

Selectmen Meeting Minutes
May 3, 2023

David Thorp called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Calling of the Roll

Selectmen: Norman Beckwith, David Thorp, Kirk Hamilton

Secretary: Carolyn Nye

Guest: Senator Stacey Guerin, Greenville Fire Chief Sawyer Murray, Assistant Chief Eric Nelson, School Board Members Kelly Macfadyen, Marion Huntley, Bill Nye, Peggy Phillips, Bill Fortin, and Julie Fortin.

David made a motion to amend the meeting minutes from April 19, 2023, David wanted one of his names removed from paragraph 1 to show that he only seconded the motion not made and seconded the motion. Kirk Seconded the motion carried 2-0.

Senator Stacey Guerin was here to present Norman Beckwith the Spirit of America foundation Award for his volunteerism and community service in the Town of Shirley. Stacey also discussed the current 2,500 bill requests for public hearing to go to the house floor by the middle of May. An area that her caucus is looking into is access to affordable childcare. A bill that she is co-sponsoring allows home day cares to go from 3 children to 4 children, Children safety in State and Foster Care, Child Education for parental involvement such as parents being able to speak at school board meetings, Welfare Reform to get people back to work.

Bill Fortin asked Stacey if there was a grant to help with the Blanchard Road. She said she can investigate it.

Fire Chief Sawyer Murray was here to explain why the Greenville Fire Protection Services has gone up from \$12,600.00 this year to \$24,00.00 next year. Last year the Town of Shirley had 24 calls. It included utility issues with power lines down on fire, trees on fire on power lines, broken poles snapped off from the wind, Brush fires, car accidents, burns that were not permitted, chimney fires and flooded basements. The cost of new fire trucks is rising as well as the cost of fuel. Home insurance companies establish a rating on how many people on the fire department, how much water they can haul, how many trucks they use, how many full time and part time employees they have, the distance from Greenville to Shirley, the nearest water supply and road access. The Fire Department currently bills insurance companies for non-residents they use a third-party named Central Maine Cost Recovery.

Kelly spoke to the selectmen on how the State of Maine uses a formula and then told the school board what the local required cost is they need to contribute to education. The Town of Shirley needs to raise \$48,000.00 this year as last year they had to raise \$178,000.00.

Charlie Aucoin has cut the tree down by the Bill Nye memorial. Norman has cleaned out culverts around town.

Peggy would like to have an article in the Town Warrant asking the town how they feel about either closing the library or keeping it open.

Kirk made a motion to buy 2 culverts for Bob Youngs driveway. Norman seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Norman made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:36pm pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(E) to discuss legal matters with the Blanchard Road. David seconded. Motion carried 3-0. The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 8:56 pm with no decision being made.

Submitted by,
Carolyn Nye