HARRISON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING
Thursday March 24, 2016 – 7:00P.M.

Present: Chairman Kathleen Laplante, Selectman Matthew Frank, Selectman William Winslow, Town Manager George Finch, Secretary Melissa St. John
Absent: Vice Chairman Richard St. John, Selectman Achille Belanger

Public:LRTV, Advertiser Democrat, 3 public

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Chairman Laplante

2. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Laplante

3. Public Participation (Non-Agenda Items)

4. Public Hearings

Chairman Laplante opened the public hearing to hear comment on the Safe Zone Ordinance.

   a. Safe Zone Ordinance
   Ordinance provides a safe place for our kids that are drug free zones. It is based on the school model listed in State Statute.

Chairman Laplante closed the public hearing on the Safe Zone Ordinance and opened the public hearing on the Dog Ordinance.

   b. Dog Ordinance
   Chairman Laplante opened the public hearing on the Dog Ordinance.

   The ordinance is not meant to give dog owners a hard time it is meant to provide recourse for people with problem dogs. It gives the ACO and the sheriff recourse to deal with them.

Chairman Laplante closed the public hearing on the Dog Ordinance.

5. Approval of Warrants #36, #37, #38 & #39

Motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2015/16 Financial Warrants #36, #37, #38 & #39 made by Selectman Winslow, 2nd by Selectman Frank. Approved 3-0.
6. Approval of minutes – February 25, 2016

**Motion to accept the February 25, 2016 meeting minutes made by Selectman Winslow, 2nd by Selectman Frank. Approved 3-0.**

7. Old Business - None

8. New Business

   a. Quit Claim Deeds
      i. Daniel Atkinson Map 27 Lot 12

   **Motion to grant a quit claim deed to Daniel Atkinson Map 27 Lot 12 made by Selectman Frank, 2nd by Selectman Winslow. Approved 3-0.**

   ii. Stephen & Bethany Taylor Map 47 Lot 42-I

   **Motion to grant a quit claim deed to Stephen & Bethany Taylor Map 47 Lot 42-I made by Selectman Winslow, 2nd by Selectman Frank. Approved 3-0.**

   iii. James & Sara Riman Map 40 Lot 4A-01

   **Motion to grant a quit claim deed to James & Sara Riman contigent upon full payment of all money due at the closing sale of the property scheduled for March 31, 2016 made by Selectman Winslow, 2nd by Selectman Frank. Approved 3-0.**

   **Motion to send the Safe Zone Ordinance forward to the public and the Dog Ordinance forward to the public made by Selectman Winslow, 2nd by Selectman Frank. Approved 3-0.**

9. Other Business - None

10. Manager’s Report

   o **FY16 February Financial Report –**

      - I am pleased to report that through the completion of the first 8 months of the fiscal year we are in excellent financial shape. Partially I credit this to the milder winter, which has helped hold the line on snow removal cost. Additionally I credit the departments for their continued productivity improvements combined with their efforts to operate within their budget.
o **Town Manager Employment Plan** –

- I have been asked if the FY17 Budget will be my last. This has come as a result of the statement I made when I presented the draft of the Budget to the Selectmen in January. At that time, per discussion with the board last year, my intent was to retire this coming December. For the record, should the board be interested, I am willing to extend my employment agreement through December 31\textsuperscript{st}, 2017.

o **FY17 Budget Status** –

- We are still in the draft mode of the budget at the Budget Committee level. I expect we will be ready for the joint budget presentation to the Board at the April 14\textsuperscript{th} meeting. Without a budget plan from the School District for Harrison’s contribution to the SAD 17 budget we will only be able to project our portion of the tax rate along with an estimate on the schools impact.

- On a good note, the County Tax Bill has been received and fortunately it came in less than expected at $333,576 up 1.2\% or $3,968 more than the current fiscal year. I say fortunately because we had projected the increase to be $11,536 or 2.5\% thus a savings of $7,568. Of course it is still an irritant to me that 32\% of the money we send to the county goes to what I call Portland Civic Center while most folks around here still call it the Cumberland County Civic Center, which of course is now known as the Cross Insurance Arena.

- I am confident, unless we receive worse than anticipated numbers from the school, that we will not see an increase greater than the $.10. The target set by the Board as maximum is doable with what we know now. With a little fiscal prudence by the School Board we may do better. I will end this with it would not take much of an increase in the school budget to increase our taxes.

o **Fire Truck Update** – Due to our decision to have some of the items we wanted completed at the vendor before delivery there will be a longer delay for delivery than anticipated. The work, being done with my approval, will allow the vehicle to be ready for service upon delivery.

o **AED Update** – I am in the process of working through the details with Diane Campbell of the Maine Cardiovascular Health Council, to finalize the plans for the four, (4), AEDs we were granted.
o **Water Extraction Ordinance** – While we are not completely ready to set up and put into operation a committee to work on concerns and an ordinance dealing with water extraction we are ready to advertise for people interested in being on the committee and will do so in the coming weeks. Following a time period of notice we will bring the names to the board for appointment and begin the process.

o **Management Letter** – With this report I am pleased to say we have closed the books on the FY15 annual audit report and management letter.

  - It is with great confidence that I can assure the Board, we, thanks to the excellent work of our Bookkeeper April Frank, have made great strides in meeting the highest level of accounting. Additionally the efforts of the staff at the front counter and the movement to electronic payments has brought us to new heights of productivity in terms of financial services.

11. Executive Session (if necessary)

12. Adjourn

**Motion to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. made by Selectman Winslow, 2nd by Selectman Frank. Approved 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathleen Laplante, Chairman

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Melissa St. John, Secretary