

**Town of Thorndike**

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes 3.18.2020**

**Attendees:** R Nelson, J Ard, D Berry, R Cunningham & S Bristol

R Nelson opened the meeting at 6:30pm

J Ard made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the 3.4.2020 Selectmen's meeting;

R Nelson seconded, motion carried. Minutes accepted as written.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

J Ard made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the 3.9.2020 Selectmen's meeting;

R Nelson seconded, motion carried. Minutes accepted as written.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

**Fire Department:**

S Bristol discussion of the prior Selectmen's meeting; the review of the complaint from January; BLS training and S Bristol agreed that these trainings have been addressed.

J Ard stated that the Selectmen will go into executive session at the end of the meeting for a review of an HR issue.

New volunteer Fire Department application: Richard Foster- J Ard made a motion to TABLE this application at this time, R Nelson seconded: application-----TABLED

**Internet and phone service:** for both the Town office to upgrade for no additional cost from DSL to fiber and for the new connection of the Fire Department from Spectrum back to UniTel for a 36 month contract; R Nelson seconded, motion carried.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

R Nelson made a motion in regards to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) to close the Town Office to foot traffic and have minimal interaction with clients through a window; this is to control the spread of the virus,

J Ard seconded, motion carried.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

J Ard discussion, in regards to the Town Office, to be open during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus); that it was up to the Town Clerk's option to continue to work or to see if the Doreen would choose to prefer to or to not have the Town Office open. If Doreen chooses to continue to work that the Town of Thorndike should pay hazard pay to the her. J Ard made a motion to pay Doreen Berry an additional \$10 an hour for hazard pay on top of her regular hourly wage to be paid from Article 26 Emergency Funds;

R Nelson seconded, motion carried.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

**J Ard reviewed \*LD2167:** *"An Act To Implement Provisions Necessary to the Health, Welfare and Safety of the Citizens of Maine in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency"*

Discussion that on Monday, 3.16.2020, the Selectmen reviewed and decided to postpone the Annual Town Meeting schedule for Saturday, 3.21.2020. LD2167 that was passed on 3.17.2020 allowed the Town's in Maine to postpone their Annual Town Meeting and the Towns are allowed to operate under their FY2019 approved budgets until the Annual Town meeting can be rescheduled and the FY2020 budget reviewed and approved.

With LD2167 the Freedom of Access requirement; in regards to 2 or more Selectmen meeting restrictions have been amended. It is noted that Selectmen cannot be discussing Town business outside of an announced meeting, by State Statute requirements or scheduled meeting, as this would be seen as an illegal meeting. With LD2167, Selectmen are allowed to meet without prior notice or scheduling in regards to matters of COVID-19.

**Curtis Pond Road:** discussion on having J Cranouski review this road for work to be done on it as the warm weather has made the road not easily passable by local traffic. The Curtis Pond Road is posted with a loads limited sign.

**Interviewing candidate for the Town Clerk/ Treasurer/ Tax Collector/ Registrar position:** J Ard will set up interviews for next Monday; 3.30.2020.

**Discussion on road maintenance:** some of the dirt roads; looking to keep them passable. Additionl discussion of cold patch for potholes. Reviewed purchasing with Freedom to get a better in bulk price.

**Discarding of office equipment that no longer works:** J Ard made a motion to discard 2 battery backups, HP4500 printer/copier & the AOS copier; R Nelson seconded, motion carried.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

R Nelson made a motion to sign the warrants; J Ard seconded, motion carried.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

**Warrants:**

A/P Warrant from 03.04.2020 : \$54,147.89

Pre-Paid BMV Warrant : \$1944.00

Current Warrant: COVID-19 supplies: \$480.56 Wentworth Groceries

Current Warrant: \$33,601.96 (includes snow removal contract installment)

Payroll Warrant: \$1328.58

7:17pm J Ard made a motion to go into Executive Session for an HR review, R Nelson seconded.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

J Ard made a motion to exit the Executive Session at 7:45pm, R Nelson seconded; no decision made.

J Ard made a motion to adjourn the Selectmen's meeting; R Nelson seconded motion carried.

2-0 votes in favor of the motion / 0 votes to opposed the motion

**Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm**