



*Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen*  
*145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865*

**PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:**

**DATE:** January 15, 2018

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:34pm

**SELECTMEN:**

Selectman, John Sherman, Chairman	Selectman, Tammy Bergeron, Vice Chair - Excused
Selectman, Steve Ranlett	Selectman, Julian Kiszka
Selectman, Peter Bracci	Town Manager, Mark Pearson
Finance Director/Assistant Town Manager, Greg Colby	

**PRIZES FOR POTABLE WATER SURVEY**

M. Pearson states the Potable Water Survey was mailed out in November. In an effort to increase the responses, M. Pearson had previously asked the Board to allow prizes to be given to some of the responders who returned the questionnaire by December 1, 2017. Tonight 36 residents will be awarded their prizes. Each Selectman calls out 9 names. The winners who are present are recognized and handed their prize. M. Pearson thanks everyone for coming and participating even those who were unable to attend tonight.

**MINUTES**

*S. Ranlett motions to approve the minutes of January 8, 2018. Seconded by P. Bracci.*

*Vote: 4-0-0*

*Motion passes*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Barbara Kiszka, May Ray Avenue states she is disappointed in the behavior of Selectman T. Bergeron since the car accident in April 2017. She feels no remorse or accountability has been shown by T. Bergeron and this behavior is not good conduct for a Selectman.

**REVIEW VOTERS GUIDE**

J. Sherman mentions article P-18-24, Allowance of Keno. The Board previously voted to place it on the ballot but there are two versions approved by NH State Lottery for the wording of the article. He would like the Board to consider changing from the current version to the other one written as "to see if the town will vote to allow the operation of Keno within the town pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 284:41 through 51."

P. Bracci does not think the word "fund" in the first sentence is appropriate because Keno would not fully fund full-day kindergarten. He inquires if Plaistow can have Keno since there is no full-day kindergarten in town.

However, there is full day kindergarten if parents pay for it.

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***J. Kiszka motions to add number (3) to the explanation of article P-18-24 as, “all schools with full day kindergarten are eligible for this funding whether or not keno is allowed in town”.  
Seconded by P. Bracci.***

***Discussion: P. Bracci asks if the school district has opted for full day kindergarten. Also, there is a Town Ordinance that does not allow Keno. He believes we cannot accept a subsidy.***

***J. Sherman states it depends on the interpretation of the wording.***

***Vote: 2-1-1 (no J. Sherman, abstain S. Ranlett)***

***Motion passes***

There is consensus amongst the board to change the word “fund” in the first sentence of the explanation to “subsidize”.

***S. Ranlett motions to recommend article P-18-24, Allowance of Keno to be written on the ballot as “to see if the town will vote to allow the operation of Keno within the town pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 284:41 through 51.” Seconded by J. Kiszka.***

***Vote: 3-0-1 (abstain J. Kiszka)***

***Motion passes***

P. Bracci states he does not think selectmen should state how they plan to vote prior to the vote.

J. Sherman disagrees.

S. Ranlett disagrees and states it is part of the democratic process.

M. Pearson states the State Legislature often does it too.

J. Sherman states they have never actually approved the explanations for the warrant articles and he would like to do it now.

***S. Ranlett motions to approve the explanations in the Plaistow Voters Guide 2018. Seconded by J. Sherman.***

***Vote: 4-0-0***

***Motion passes***

***In the explanation of P-18-13, Public Works Facility, J. Kiszka motions to add a sentence after the first sentence to say, “this appropriation will not expire until the new Highway Garage is complete.” Seconded by S. Ranlett.***

***Vote: 4-0-0***

***Motion passes***

***In the explanation of P-18-15, Energy Capital Reserve Fund Deposit, J. Kiszka motions to add the wording “and research and use of solar energy for town buildings” after the “LED lights” in the last sentence. Seconded by J. Sherman.***

***Vote: 3-0-1 (abstain S. Ranlett)***

The Board discusses the number and versions of Voters Guides that will be needed. J. Sherman states they may be need for:

- Budget Public Hearing
- Deliberative Session

- Final copy following the deliberative session prior to voting

There is consensus amongst the Board that the guide will not be needed for the Budget Public Hearing. For the deliberative session 100 copies should be enough.

J. Kiszka recommends putting a watermark on each page stating, “first draft”. That way if anything changes due to deliberative session it will be easy to distinguish.

M. Pearson states he spoke with the Town Moderator who stated the only place the Voters Guide can be passed out at the polls is in the corral.

The Board discusses putting a document in the Town Report with all the warrant articles and explanations as an insert. There can also be copies available at Town Hall and the Library. The explanation will not need to be written in the annual Town Report if the insert is available.

S. Ranlett states he would like to see the explanation written on the ballot as they used to be. The School District does it as do many towns in the area. It is unfortunate that Plaistow cannot.

J. Sherman states in article P-18-03, Collective Bargaining Agreement (Police Union) he believes the words “and benefits” should be removed from both the article and the explanation as no changes were made to benefits.

G. Colby states there is an increase in benefits if you take into consideration NH Retirement and Medicare.

J. Sherman agrees the article and explanation should be left as is.

J. Kiszka states on page 2 of the Voters Guide the date for voting is correct near the top (March 13) yet incorrect near the bottom (March 14). This will be corrected.

Article P-18-23, Fire Department Full-time Staff Position, the Budget Committee has requested the Board reconsider the wording of the article. They would like to add a sentence at the end to say, “this sum is to come from the General Fund, Unassigned Fund Balance with no amount to be raised from new taxation.”

J. Sherman supports it.

***S. Ranlett motions to approve article P-18-23a, Fire Department Full-time Staff Position to replace the current article P-18-23. Seconded by J. Sherman.***

***J. Kiszka likes it the way it is.***

***Vote: 2-2-0 (no J. Kiszka, P. Bracci)***

***Motion fails***

J. Sherman will make the changes to the Voter’s Guide approved tonight and label it version 6.0. He will forward it to G. Colby.

## **REVIEW TOWN OF PLAISTOW 2018 BUDGET SCHEDULE**

There is a schedule of all the important dates relating to the budget, warrant articles and voting. The Administrative Office will follow and monitor the dates to make sure everything is completed timely.

## **APPROVED DEFAULT BUDGET**

The default budget was passed out and discussed last week. G. Colby states the 2017 budget was reviewed line by line to arrive at the 2018 MS-DTB (default budget).

*S. Ranlett motions to approve the 2018 MS-DTB Default Budget for the Town of Plaistow included in article P-18-02. Seconded by J. Kiszka.*

*Vote: 4-0-0*

*Motion passes*

### **REVIEW PROJECTED UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE**

M. Pearson states this is not something that requires a vote. It is a planning tool. G. Colby and M. Pearson worked on the projected unassigned fund balance and it is based on the 2018 budget and all warrant articles passing. Again, this is informational only, looking ahead one year.

### **DISCUSS AUTHORITY REGARDING MULTI-YEAR CONTRACTS**

Deferred to non-public session.

### **SUBMIT LEGISLATURE CHANGE REQUEST RE: ASSESSING**

J. Sherman states the assessing idea has been worked on before by the Board. It is time to move forward with the next steps. He asks M. Pearson how to proceed.

M. Pearson responds he will send it to our State Representatives in the hopes they will get others behind it and bring it up as new legislation.

### **TOWN MANAGERS REPORT**

- Default Budget & General Fund Balance Projection
- Potable Water Survey Drawing
- Potable Water & Other Meetings
- Public Safety Complex Updates
- Town Managers 2017 Annual Report
- Public Safety Building Committee Meeting – March 10<sup>th</sup> Open House
- Emergency Management Meeting(s) - purchase equipment/grant
- Old Public Safety Military Surplus Generator – RFP for generator (fire side)

### **AUCTION ITEMS**

Reviewed

### **SIGNATURE FOLDER**

J. Sherman states the manifest, and signature folders are going around.

### **SELECTMAN REPORTS & OTHER BUSINESS**

S. Ranlett

- Planning Board went well but he could not attend (sick)
- Attended Moderator Seminar - Saturday

J. Sherman

- J. Sherman asks if everyone read the memo from Chief McArdle. S. Ranlett states he is glad the Chief has picked up a few people to help them out.

- J. Sherman states he was considering a minor change to the Voters Guide by adding some cash flow lists. However, he has decided against it.

T. Bergeron - Excused

J. Kiszka

- New Business - he wants to know the results of the Water Survey and a plan for proofing the ballot before it is printed
- Safety Complex Building Committee Meeting – bunks for the Fire Department, Grand Opening on March 10<sup>th</sup>, all is progressing very well, this week will be a walk through/punch list with engineers, next meeting will be 2/8/18, expansion road/cemetery access
- RPC Meeting – could not attend but Tim Moore did
- Will attend the Budget Public Hearing tomorrow evening
- Will attend the Water Meeting on Thursday in Concord, it is a public meeting people should show up to voice their opinion and ask questions

P. Bracci

- Wants to know how many employees opted out of the Towns Health Insurance Plan. The final answer is not available as some employees must wait for open enrollment for their spouse's plan before leaving the Towns plan. When the information is available it will be presented to the Board.
- Found the article in the Eagle Tribune disturbing. His name was mentioned and he wants to know how that happened. No one on the Board gave that information to the newspaper reporter.

J. Kiszka states since the issue was brought up, what are we going to do.

S. Ranlett states this public session is not the place to discuss it.

J. Kiszka thinks it is an uncomfortable feeling that the incident happened so long ago but the Board has not done anything.

J. Sherman states article P-18-08, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Capital Reserve Fund Deposit needs to be updated. The estimated cost was \$200,000 when the article was written but the current estimate is \$227,000. There is consensus amongst the Board to change the estimate to \$227,000.

***P. Bracci motions to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel; (b) Hiring of a Public Employee; (c) Matters of Reputation; (d) negotiations; and/or (e) Legal. Seconded by S. Ranlett.***

***Board Polled: J. Sherman = yes, S. Ranlett = yes, J. Kiszka = yes, P. Bracci = yes  
Motion passes***

Public Session ended at 8:01pm

Back in public session at 8:37

BOS 01/15/2018

J. Sherman states in the non-public session two issues were discussed. One was about long-term contracts and one was about employee compensation.

***S. Ranlett motions to seal the minutes of the non-public session as they were sealed during the non-public session.***

***Board Polled: J. Sherman = yes, S. Ranlett = yes, J. Kiszka = yes, P. Bracci = yes***

***Motion passes***

J. Sherman adjourned the meeting at 8:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack,  
Recording Secretary