

Town of Portage Lake
Annual Town Meeting
March 25, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall

AROOSTOOK, s.s.

STATE OF MAINE

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Town Clerk Corrine Routhier.
There were 20 resident voters, and 10 non-voters present.

ART. 1 It was moved and seconded to elect Jennifer Brophy for moderator for the election portion of the town meeting. She deputized Joel Hall to continue as moderator for the open floor portion of the meeting. Both were sworn in to their respective duties.

ART. 2 To elect by secret ballot the following Officer(s):
Michelle Eastman was elected Selectperson for a 3 year term with 25 votes
Ginger Nelson was elected a School Board member for a 3 year term with 25 votes

ART. 3 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Selectboard to appoint all necessary officers not elected by ballot for the ensuing year. Motion carried.

ART. 4 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Selectboard to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each department of the Town's annual budget during the period from January 1, 2023 to the annual March Town Meeting. Motion carried.

ART. 5 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Selectboard to accept gifts, donations, grants and State funding or reimbursements on behalf of the Town, including Revenue Sharing, Homestead Exemption Reimbursement, BETE Reimbursement, Tree Growth Reimbursement, Veteran Exemption Reimbursement, and ARPA funds and exercise such authority as needed to implement grants. Motion carried.

ART. 6 It was moved and seconded to allow a 2% discount on taxes paid within 30 days of the mailing date and set an interest rate of 4%, per 36 MRSA sec 505.4, on unpaid taxes 60 days after the date of tax commitment. Motion carried.

ART. 7 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Sec. 506. Motion carried.

ART. 8 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Board of Selectpersons to allow the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosure when a request has been made by the owner before the notice of foreclosure has been executed and it is in the best interest of the Town. Motion carried.

ART. 9 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Municipal Officers to sell or dispose of tax-acquired property for all taxes, fees and interest owed in any manner which they deem to be in the best interests of the Town, after first offering the property to the previous owners, and to bring writs of entry for recovery of any parcels of land that have been acquired by the Town by reason of non-payment of taxes, the time of redemption having expired, *excepting* that the special sale process required by 36 MRSA § 943-C for qualifying homestead property be used if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owners. Motion carried.

ART. 10 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Selectboard and Treasurer, on behalf of the Town, to advertise the proposed sale of any Town acquired property and Town owned personal property valued over \$500 under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable. Motion carried.

ART. 11 It was moved and seconded to authorize the Selectpersons to appropriate \$25,000 from surplus to meet emergencies that occur during the calendar year, as they deem advisable. Motion carried.

ART. 12 It was moved and seconded to adopt the following amendment to the Portage Lake Land Use Ordinance: "To allow chickens within the Village Area under the following conditions: maximum of 12 chickens, no roosters, no free range, Best Management Practices must be followed,

all structures that house and enclose egg-laying hens must meet setbacks for the Zone in which they are to be kept.”.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: How come you can't have a rooster?

Tammy Kenney: If we can't have a band in town, we can't have a rooster.

Judy Moreau: Ya, but the rooster won't crow at the same time that the band will sing.

Michelle Eastman: It's for noise.

Motion carried.

ART. 13 It was moved and seconded to accept all monies received from the Maine Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance Program for the coming year and deposit it into the Public Works Road Reserve account for future use.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: In this Maine Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance, this money that is supposed to be coming from the state and federal government, is that....will we be getting some of that this year? Does anybody know?

Larry Duchette: For the roads? Not to my knowledge.

Judy Moreau: So we aren't going to get anything? NO help at all, these towns. It's just going to be for, like, Route 11 or 95, or something like that?

Larry Duchette: Mostly, yes.

Judy Moreau: Boo.

Herb McPherson: Why does that affect us, in this Article?

Michelle Eastman: We vote to accept it in case anything comes our way. You're allowing us the opportunity in case somebody decides somewhere along the line to write us a big fat check.

Motion carried.

ART. 14 It was moved and seconded to appropriate \$72,000 from anticipated motor vehicle excise revenue for the Road Reserve account. Motion carried

ART. 15 It was moved and seconded to appropriate \$50,000 from anticipated revenue sources for the purpose of reducing the 2022 tax commitment. Motion carried.

ART. 16 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the Revaluation Account to save for the next total town property revaluation.

Discussion

Judy Moreau: We've got quite a bit in the kitty now, right? So when is our next revaluation going to be? Anybody know?

Larry Duchette: When the state forces us more than likely; most towns don't do it voluntarily.

Judy Moreau: Well, maybe we can go 25 years like they did in Easton. We'll have a big kitty then!

Motion carried.

ART. 17 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$20,000 for the following reserve accounts:

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|----------|
| Portage Lake Fire Department Reserve Account | \$10,000 |
| Public Works Equipment Reserve Account | \$10,000 |

Motion carried.

ART. 18 It was moved and seconded to appropriate a \$2,388 from surplus for a new fire-proof filing cabinet in the Town Office, and \$1,200 from surplus for a new computer for the Fire Department. (Total expended from Surplus would be \$3,588). Motion carried.

ART. 19 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$29,494 in addition to \$4,006 carried forward for a total budget of \$33,500 for the General Administration operating account, and to allow any reimbursements and fees to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 20 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$73,340 in addition to \$8,160 carried forward for a total budget of \$81,500 for Office Staff payroll (Town Manager, Town Clerk/Treasurer, Deputy Town Clerk). Motion carried.

ART. 21 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$435 in addition to \$1,565 carried forward for a total budget of \$2,000 for Real & Personal Property Assessing and fees for Registry of Deeds. Motion carried.

ART. 22 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$12,487 in addition to \$7,513 carried forward for a total budget of \$20,000 for Municipal Building operating expenses and to allow the rental fees and any reimbursements to be used for the same.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: Now, with the higher rate of electricity, is that going to affect the operating expenses?

Larry Duchette: Definitely. That and the oil.

Judy Moreau: Well, that and the oil, yes.

Larry Duchette: In the course of the last few years you've noticed that I've tried to keep the lights off and the heat down, so hopefully they continue to do that.

Judy Moreau: Right. And I know and I understand that you can't make this Article more, but I'm just wondering if you think it's going to be sufficient or will we have to come back to a special town meeting.

Larry Duchette: Probably tell you better in about November.

Judy Moreau: I don't want to know in November, I want to know now.

Michelle Eastman: We can't tell the future.

Judy Moreau: Sure you can!

Michelle: Hopefully it's enough. But if it's not enough, we'll have to have a special town meeting and come back, and appropriate more funds at that time for electricity and oil.

Judy Moreau: Right. Now the Town doesn't get any special discount for electricity?

Michelle Eastman: No. We're not big enough. We don't...it's not like we're...we don't create enough revenue for them. You know, we're not New York City. If we had 40 buildings that we were...we might get a discount. Or if we were buying fuel at 50,000 gallons to a time we would get a discount. But we are not big enough get that type to employ a discount.

Judy: That's not right. Towns should have....because several buildings, the state buildings, have discounts. That's not right just because we're little doesn't mean that we shouldn't have some discount.

Michelle Eastman: I agree.

Judy Moreau: So anyway, sew buttons.

Motion carried.

ART. 23 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$1,282 in addition to \$118 carried forward for a total budget of \$1,400 for the Planning & Appeals Boards. Motion carried.

ART. 24 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$5,349 in addition to \$5,151 carried forward for a total budget of \$10,500 for Code Enforcement activities, and to allow permit fees, fines, and any other reimbursements to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 25 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$12,580 in addition to \$1,420 carried forward for a total budget of \$14,000 for Discounts on taxes paid within thirty (30) days of the mailing date of tax bills, and to carry forward \$2,185 for tax Abatements. Motion carried.

ART. 26 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$2,389 in addition to \$141 carried forward for a total budget of \$2,530 for annual membership dues to Maine Municipal Assn., Maine Tourism Assn., Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce, Greater Fort Kent Chamber of Commerce and Central Aroostook Soil & Water.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: My favorite pick isn't in here this year.

Larry Duchette: That's correct.

Judy Moreau: Yes! Way to go! Thank you much!

Mike Violette: What was the favorite pick?

Judy Moreau: What was the favorite pick? Um, Northern Maine Regional Planning Commission.

Larry Duchette: NMDC.

Motion carried.

ART. 27 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$65,000 for the Insurance & Social Security account, and to allow any reimbursements or dividends to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 28 It was moved and seconded to carry forward \$5,559 for the General Assistance account and to allow any reimbursements to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 29 It was moved and seconded raise and appropriate \$22,940 in addition to \$5,060 carried forward for a total budget of \$28,000 for the Portage Lake Fire Department operating account, and to allow any reimbursements to be used for the same.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: Here at supper our Fire Chief was telling me about new developments with the Masardis Fire Department. I wonder if he could elaborate on that so we could know a bit more. Brian, can ya...?

Brian Cote: No. Whatever I heard was hearsay, so I don't want to say anything.

Judy Moreau: Alright. Sorry

Motion carried.

ART. 30 It was moved and seconded to carry forward \$2,068 for specific State or County Police Patrol for the coming year.

Discussion:

Arthur Routhier: Larry, have you considered having a weigh wagon out here on the Beach Road?

Larry Duchette: We've called them but we're secondary.

Arthur Routhier: Ok. I know it's coming out of my yard, but there's a lot of traffic on that road that we just put a lot of money into.

Michelle Eastman: I agree.

Larry Duchette: You know as well as I do that once the weigh wagon gets here, everybody knows it. They'll just sit down aside the road until he leaves town.

Michelle Eastman: Unless we put Chris up with sawhorses allowing people through, there's no way.

Arthur Routhier: It's just the thought, to get it through their head maybe.

Brian Cote: They can't come in the other way?

Arthur Routhier: Sure they can.

Judy Moreau: Will we still have a somewhat kind of a police patrol here in the summer time?

Michelle Eastman: Yes, we will still have the Sheriff's that come through in the summertime like they do.

Judy Moreau: But they ain't gonna be here checking things out like...whatever.

Barry Kenney: They will if you call them. Harp on them.

Michelle Eastman: And they come through periodically and go down both roads and check things out. Are they here every day? Probably not.

But we are part of their perview.

Judy Moreau: Seeing as we have a couple of young fellers here, if I needed a policeman real fast, can I still call Ashland and they would come if there was no one else available?

Brian: 911]

Michelle Eastman: You would call 911.

Judy Moreau: I'd call 911, yes. And if there was nobody else available for hours and hours, and it was an emergency, could I call Ashland?

Michelle Eastman: The dispatcher would send you the closest person. So like, for example, I've called 911 before and I got a Sheriff within 30 minutes at my home.

Judy Moreau: Ya, OK. I know that I've seen the Ashland Police Patrol, not very often, maybe once a year or whatever, because there was an emergency and someone needed a policeman. And I know that that was enacted years ago. I was wondering if it was still viable. That's all, thank you.

Jake Rubin: So, both myself and the other officer here we've both ran...

Moderator: Jake, I hate to interrupt you but as a non-voter you can't speak unless given permission by the body. If the body wants to vote to allow him to speak, all those in favor? Those opposed?

Motion to allow Jake Rubin to speak at tonight's meeting is carried.

Jake Rubin: In the past couple months we've ran multiple calls. There was a snowmobile wreck that was back here behind Coffin's. There was a wreck down off of one of the roads, I can't remember the name. Both times the Sheriff's office was over an hour out and they requested that we come. So, if there is something serious going on in the area we will be dispatched to come to Portage Lake, even though it's not part of our radius. We will still respond as part of our mutual aid to the Sheriff's office and the State Police.

Motion carried.

ART. 31 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$1,961 in addition to \$389 carried forward for a total budget of \$2,350 for the Animal Control operating account, and to allow any dog license fees and fines to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 32 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$60,499 in addition to \$16,801 carried forward for a total budget of \$77,300 for the Public Works operating account, and to allow any reimbursements to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 33 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$45,175 for Aroostook Valley Solid Waste Disposal District (Ashland Transfer Station). Motion carried.

ART. 34 It was moved and seconded to carry forward \$608 for expenses related to the Portage Lake Transfer Station, including the annual licensing fee and maintenance of the old dump site.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: Why do we have to have that license if we don't use it?

Barry Kenney: If we let it go, Judy we'll never get it back, and it might be something we want down the road.

Motion carried.

ART. 35 It was moved and seconded to carry forward \$3,700 for Contracted Services for grader work and miscellaneous expenses related to this account. Motion carried.

ART. 36 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$1,231 in addition \$1,769 carried forward for a total budget of \$3,000 for the maintenance of the Portage Lake Municipal Cemetery, and to allow lot sale revenue to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 37 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$803 in addition to \$697 carried forward for a total budget of \$1,500 for the Beautification department, and to allow any donations to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 38 It was moved and seconded to carry forward \$1,806 for the Portage Lake Recreation Department and to allow any donations to be used for the same.

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: I didn't realize that we still had a recreation department here in town.

Michelle Eastman: We do in the summer time, well, I mean he operates year round, but mostly in the summertime he offers activities for the kids.

Judy Moreau: Who?

Michelle Eastman: It used to be Lucas Belanger, but the position is vacant. So if you're looking for something to do in the summer, we're hiring.

Barry Kenney: They have purchased pickleball nets and pickleball items.

Michelle: It goes toward the maintenance of some of the activities the kids do here in town.

Judy Moreau: Right. So this wouldn't cover repairs to the tennis court, or the walking path or anything like that would it?

Larry Duchette: No.

Motion carried.

ART. 39 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$7,892 in addition to \$6,608 carried forward for a total budget of \$14,500 for the maintenance of the Town's Parks, Public Beach, Seaplane Base, and Pavilion, and allow revenues from rentals, donations, boat excise taxes and other reimbursements to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 40 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$4,600 for the maintenance and improvement of the Campground and Boat Landing and allow revenues from camping permits and other reimbursements and donations to be used for the same. Motion carried.

ART. 41 It was moved and seconded to carry forward \$5,000 for continued restorations and improvements to the Seaplane Base.

Discussion:

Brian Cote: Are we going to spend that \$5000?

Larry Duchette: If we can find a contractor to work for us, yeah. We've had a tough time trying to find someone to do some repairs.

Barry Kenney: It will only take two days to spend \$5,000.

Arthur Routhier: Do we still have that license, Larry?

Larry Duchette: No, we do not.

Motion carried.

ART. 42 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$8,171 in addition to \$389 carried forward for a total budget of \$8,560 for street lights.

Discussion:

Brian Cote: With the LED lights that they are installing, that's less electricity, so are they going to give us a reduction next year?

Michelle Eastman: Hopefully.

Brian Cote: Ok. Good answer!

Motion carried.

ART. 43 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$60,637 for the following Ashland User Fees:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Library | \$12,120.25 |
| Recreation | \$13,918.86 |
| Ambulance Service | \$34,597.06 |

Discussion:

Judy Moreau: Yes, Mr. Moderator can we as a voting entity pick this apart, say like the Library and the Recreation. Can we vote for not having the library and not having the Recreation?

Barry Kenney: Judy, you can pick it apart, but it's one or all. Ashland has told us that if we vote down the library then we will not get the Rec or the Ambulance service, or vice versa. It's got to pass the \$60,000 budget as a whole or you don't get anything.

Judy Moreau: How come Ashland can dictate that to us like that?

Michelle Eastman: Because we use their services.

Judy Moreau: I realize the ambulance, we have to have that. There's no question about that. But the Library. Why can't...if I want to use the library, I can't pay a user fee? Like \$5 a year, \$10 a year, make it up, I don't know. \$30 a year, whatever it is. And the same with the Recreation. I don't have children, I'm not going to go walk around the building. And I don't use their building.

Barry Kenney: It's the same as going into Coffin's, you know, if you don't want to go in there and have their services then don't go. That's what Ashland has thrown at us.

Judy Moreau: No. That's different because Coffin's is a public entity...it's a private entity. The library is funded by tax dollars, along with the rest of them. There's a difference there, its apples and oranges.

Michelle Eastman: Last year we did give that proposal, and we were told no. We did give the proposal of could I pay to send my kids to Rec; could I pay to have a library card and Pat not because she doesn't want one, or Judy not because she doesn't want one. And were told no, it was all or nothing.

Judy Moreau: Yes, but that's one town dictating to the other!

Michelle Eastman: We are at their mercy for those services.

Judy Moreau: Right, but you are going to use the same services whether I want to use the library at a membership fee or the recreation department at a membership fee.

Michelle Eastman: But I think what we are missing, which you just stated, Judy, is we need the ambulance. We have to have that service. Correct? So, Ashland is telling us all or nothing. And if we say, fine, we don't feel we use the Rec department enough and we don't feel we use the library enough. We want to do user fees, and you're not willing to concede to us and are going to pull out. Then we do lose that service that we need.

Judy Moreau: Ya, but you look at it like this. The library and the recreation have nothing to do with the health of a community. This is the health of a community that we are discussing here. Not whether we want to go read a book or borrow a book or whatever the library has to offer. Right? Or the recreation.

Arthur Routhier: I understand that we are held over a barrel, by Ashland, and it's just my thought that there should be three articles here. One, two three. And is there a legal aspect of this? They are holding us over a barrel for three different bases to be taxed on here. Have we spoken to our lawyers about this, as far as how it's written and how it's dictated to us? Because this has a little whiff of illegal. I mean, it just doesn't seem kosher to me to have three unrelated articles all into one package.

Michael Violette: If we were to wipe out that whole expense and say we're not going to do any of it, but we want to have a user fee on a per-individual basis for everything and the ambulance, would they allow us a user fee for that?

Larry Duchette: No.

Michael Violette: They wouldn't break it out? It seems like that would be illegal to not allow ambulance service if you wanted to pay on a per use basis.

Arthur Routhier: They would probably just charge astronomical fees. But its municipal aid between the Sheriff Department and local PD to come here when they are stretched.

Michael Violette: Would it be more than the total amount here, that's the question.

Judy Moreau: Plus your insurance. If the Ashland ambulance comes to pick you up, your insurance has to pay as well.

Michael Violette: That's part of their fees as covering their service too.

Judy Moreau: Well, that's double dipping isn't it? And here it's triple dipping. This is one town, a little bit bigger town, dictating to a smaller town because they have the ambulance and they know full well that Portage could not afford to have an ambulance. And for me, for me, that's against the Hippocratic oath.

Larry Duchette: It's not a question of whether or not we can afford it, it's do we want to? Because it's going to cost you over \$250,000 just to start a service, then you are going to have to fund it every year after that.

Judy Moreau: Exactly right. That's what I'm saying!

Larry Duchette: So that's going to hit everybody's pocket pretty hard.

Judy Moreau: That's what I'm saying! But it's not right to have these three Articles and Ashland dictate to us that we have to take all or none. There's not in between.

Michael Violette: How about is there a way to find out on a per-tax payer basis are we being charged fairly? So, we take all of this whole budget and what Ashland is paying and then what we are paying, are we being charged the same amount per tax-payer basis?

Corrine Routhier: So, the way Ashland has it, it's per-person. So they take their total budget and they take the total population of each town...we are not the only town. There's Garfield, Masardis, you know, all these towns. It's based on the population of their town. So it's a certain...I don't know, like \$22-something per person. That's how they come up with their budget. But we can't...so the Article is.. we can't... I say we can't. We could if we wanted to. If we want to break the article apart and say we are only going to go for the ambulance and we don't want to pay the other stuff, Ashland is not going to let us have the ambulance. That's just how it is. And I know Judy you think it's illegal and possibly it is, but at this point, this isn't the place to figure that out.

Connie Duchette: So, if we turn down this Article tonight, then we lose the ambulance?

Michelle Eastman: We lose everything.

Connie Duchette: We lose everything. So, if we don't want to lose the ambulance service we have to vote this in. But for the next year can this be worked on to maybe try to divide these up into three different things or maybe even consult a lawyer and maybe bring it up for next year? Because now is not the time to turn it down. So, we have to vote on it because we have no choice, like you say we are over a barrel. But maybe next year we can do something about it.

Michelle Eastman: The selectboard over the next year could spend some time and the Town manager can spend some time working with Ashland to see if there was a way we could find a solution to this. We can talk to our lawyers to see if there was a way to find a solution. I think we need to look at this as a whole town and know that all three services do affect all of our taxpayers. And we can look at separating them. But in the end, it still might not be possible. They still might tell us no, and our lawyers may say "our hands are tied".

Tammy Kenney: And it's not just us. Masardis goes through this, Garfield. All of the townships around that depend on Ashland are going through the same thing as us.

Michelle Eastman: Correct.

Michael Violette: Does Portage have a representative on the Ashland board?

Corrine Routhier: Ashland doesn't have a Board for this. They have their Selectboard, that's it. Their Selectboard and their Town Manager that make up this budget.

Michelle Eastman: We wouldn't be allowed to sit on that, just like we don't have a representative from Ashland here on ours.

Michael Violette: I was just thinking that the town is being taxed effectively for services and we're not represented in any way. If all of the town's got together, you know, and had some representation.

Michelle Eastman: What we could do is we could attend one of their town meetings because those are open to the public, and during public comments we could share our feelings, whether that is the Town Manager or somebody from the Board. We could go and voice our feelings about this and see if we could work with them.

Judy Moreau: Ya, well now. Let me refresh a few memories here. Three, four, five years ago, maybe, Ashland came to us with their hand held out—"we need some money to buy and ambulance".

Portage didn't lump it into, well, this, that and another Article and tell everyone that, you know, tell our voters that we have to vote on the whole thing or Ashland's not going to get anything. Right?

Barry Kenney: I remember that well Judy and your point is well taken. The Board looked at this and... It's a hard pill to swallow, but if you take the whole \$60,000 budget and just pretend that's even all in ambulance service. If you need to call that ambulance once, I figure that's money well spent.

Judy: I understand it. The point of the thing, Beech, is that Ashland is dictating to Portage voters, and that cannot be. That's against my rights as a taxpayer and a citizen.

Call for the Vote.

Moderator explains what happens when someone calls for the vote.

Judy Moreau: Mr. Moderator, I know I'm out of order, but I would like to address the Selectboard, if I may. If they will give us a promise that they will look into the legality of this and then next year, next year, have them Articles separated.

Moderator: I believe they have already said they are going to do that for next year.

Motion carried with 16 yes, and 1 no.

ART. 44 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$3,222 for the following requested financial social services assistance:

Motion carried.

ART. 45 It was moved and seconded to appropriate \$500 from anticipated boat excise tax revenue for the Town's share of matching funds for the Portage Lake Association's cost share grant to aid in the identification and education of invasive aquatic plants in, or on, Portage Lake, and to accept

reimbursement from the PLA for the payment of Courtesy Boat Inspectors during the summer. Motion carried.

ART. 46 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for the Portage Lake Historical Society (pursuant to Title 30A, Ch 223, Sub Ch. 4, §5726(6)). Motion carried.

ART. 47 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for the Portage Lake Snowmobile Club for the purpose of aiding in the maintenance of local snowmobile trails for public use, and to pay to the Portage Lake Snowmobile Club all snowmobile fees reimbursed to the Town from the State of Maine in the coming year. Motion carried.

ART. 48 It was moved and seconded to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for the Portage Lakers ATV Club for aiding in the maintenance of the local ATV trail system for public use. Motion carried.

ART. 49 It was moved and seconded to appropriate up to \$130,000 out of Stumpage to resurface the parking area around the Municipal Building and tennis courts.

Discussion:

Arthur Routhier: Larry, when was this quote given for \$130,000?

Larry Duchette: A few weeks ago.

Arthur Routhier: So, it's in line with all of the petroleum-based up-ticks in materials?

Larry Duchette: Yup. I have another quote that already came in, and I'm waiting on a third one as well.

Arthur Routhier: I was just curious because petroleum based stuff is through the roof.

Brian Cote: Is there one bid, or is there several bids?

Larry Duchette: 3 bids

Brian Cote: So this is the cap? You have bids under?

Larry Duchette: Yes.

Judy Moreau: What a relief to have that parking lot, so when we come to town meeting in the spring of the year we don't have to walk through mud clear to our knees. Yay!

Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Corrine Routhier, Town Clerk