

- PUBLIC MEETING -
Hope Select Board
Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
May 14, 2024
Hope Town Office

-AGENDA-

01) Call to Order:

02) Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

03) Public Comment (*Please limit comments to 2-3 minutes*):

04) Minutes:

a. April 23, 2024:

05) Warrants #'s 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, & 88:

06) New Business:

a. Award Municipal Buildings Winter Maintenance Contract:

b. 2024 Personal Property Taxes 36 M.R.S. 105 § 760-A, Minor or Burdensome Amount - \$3,373.62:

c. Town Warrant & Notice of Election- June 11, 2024:

d. Lincolnville Letter Request Change to NEMHS Contract:

e. MMA Legislative Policy Committee Nominations:

f. Boston Cane:

i. Posthumous – Viola Richardson:

ii. Boston Cane – Alfred Luce:

07) Old Business:

08) Other Business:

09) Town Administrator Report:

10) Adjournment:

MINUTES OF SELECT BOARD MEETING
Hope Select Board
April 23, 2024
5:30 p.m.
Hope Town Office

Board Members Present:

- Sarah Ann Smith, Charlie Weidman, and Wayne Luce

Others Present:

- Samantha Mank, and Brad Dodge

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Sarah.

Agenda Adjustments/Approval:

- The Town Administrator asked to add a code enforcement item to the Other Business. Charlie made a motion to approve the agenda with the requested adjustment. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

Public Comment:

- None

Minutes:

- April 9, 2024: Charlie made a motion to approve the 4/9/24 minutes as written. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

Warrants 80, 81, & 82:

- Charlie made a motion to approve and sign the Treasurers and Payroll warrants 80, 81, and 82. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

New Business:

- Approve & Sign Five Town CSD Warrant and Notice of Election: The Select Board reviewed the CSD Warrant. Charlie made a motion to sign the Five Town CSD Warrant and Notice of Election. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

- Approve & Sign Five Town CSD Warrant for construction of 1,800 sq. ft. classroom: The Select Board reviewed the CSD Warrant. Charlie made a motion to sign the Five Town CSD Warrant for construction of 1,800 sq. ft. classroom building. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

- Distribute Laptops/Set-up Workshop: The Town Administrator handed out lap-tops to the three Select Board members that were present. There was a brief workshop on set-up procedures.

Old Business:

- None

Other Business:

- 80K Enforcement Action: The Code Enforcement Officer has issued a Notice of Violation to Keith Ludwig. The required timeframe for complying with the order has passed and the situation has not been remedied. He is asking the Select Board to approve up to \$5,000 in order to have the Town Attorney file an 80K Enforcement Action in court in order to achieve compliance with the land Use Ordinance. The Town would seek to have all fees and costs paid as a result of the court ruling. Charlie made a motion to authorize the Code Enforcement Officer the expend up to \$5,000 for attorney's fees and other costs as needed for an 80K Enforcement Action. It was seconded by Wayne.

Motion passed 3-0

- Boston Cane: Charlie announced that his mother and the current recipient of the Boston Cane, Hazel Weidman, passed away at 100 years old.

Town Administrator Report:

- I submitted the annual ARPA report to the Department of the Treasury. This is a mandated report intended to provide the government with the status of the commitment and spending of the ARPA (America Rescue Plan Act) funds. The Town received \$178,380.87. To date, \$143,550.00 has been committed. \$115,531.88 has been spent. By adding what was under spent (\$28,018) and what has not yet been committed (\$34,831), there is \$62,849 left that must be committed by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026.
- Nomination Papers were due back by April 12th. All of the positions except one have candidates. There is still a one-year position for the Budget Committee available for a write-in candidate. There is still a vacancy on the Budget Committee for this year as well. When there is a vacancy in an elected position, other than for the Select Board, the Select Board is supposed to appoint someone to fill that position until the next election. The Budget Committee Ordinance states the Select Board shall appoint in case of a vacancy. Since the budget process for this year hasn't started, the Select Board should consider individuals who could serve on the Budget Committee this cycle. Their term would automatically expire on June 30, 2024.
- The Town received a notice of data breach from the auditor's office today. It was a standardized letter. They are unsure of when the breach occurred, but they became aware of it in late February. This has been taken seriously and we immediately began taking measures to ensure the Town's bank account information was protected. There is also a certain level of personal risk involved as a municipality doesn't have a social security number.
- I have once again posted an invitation to bid on the town facilities winter maintenance. The Town did not receive any bids last time. The deadline for this bid cycle is May 8th.

- There was a 2nd and 3rd quarter finance meeting at the SU69 Central Office with the Superintendent, Kate Clark, and the Business manager, Steph McBride. The FY23 audit is still not scheduled. Hopefully it can happen within the next few weeks. They are only able to upload three months of invoices to the government at a time. Once those have been reviewed and accepted, then another batch can be uploaded. The turnaround time is averaging two to three weeks. The Superintendent said that it can take longer if the invoices are returned. The main cause for invoices not being accepted has to do with dates.
Steph provided several reports that included revenues and expenditures of all funds not just the general fund. This will allow the Town's Bookkeeper to track the outflow of funds within a correct fiscal year as well as in the right category of money and not put it on a budget line that is funded by Hope taxpayers rather than special grants or food service expenditures. Their new software is expected to be live on July 1st. The Town will have a separate login in order to access the system and run reports as needed.
- I have been in contact with the Midcoast Council of Governments. One of the senior planners will be attending the May 7th Planning Board meeting to assist with the affordable house amendment to the Land Use Ordinance. In addition, I have asked him to assist the Town in updating the Comprehensive Plan. The current CP was done in 1992.
- There were 2 building permits issued since the 4/9/24 Select Board meeting:
 - Tom Tansi 26 Woodlily Ln. Addition w/ living space
 - Elizabeth Iserbyt 380 Camden Rd. Addition
- There are 468 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2024, totaling \$741,596.51. The second half of taxes is due on April 30, 2024.
- There are 14 RE accounts with remaining balances for FY2023, totaling \$33,387.84. Unpaid 2023 real estate taxes will automatically foreclose on February 11, 2025, if the accounts are not paid in full.

Adjournment:

- Charlie made a motion to adjourn at 6:14 p.m. It was seconded by Wayne.
Motion Passed 3-0



TOWN OF HOPE

441 Camden Road, Hope, ME 04847
Ph: (207) 763-4199 • Fx: (207) 763-4195
www.hopemaine.org

May 08, 2024

Town Facilities Winter Maintenance Bid:

Snyder Excavation & Landscaping, LLC.
21 Beverage Road
Hope, Me 04847

2024-2025-	\$16,000.00
2025-2026-	\$16,480.00
2026-2027-	\$16,795.00
TOTAL	\$49,455.00

Contract Extension Annual Percentage Increase 5%

(Town retains option for contract extensions for the 2027 – 2028 and 2028-2029 seasons)

Pamela S. Jordan, Town Clerk 5/8/2024

**TOWN FACILITIES WINTER MAINTENANCE BID
QUOTATION PAGE**

- a.) For the 2024-2025 season, \$ 16,000, for the facilities covered by this agreement.
- b.) For the 2025-2026 season, \$ 16,480, for the facilities covered by this agreement.
- c.) For the 2026-2027 season, \$ 16,975, for the facilities covered by this agreement.

TOTAL BID PRICE (add total prices in lines a, b, and c) = \$ 49,455.

OPTIONS

- a.) **Contract Extension Annual Percentage Increase** = 5 %
(Town retains option for contract extensions for the 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 seasons)

If favored with award of this contract, we agree to furnish the services quoted hereon at the prices and under the conditions indicated, except to offer the following as cost saving proposals:

Company Name & Address SWYDER EXCAVATION & LANDSCAPING, LLC
51 Beverage Road Hope, ME 04847

Signed:  | Owner
(name) (title)

Telephone: 763-2727 | **Date:** 4/30/24
446-4652

Title 36: TAXATION
Part 2: PROPERTY TAXES
Chapter 105: CITIES AND TOWNS
Subchapter 6: POWERS AND DUTIES OF TAX COLLECTORS

§760-A. Minor or burdensome amounts

1. Not collected. After the date for perfection of collections, municipal officers may discharge collectors from any obligation to collect unpaid personal property taxes that the municipal officers determine are too small or too burdensome to collect economically and authorize the municipal treasurer to remove those taxes from the municipal books.

[PL 1991, c. 231 (NEW).]

2. Discharged. Collectors shall identify the unpaid taxes discharged under [subsection 1 \(../36/title36sec760-A.html\)](#) on the tax lists.

[PL 1991, c. 231 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1991, c. 231 (NEW).

The Revisor's Office cannot provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public.

If you need legal advice, please consult a qualified attorney.

[Office of the Revisor of Statutes \(mailto:webmaster_ros@legislature.maine.gov\)](mailto:webmaster_ros@legislature.maine.gov) · 7 State House Station · State House Room 108 · Augusta, Maine 04333-0007

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**TOWN OF HOPE
WARRANT AND NOTICE OF
ANNUAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

June 11, 2024 - Tuesday
7:45 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Hope Town Office

TO: Adrian Humphreys, resident of the Town of Hope, in the County of Knox

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Hope, in said County, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the HOPE TOWN OFFICE, in said Town on TUESDAY, the ELEVENTH day of JUNE 2024 at 7:45a.m. then and there to act on Articles numbered 1 through 2;

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2. To elect all necessary Town Officers/Officials by secret ballot.

For articles 1 and 2, the polls shall be opened at 8:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00p.m.

For articles 1 and 2, the polls shall be opened at 8:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m. Absentee Ballots will be processed on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 listed on the Notice of Election.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF MAY 2024.

HOPE SELECT BOARD

Sarah Ann Smith, Chair

Charles Weidman, Vice Chair

Michael Schultz

Michael Brown

Wayne Luce



TOWN OF LINCOLNVILLE

493 HOPE ROAD

LINCOLNVILLE, MAINE 04849

TEL: 207-763-3555 FAX: 207-763-4545

www.town.lincolnvill.me.us

April 25, 2024

Rick Petrie, Chief Executive Officer
North East Mobile Health Services
9 Willey Road
Saco, ME 04072

RE: Proposed Agreement Amendment

Dear Mr. Petrie:

The Town of Lincolnville's current agreement with North East Mobile Health Services (NEMHS) requires, in Section IV.C. the formation of an EMS Performance Committee. As the four collaborating communities have repeatedly experienced great difficulty in gathering enough committee members for a quorum the Lincolnville Select Board would like to amend our agreement to release the Town of Lincolnville from this agreement provision.

As the performance of NEMHS is of vital importance to the Lincolnville Select Board, our constituents and visitors to our community, we would seek to insert a provision that would have NEMHS report quarterly to the Lincolnville Select Board at one of our regularly scheduled Board meetings.

If this proposed change is acceptable to NEMHS please let me know so an amendment to our agreement that will implement this change can be prepared.

As we assume that the other collaborating communities have similar provisions in their agreements with NEMHS, we are sending copies of this letter to each of their Select Boards and Town Managers or Administrators so they are aware of the Town of Lincolnville's intentions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. Kinney", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

David B. Kinney
Town Administrator

cc: Hope Select Board
Camden Select Board
Rockport Select Board
Samantha Mank, Hope Town Administrator
Audra Caler, Camden Town Manager
Jon Duke, Rockport Town Manager



**MAINE MUNICIPAL
ASSOCIATION SINCE 1936**

60 Community Drive | Augusta, ME 04330-9486
1-800-452-8786 (in state) | (t) 207-623-8428
(f) 207-624-0129

To: MMA's Key Municipal Officials in Senate District 12

From: Diane Hines, President, Maine Municipal Association

Date: April 24, 2024

Re: Nominations to MMA's 2024-2026 Legislative Policy Committee

This memo begins the process of electing 70 dedicated municipal officials to serve on MMA's Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) over the next two-year period. Given the importance of this Policy Committee to MMA's overall mission, I urge you to help us identify nominees for service during the 2024-2026 biennium.

The LPC brings elected and appointed officials together from towns and cities across the state. According to its by-laws, the purpose of the LPC is "*to define municipal interests and to maximize those interests through effective participation in the legislative process.*" Operating something like a town meeting, the LPC establishes MMA's public policy positions on all matters of direct and statewide municipal interest for representation in the State House.

After the next LPC is elected, its first task will be to develop MMA's legislative agenda for submission to the Legislature in January 2025. Beginning in early 2025, the LPC will meet to determine MMA's position on all municipally related legislation submitted by the Governor and legislators. MMA's legislative staff advocates for the positions established by the LPC.

The membership of the LPC tends to be a mixture of seasoned municipal officials, who bring an extraordinary depth of experience to the table, and new members with fresh concerns and insights. Speaking as a former Chair of the LPC, it is my observation that the debates and decision-making accomplished by this Committee often include public policy discussions of the highest caliber. The results certainly help establish MMA's credibility in the Maine legislative process.

A Nomination Form is enclosed. Two municipal officials are elected from each of Maine's 35 Senate Districts. What follows is background information on the process of election, and the suggested time commitment to serve.

Background Information. Any elected or appointed municipal official holding office in any MMA member community is eligible to serve on the Committee. There are two seats on the LPC for each State Senate District. Members serve two-year terms, representing their own community and the other municipalities in their Senate District.

(over)

LPC activities require a time commitment of approximately ten hours a month during legislative sessions (i.e., during the first 4 months of each calendar year) which includes attendance at the monthly meeting and contacts with other communities and legislators in the district as issues arise. The LPC is also engaged in the development of MMA's legislative agenda during the fall and early winter of each even-numbered year, which typically involves at least one additional meeting in Augusta. All mileage expenses are reimbursed. MMA's strength as a municipal advocate depends on the active help of a dedicated LPC membership.

More information about MMA's Legislative Policy Committee and the Association's entire advocacy program can be found at the Legislative/Advocacy link at MMA's website <https://www.memun.org/Advocacy-Communications/Legislative-Policy-Committee/Handbook>. In particular, the *LPC Handbook* describes the Association's overall policy development process and procedures in more detail.

Nomination Process

Your municipality is entitled to nominate a representative to the LPC.

- The nominee may be either elected or appointed but must be serving currently as a municipal official.
- You may nominate any municipal official from any member town or city within your Senate/LPC District; you do not have to nominate someone from your municipality.
- The names and brief bios of all municipal officials properly nominated will appear on the LPC ballot, which will be distributed on June 13th.

Nominee Profile

Because the municipal officers may not be familiar with a nominee from another municipality, a brief description of each nominee who completes the enclosed **Nominee Profile Sheet** will be provided with the ballots that are distributed in mid-June. Please make sure that the person you nominate has a chance to complete the Nominee Profile Sheet and that it is returned to MMA with the Nomination Form.

Deadline for Submitting Nomination

- ✍ The Chairman of your Board of Selectman, Council or Assessors (the "nominator") *and the nominee* must sign the nomination form for it to be valid. If you are unable to obtain the signature of the nominee prior to the deadline, an email from the nominee signifying their willingness to serve, will serve as their signature.
- ✉ The forms must be returned to MMA by 5:00 P.M. on June 12, 2024, to be counted. Ballots will be sent out immediately after the nomination process closes, so make sure the nomination form is received by MMA by that deadline. Please return the nomination form *and* nominee profile to Laura Ellis at MMA either by FAX (624-0129), by email (Lellis@memun.org) or by mail using the enclosed envelope.

If you have any questions, please call MMA's Advocacy & Communications staff at 1-800-452-8786 or 623-8428.

NOMINATION FORM

Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee

July 2024 to June 2026


Senate District 12

Appleton
Camden
Cushing
Friendship
Hope
Matinicus Isle Plt.

North Haven
Owls Head
Rockland
Rockport
Saint George
South Thomaston

Thomaston
Union
Vinalhaven
Warren

The municipal officers of _____ hereby nominate:
Print name of your municipality

Nominee: _____ 
Print name of Nominee

Nominee's municipality: _____ Position: _____

Date: _____ 
Signature of Nominator

Print name of Nominator

Consent

I agree to accept the nomination and to serve if elected to the MMA Legislative Policy Committee:

Date: _____ 
Signature of Nominee

Please return Nomination Form by 5:00 p.m. by Wednesday, June 12, 2024, to:

Laura Ellis - Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330
FAX: 624-0129

Nominations received after 5:00 p.m. on June 12, 2024 will not be counted.

LPC NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY

To: Legislative Policy Committee Nominees

From: Maine Municipal Association

Date: April 24, 2024

To help municipal officials make an informed choice when they vote for their LPC representatives, we ask nominees to provide some background information regarding their municipal service and why they want to be LPC members. A “nominee profile” is included on the ballot for each nominee who provides us with a profile.

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Municipality: _____ **Years in current position:** _____

Mailing Address: _____
(include zip code, please)

Email address: _____

Prior (recent) municipal experience: _____

Have you served on the LPC before? No Yes **If yes, what years?** _____

If you have served on any other MMA Committees, please note them: _____

Please indicate your primary issues of concern, and/or reasons for wanting to serve on the LPC:

Please return this completed form to Laura Ellis at MMA either in the enclosed envelope, via email (lellis@memun.org) or fax 624-0129 by June 12, 2024.

Thank You!

The Boston Post Cane Information Center

News and History of a New England Tradition



Origins of the tradition



On August 2, 1909, Mr. Edwin A. Grozier, Publisher of the Boston Post, a newspaper, forwarded to the Board of Selectmen in 700 towns* (no cities included) in New England a gold-headed ebony cane with the request that it be presented with the compliments of the Boston Post to the oldest male citizen of the town, to be used by him as long as he lives (or moves from the town), and at his death handed down to the next oldest citizen of the town. The cane would belong to the town and not the man who received it.

The canes were all made by J.F. Fradley and Co., a New York manufacturer, from ebony shipped in seven-foot lengths from the Congo in Africa. They were cut to cane lengths, seasoned for six months, turned on lathes to the right thickness, coated and polished. They had a 14-carat gold head two inches long, decorated by hand, and a ferruled tip. The head was engraved with the inscription, — Presented by the Boston Post to the oldest citizen of (name of town) — “To Be Transmitted”. The Board of Selectmen were to be the trustees of the cane and keep it always in the the hands of the oldest citizen. Apparently no Connecticut or Vermont towns were included (at one point it was thought that two towns in Vermont had canes, but this turned out to be a bit of a myth).

In 1924, Mr. Grozier died, and the Boston Post was taken over by his son, Richard, who failed to continue his father’s success and eventually died in a mental hospital. At one time the Boston Post was considered the nation’s leading standard-sized newspaper in circulation. Competition from other newspapers, radio and television contributed to the Post’s decline and it went out of business in 1957.

The custom of the Boston Post Cane took hold in those towns lucky enough to have canes. As years went by some of the canes were lost, stolen, taken out of town and not returned to the Selectmen or destroyed by accident.

In 1930, after considerable controversy, eligibility for the cane was opened to women as well.

—

* Some current day cities were towns in 1909.

Errata: For a number of years we reported the number of canes as 431 – certainly an unusual number. This was the number from Ralph’s 1985 article that the original web page and most of the above was based on. Barbara Staples has done extensive research on the cane and has determined that the number of canes dispersed was 700. Where 431 came from is a bit of a mystery and we’re a bit embarassed to have perpetuated this error. Barbara’s surveys positively identified well over 600 towns that received the cane, and we’re past 460 canes identified, so the 431 number is not even close. Having corrected this mistake *many* years ago we are bemused to see this number pop up from time to time in various newspaper accounts.