $36,500

 Moved by Raymond Saucier to accept the bid for the 3-year contract for Winter Road

Maintenance on Sly Brook Road from Paul Lozier with a total amount of $107,500 based on

price, seconded by Brian Devoe.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

8. REVIEW AND CONSIDER FINANCING FOR A NEW GROOMER

 The Eagle Lake Winter Riders are looking to purchase a new groomer to replace their 2009

 Piston Bully 100. The new model that they are looking at is a Piston Bully 100 TF. The cost of

this new groomer is $255,500. The Winter Riders received a grant from the Maine Capitol
Equipment Grant for $80,000. They were able to sell their current groomer for $55,000 and Club President John Frances informed the town that he has $70,000 to put towards the new groomer. The Club is looking at financing $50,500 and John Frances is willing to make an annual payment around $10,000.

Craig Staples from Katahdin Trust sent over two options for financing the outstanding balance of $50,500. Both these options are for an annual interest rate of 2.30%. For a payment term of 5 years, the annual payment would be $10,817.83. For a 6-year payment term, the annual payment will be $9,117.18. John Frances has informed the Town Manager that the payment of $10,817.83 is doable for the snowmobile club.

The Municipal Warrant addressed this issue with Article 8. The article asked the Legislative Body to approve a loan for a new groomer to be paid by the Eagle Lake Winter Riders using proceeds of the State of Maine Municipal Grant in Aid that is received annually to provide funds to reimburse local snowmobile clubs for snowmobile trail grooming. The article authorized up to $100,000 with a payment term not to exceed 10 years. The yearly amount of the note is not to exceed $11,375.45. The total loan amount, term and payment amount of this loan proposal is within the amount approved at town meeting.

Moved by Raymond Saucier to approve the 5-year payment of $10,817.83, seconded by Brian Devoe.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

9. TREES IN MEMORIAL PARK

Brian Bouchard is purchasing the R&M Country store from Ronald Soucy and Margaret Simard

He and his wife plan to rename the store B&C Pit Stop Inc. Brian presented the Town Manager

letter from his insurer, United Insurance, informing him that they had concerns with the trees

located on the side of the building, in the Memorial Park. The Insurer cited that spill from the

trees landing in the driveway and being tracked into the store could potentially cause a slip and

fall issue. They also stated that the trees along the roof line could prevent air circulation and

cause mold build up.

Brian Bouchard is requesting from the Board that all trees be trimmed and possibly remove the

first three trees. Brian stated to John that he has equipment to complete this task and he offered

to replant more trees.

Moved by Brian Devoe to hold a Public Hearing to discuss trimming and removal of trees in the

Memorial Park, seconded by Wendy Dube.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

10. ARPA PROGRAM ADINISTRATOR

County Manager, Ryan Pelletier informed us that Aroostook County received 13 million dollars

as part of the ARPA act. Ryan is making the funds available to Aroostook County communities

in the form of grants that communities will apply for. The County is requesting 2 percent of

each community’s ARPA funds to help offset the cost of the Administrator’s position. If a

community does not sign on they can still apply for funds received by the County but the

communities will be responsible to pay an hourly rate to the County for the Administrator to

process the federal paperwork.

Arthur Carroll spoke to County Administrator Ryan Pelletier regarding Eagle Lake’s ability to

access County ARPA funds received by Aroostook County. Ryan explained that the funding

will be divided in three sections. One section is around Houlton, the second section will be

around Presque Isle and Caribou, and the third area will be the St. John Valley. The funds will

be awarded to communities like grants.

Moved by Raymond Saucier to sign the agreement with Aroostook County to provide 2 percent

of the amount of ARPA funds received by the Town of Eagle Lake to help fund the Aroostook

County ARPA Program Administrator and have the Administrator process the Federal Reporting

 Requirements incurred by the Town of Eagle Lake for ARPA funds received from Aroostook

 County, seconded by Wendy Dube.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

Moved by Raymond Saucier to accept funds from the ARPA and open a separate account to

keep the funds received in, seconded by Brian Devoe.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

11. OPEN POLLS 8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M. ACCORDING TO 21-A M.R.S.A. ARTICLE 2 SECTION

 626 FOR THE NOVEMBER 2, 2021 STATE OF MAINE REFERENDUM APPOINT ELECTION

 WARDEN AND ELECTION CLERKS

 John informed the Board that he is requesting Tom Roy be appointed as Election Warden and

 Denise martin be appointed as Election Clerk for the upcoming November 2, 2021 State of

 Maine referendum election and that the polls be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Moved by Brian Devoe to open the polls from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the State of Maine

Referendum Election on Tuesday, November 2, 2021 and to appoint Tom Roy as Election

Warden and appoint Denise Martin as Election Clerk, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 1 M.R.S.A.405 § (6) (A) PERSONNEL MATTER

 MANAGER’S CONTRACT

 Moved by Raymond Saucier to enter into Executive Session to review and consider the

 Town Manager’s proposed contract, seconded by Brian Devoe.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

 The Board went into Executive Session at 8:07 p.m.

 The Board exited Executive Session at 8:24 p.m.

 Moved by Wendy Dube to sign the Town Manager’s Contract, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

 A community member came in with questions in regards to excise tax reimbursement. She came

in to register a new registration transfer, which means she wanted to take a registration that she

currently had on a vehicle she sold and transfer it to a new vehicle she bought which actually

gave her a credit. She requested that this credit be applied to her Real Estate Property tax. In

discussion the Board agreed that it would be better to issue the resident a check for the credit.

The credit will be on the October Warrant.

Moved by Brian Devoe to issue a check for credit of the excise tax to the Eagle Lake resident,

seconded by Raymond Saucier.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

Board member requested the status on reassessment of Birch Haven, Loon Echo, Old Mill

Marina, and Overlook Motel RV sites. John indicated that the sites have not been assessed due

to Louis Cousins, Assessor not being available. John is to contact Louis to schedule a time to

meet and assess the properties.

Board discussed moving forward that the bids for grading on Sly Brook Road and Gilmore

Brook Road be advertised in March or April and be completed right after mud season to

decrease the rough wet roads that was experienced this past spring. Also, to add in the bid

packet a second grading period in late summer.

Board discussed road work and paving of lower Old Main Street. John and Brian are to work

together to come up with some specs for bids to do shoulder work on lower Old Main Street

before any hot top is poured and have the project done by June of 2022.

14. ADJOURN

 Moved by Wendy Dube to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:45 p.m., seconded by Brian Devoe.

 Vote: Unanimously in favor.