

TOWN OF SMITHFIELD
Summary of the March 18, 2025
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

PRESENT:
Rebecca Bright
Julie Stevens-Giroux
Justin Furbush

ALSO, PRESENT: Nichole Clark
Hans Rasmussen Tim Covert
Joni Gould Katie Meikle
Meredyth Tuttle Louie Batista
Jeremy Norton Dale Churchill

THIS MEETING WAS TAPED AND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS A BRIEF SUMMARY.

The summary of the March 4, 2025, meeting minutes were accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fire Department Floor Sealant

The AA received a name and contact and will get a quote.

2. RV & Tiny Home Ordinance

This board will start discussing the ordinance review in May 2025.

3. Paid Maine Family & Medical Leave

Joni Gould, Treasurer, discussed the requirements of the town for the new PMFML law. Any business with 15 or more employees must deposit with the state 1% of every employee salary quarterly. Based on 2024 salaries the total owed to the state by April 1, 2025 is \$2,074.00. The Treasurer will then take 1% of every employee salary every quarter hereon and send it to the state. Joni proposed that the town pay the whole 1% rather than take .05% from each employee and the remaining .05% would come from the town. Justin Furbush motioned to have the town pay the whole 1% of the payroll deduction. Julie Steven-Giroux seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4. 319 Grant Info Update

Travis Warren, Road Commissioner met with 7 Lakes Alliance and looked at Mt. Tom Rd but there was too much snow, he will be at the next meeting to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Fire Extinguisher Checks Company

The AA informed the board that the company that has been doing the towns fire extinguisher checks annually sold out to another company. The new company did the inspection for 2025, and the price doubled. The AA has contacted the company that currently does the kitchen hood extinguisher checks and received quotes for the annual fire extinguisher checks. The price was back to what the town had been paying in previous years. The AA has set up an account with the new company, American Loggers Inc.

2. MMA Training Calendar

The AA had a printout of the training available through Maine Municipal Association for 2025. Rebecca had found a video link on budgeting and wanted the AA to share it with the budget committee.

3. Seacoast Security

The board discussed the procedure for after hour alarms. The board came up with an outline for the procedure and a policy will be drafted and reviewed. An audience member suggested looking into a phone application that Seacoast Security has for remote arming and disarming.

4. Paving for 2025

The board will discuss with the Road Commissioner at the next meeting what road should be paved in 2025.

5. Town Audit Started 3/18/25

The auditor, Maine Municipal Audit Services, PA, started the audit for the FY 2024-25.

6. Updated MMA Municipal Officers Manuals

The AA updated the board that the current manual for Municipal Officers is outdated and updated ones have been ordered.

7. Federal Food Assistance Reduction Zoom Meeting

The AA attended a zoom meeting for Federal Food Assistance Reduction, which went over the possible changes that would occur with federal cuts.

8. A discussion about finding a regular block of time to close the office and have uninterrupted admin time.

The board discussed the procedure for the AA to close the office when uninterrupted time is needed to work. The current procedure was to let the board know that time was needed and post that a workshop was in place. After a discussion with the AA, Rebecca Bright motioned to allow the AA to close the office on Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm to have uninterrupted time to work. Justin Furbush seconded the motion. Motion passed. The new hours will start in April 2025.

9. Notice from MDEP Adjudicatory Hearing on Water Level Regime North Pond

The board was given the notice of the M.D.E.P. Adjudicatory Hearing on Water Level Regime for North Pond. The board asked the AA to post the notice on the towns Facebook page.

10. Appointments

Justin Furbush motioned to appoint the following municipal officials;

Hans Rasmussen as Code Enforcement Officer and Licensed Plumbing Inspector, Dexter Bridges as Animal Control Officer, Virginia Anderson as an alternate Appeals Board member, and Meredyth Tuttle as the Register of Voters. Julie Steven-Giroux seconded the motion. Motion passed.

11. FD Cold Water Rescue

The Fire Chief and Deputy Chief submitted a quote to the board for Cold Water Rescue equipment. The department has two members that are completely trained for cold water rescue. The total quote was \$10,161.00. The board discussed that a purchase of that amount should have been on the annual town warrant. Justin Furbush motioned to approve the quote and take the money from the Fire Department contingency account. Rebecca Bright seconded the motion. Motion passed.

12. CD Info

The treasurer gave the board information on the interest earned to date from the 2024 cd started with Skowhegan Savings.

13. C.N. Brown Possible Contract Price Increase from Tariffs Letter

The board reviewed a letter sent from C.N. Brown; the towns 2024-25 contractor for fuel, about possible increases from tariffs.

14. Building Use Application

Meadow Lane Road Association submitted a building use application to use the meeting room on June 21, 2025. Justin Furbush motioned to approve and sign the building use application. Julie Stevens-Giroux seconded the motion. Motion passed.

15. E-911 New Address Measurement

The AA had an E-911 measurement for a new address point. Julie Stevens-Giroux volunteered to take on the task of measuring new addresses.

16. Elected School Board Members Invite

The board requested that the AA invite both elected School Board members to a Selectmen's meeting for everyone to meet. The board discussed having more regular communication with its elected officials.

17. Agenda Add On

Rebecca Bright motioned to include a Public Commentary to the agenda for every meeting. Justin Furbush seconded the motion. Motion passed. The AA will add it to the agenda.

18. Adjourn and Sign Warrant #4-25

Justin Furbush motioned to adjourn, and sign Warrant #4-25. Julie Stevens-Giroux seconded the motion. Motion passed.