

PALMYRA SELECT BOARD MINUTES

5-14-2025

Members Present: Brian Barrows, Herbert Bates, David Gilbert, Michael Cray and Charles Fields

Citizens: David Leavitt, Diane & Pat White, Gail Jones, Neil & Mary Page, Lorna & Ron Rowe, Claude Thornton, Denise Bemis.

6:00 pm – Meeting called to order by Chairman Brian Barrows - Flag Salute

Announcements: Town Office will be closed Monday May 26 in observance of Memorial Day and Mondays thereafter starting 4 day work week in June. The Library will be open Tuesdays 10:00 to Noon instead of Mondays beginning May 27th.
RSU Budget Validation Meeting is Tuesday May 20th 7pm at the High School

6:01 Motion by Mike to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 MRSA, Section 405, subsection 6(A) for Employee Reviews with Priscilla and Diane, Dave second. AIF Priscilla went in first.

6:30 Priscilla returned and Diane joined the Board.

6:47 Motion by Dave to come out of executive session, Mike second. AIF

Reports:

Public Works – Gravel Roads have been Graded. Gravel left from rebuild of the Gale Road is being hauled to the Garage. Received an offer of used metal roofing for the shed at the Garage. Culverts at 77 Bagderboro Road are in bad shape, may need to be replaced.

Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) – Report Submitted

Planning Board – Minutes Submitted – Dave Leavitt informed the Board that the Planning Board is working on the Poulin Subdivision Application. They have some issues they would like to speak to the Town's Attorney about. A meeting will be set up for 2 Select Board Members, 2 Planning Board Members and Priscilla to meet with Attorney next Wednesday or Thursday if possible.

Administrative Assistant/Treasurer – Will be changing TRIO over to Web system next week. ABM is planning to come next week for repairs to the heating system.

Unfinished Business:

- Motion by Dave to accept minutes of last meeting as written, Herb second. AIF
- Mowing Contract with GA Tasker was signed by the Board.
- Mike made a motion to accept Bid from Engstrom & Tumosa Tree for \$5000, Charlie second. Bid is to take down and remove 3 trees from the Warren Hill Cemetery. Vote - AIF
- Brian has part he hopes is needed to get keyless entry working. New doors require an upgrade in power.

New Business:

- The Board signed Warrants for the RSU 25 -26 Budget to be voted on June 10th.
- Mike made a motion to issue Quit Claim Deed for Map 15, Lot 33, Dave second. Delinquent taxes have been paid in full. Vote – AIF

- Mike made a motion to hire Norman Moody as Road Commissioner at \$25 per hour, Dave second. 4 in Favor Brian abstained, did not take part in the interview process.
- Mike made a motion to hire Corey Collins for Public Works at \$20 per hour, Herb second. 4 in Favor - Brian abstained Both are full time. Corey needs to have pre-employment physical and drug test. 90 day Probationary Period for both.
- Mike made a motion to certify at 100%, Dave second. Certified Ratio Declaration for 2025 Property Taxes is due June 2nd. Maine Revenue Services analysis shows Palmyra's ratio to be at 85%. In order to certify at 100% adjustments to values will need to be made by the Assessor.
- Bid process for Paving and Parking Lot projects was tabled.
- Charlie asked about repairing trim on roof to modular. Budget for building maintenance will cover cost. Charlie told to go ahead.
- Motion by Charlie to drop the abatement appeal to Superior Court, Herb second. Motion due to cost of appeal. Funds have already been spent and integrity of our tax records is at stake. Certified Ratio has already dropped 15% since revaluation. After much discussion vote was taken. Charlie and Herb in Favor, Brian and Dave against and Mike abstained. Vote failed for lack of a majority.

Payroll & AP Warrants signed

Meeting Adjourned 7:59

Respectfully Submitted, Priscilla Jones