Town of Isle La Motte

Select Board Meeting

14 March 2022

5:00 pm @Isle La Motte School

Present : Rusty Spaulding, Mary Catherine Graziano, Paul Zera, Mary LaBrecque, Sarah Noble, Debbie Spaulding, Peter Brzozowy, Carmine Centrella, Mary Brennan Centrella, Robin Martin, and Sylvia Jensen

1. Meeting called to order by Town Clerk Sarah Noble at 5:00 pm. Paul Zera nominated Rusty Spaulding for Chair, he accepted. Motion seconded by Mary Catherine Graziano. All in favor.
2. Executive Session : Not needed
3. Additions to Agenda : None, Chair Spaulding reminded attendees that no money issues may be brought up as additions to agenda.
4. Welcome new board member : Chair Spaulding welcomed Mary Catherine Graziano as new select board member. Mary Catherine stated that she is very glad and excited to be on the board and is looking forward to meeting and working with everyone.
5. Meeting Time : Chair Spaulding suggested keeping the same meeting time (First Monday of month at 5:00 pm). M. Graziano suggested a later meeting time to enable people who get home later to attend. Chair Spaulding questioned how many people that would involve and suggested considering a later time but leaving as is for now.
6. Posting locations : P. Zera suggested the current posting places: Town Hall, Post Office, and Old Town Hall. The Kiosk at the Island entrance was named as an alternate posting place. M. Graziano suggested adding the addresses as the Old Town Hall and New Town Office can be confusing. Chair Spaulding replied that we could do that.

7. Approve minutes of meeting of 24 January 2022 special select board meeting: motion made by P. Zera to approve, second by R. Spaulding. All in favor.

Approve minutes of 27 January 2022 special select board meeting : motion made by P. Zera to approve, second by R. Spaulding. All in favor.

Approve minutes of 07 February 2022 select board meeting: motion made by P. Zera to approve, second by R. Spaulding. All in favor.

Approve minutes of 07 February 2022 Liquor Control board meeting: motion made by P. Zera to approve, second by R. Spaulding. All in favor.

Approve vote recount of 07 March 2022 : Motion to approve by P. Zera. All in favor.

8. Warrants for payroll & payables :

EFT 02/22/22 $433.33 Ratification of Paul Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by P. Zera, second by M. Graziano. All in favor.

Payable 02/21/22 $ 33,961.28 Largest expense was $30,000 for March snow plow contract. Ratification of Paul Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by P. Zera,second by M. Graziano. All in favor.

Payroll 02/15/22 $ 2193.36 Ratification of Paul Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by P. Zera,

second by M. Graziano. All in favor.

Payroll 03/01/22 $ 1904.61 Ratification of Paul Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by M. Graziano, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payable 03/14/22 $ 9293.79 Motion to approve by M. Graziano, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

EFT 03/14/22 $ 376.42 Motion to approve by M. Graziano, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payroll 01/04/22 $ 376.42 Ratification of P. Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by M. Graziano, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payroll 01/18/22 $ 2555.99 Ratification of P. Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by M. Graziano, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

Payroll 02/01/22 $ 1743.39 Ratification of P. Zera’s signature. Motion to ratify by M. Graziano, second by P. Zera. All in favor.

9. Monthly Budget & Balance Sheet : Nothing to report.

10. Road Commissioners Report :

Weight Limit Signs have been obtained, will be put out in early April. Plowing is continuing, and looking to get some coal patch for holes. Bidding for road paving project will need to be done soon. Permission has been obtained to change locations for paving. One area is Quarry Road down to Lakehurst Road. Other areas are needed but with higher inflation Road Commissioner is concerned about how much will be done. The highway grant is $171,000 and the town has $34,000 to contribute. Road Commissioner will be consulting with J. Yaratz concerning details of the bid. There have been issues with frozen culverts, and some instances of people pushing snow across the road, which is against a town ordinance. John Littlefield cleaned out his culvert and donated the cost to the town ($522). The town thanks the Littlefields for this generous donation.

11. Appointment of positions

Cemetery Commission: 5 votes for Steve Rowe, 5 votes for J. Senesac who is already on Cemetery Commission. S. Noble will reach out to S. Rowe and see if he is interested.

S. Turner brought up that Road Commissioner needs to be appointed. P. Zera made motion to appoint S. Turner as Road Commissioner, R. Spaulding seconded. All in favor.

Select Board Clerk : Paul Zera made motion to select M. LaBrecque as Select Board Clerk, M. Graziano seconded, all in favor.

S. Jensen brought up Northwest Regional Planning Commission needed two appointments. She has served, but the second has remained vacant since P. Hillman left. M. Graziano volunteered to serve in the second position. All in favor.

P. Zera brought up his position as emergency management coordinator, and will be appointed in May.

Robin Martin asked how one can get on Cemetery Commission as her significant other is interested. Some discussion among attendees about details of appointment to an elected position.

12. Zoom Discussion :

Todays meeting is on Zoom. P. Zera commented that if 10 people don’t attend on Zoom it isn’t worth it, especially if attendance decreases . R. Spaulding commented that it appeared to be working well, wasn’t expensive and we would go with it for now. M. Graziano commented that only 5 voters are needed to get a petition through, but P. Zera replied that there were many more people on Zoom during COVID, and the biggest proponents always attend the meeting in person.

13. Delinquent Tax Collector :

Delinquent Tax Collector M. LaBrecque requested permission from the select board to start tax sale process and agree to pay any legal bills incurred before a sale takes place. Requested a motion to approve, provided by P. Zera, second by R. Spaulding. All in favor.

S. Jensen asked about what happens to the money when a property is sold at tax sale. Some discussion between S. Jensen and M. LaBrecque about what happens to the proceeds, however the town does recoup it’s expenses right away.

14. Accept draft acceptance letter from RHR Smith & Co.:

Motion to sign made by P. Zera, second by M. Graziano. All in favor.

15. Sherriff’s email concerning staffing shortages: The sheriff sent an email stating that he cannot provide us with the hours contracted due to staff shortages. He will bill us for the time they do spend but it will include over time.

16. Retirement of Assistant Town Clerk - Carol Michaels will be retiring 07 April. The town thanks Carol for her service.

17. Other Business : Sylvia Jensen asked about using the old town hall to complete the barn quilt project, and when the water can be turned back on. R. Spaulding replied that it is labor intensive to do and would prefer not to do it.

M. Graziano suggested that the 01 March election be ratified due to the failure to post a Public Notice in the Islander that the annual town reports were available at least 10 days before the vote.

18. Motion to adjourn by P. Zera, seconded by M. Graziano at 5:37 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary LaBrecque

Select board Clerk

Town of Isle La Motte

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Rustam Spaulding

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Paul Zera

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Mary Catherine Graziano