 TOWN OF EAGLE LAKE

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING**

**September 18, 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**: **TIME 6:05 P.M.:** The meeting was called to order by Board Chair,

Arthur Carroll at **6:05** P.M. Board members present included: Arthur Carroll, via ZOOM videoconferencing from Italy, Apryl Gagnon, Denise Martin, Raymond Saucier and Paul Nadeau.

 Others present included: Town Manager, John Sutherland and Deputy Clerk Rita Ricciardi.

 Eagle Lake residents Scott and Nancy Ayles, Maurice Pelletier, Brian and Alex Bouchard,

 Russell and Connie Soucie, Cyr Martin, John L. Martin,

2. **PUBLIC HEARING FOR A CDBG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

 **APPLICATION IN SUPPORT OF BALD EAGLE**

 Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll opened the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m. Eagle Lake

 Town Manager John Sutherland gave an update on the status of the CDBG grant application

 the Town of Eagle Lake is submitting to the Maine Office of Community Development

 (CDBG program) on behalf of Bald Eagle Inc. Tom Roy is requesting $30,000 to help him

 finish rebuilding his store. The original building was grandfathered due to its age. Once the

 original building burned; Tom rebuilt the store. This time he is required to install a fire

 suppression system for his kitchen and gas pumps. The additional cost is $42,000 and the

 amount is not covered under Tom’s insurance policy. Tom paid for the amount out of the

 funds he has on hand. However, this is leaving him short to finish his store and replenish his

 inventory. The grant application must be submitted by Friday, September 27, 2024. Arthur

 asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or concerns regarding the application.

 Hearing no concerns, Arthur asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

 Paul Nadeau motioned to close the public hearing, seconded by Denise Martin.

 **Vote: Unanimously Approved.**

 Public Hearing closed at 6:13 p.m.

 Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll opened the September 18, 2024 Board of

 Selectmen’s meeting at 6:13 p.m.

3. **REVIEW AND CONSIDER MOVING FORWARD WITH CDBG GRANT**

 **APPLICATION**

 Arthur said the first order of business is to vote on moving forward with the CDBG

 grant application for Tom Roy and Bald Eagle Inc.

 Motioned Denise Martin to move the application forward, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

**Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

**4. REVIEW AND CONSIDER A REQUEST BY BRIAN BOUCHARD FOR A
 LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN FOR A SECOND
 LIQUOR LICENSE IN EAGLE LAKE**

 Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll asked the Board what their general feeling was

 towards this item and if they were ready to vote to move forward. Eagle Lake Selectman

 Paul Nadeau said that personally, he did not want to take sides. Paul added that if we want

 to encourage business in Town we can more forward and let the State decide; I am in favor.

 Selectperson Denise Martin added that we have three stores in town, Tom Roy would like

 one as well. Can we get two letters of recommendation and let everyone have one? Then

 the State can decide.

Eagle Lake resident and owner of B+C Pitstop, Brian Bouchard, said he had a discussion

 with State Liquor Inspector Eric Lagassie about getting a second liquor license in Eagle

 Lake. Eric informed him that the law will allow for one additional license to sell liquor in

 Eagle Lake for areas that have high tourism counts as long as the local Board of Selectmen

 requests it. Brian added that he felt that since he contacted the State, he did his homework,

 he talked to John previously on the subject matter, that he should get the one additional

 liquor license should the State of Maine grant it. Brian stated that his goal is not to hurt

 Russell and Connie, but to have a little hard liquor on the shelf. Eagle Lake resident Rita

 Ricciardi said that Brian is requesting a second liquor license to sell liquor during the hours

 that Eagle Lake Grocery is closed. What if Eagle Lake Grocery extended their hours? Brian

 stated that it will not just benefit tourists, local people will benefit as well. Brian stated We

 cannot forget our local people.

 Eagle Lake Selectperson Denise Martin stated that she will abstain from voting as Brian has

 stated that she is related to Russell and Connie. Denise said that she is not related to

 Russell and Connie, but her daughter married their son and because of that she will not vote

 on the matter. Denise added we live in a small town. Yes, my daughter married Russell’s

 son, but Brian, I baby sat your son.

 Eagle Lake Selectman Raymond Saucier stated that for him it was a difficult choice

 because he feels he has to choose one business over another.

 Eagle Lake resident John L. Martin stated that it is not up to the town to make a decision.

 The Town writes the letter requesting the second liquor license, the State will then come in

 and determine if there is a need for a second liquor license. If the State determines there is

 a need, then a bid process will take place. The State will make the final determination.

 Eagle Lake resident Cyr Martin said he ran into this issue as town manager of Ashland.

 The town had to write a letter requesting a second store. It is a 2-year process. There will

 be an ad in the paper, a public hearing to gather input from the local residents and even

 then it does not guarantee a second store. Tom Roy, from Bald Eagle Inc. could apply.

Eagle Lake Grocery Store owner Russell Soucie stated that alcohol makes up 25 percent of his sales. I operated for years without no complaints, If Brian wants a liquor license, he can buy my store. I feel like you are taking the shirt off my back.

Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll asked what the consensus of the Board is and if they were ready to take action tonight.

Eagle Lake Selectman Paul Nadeau said that he preferred not to drag this out. We do not decide it. I motion that we move this forward. The motion was seconded by Arthur Carroll.

**Vote: 3 in favor, 1 opposed (Apryl) 1 abstained (Denise)**

The vote was to move forward with sending the letter requesting the second liquor license.

 **5. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

 **UPDATES**

 **a. Micro Loan**

 **b. Pond Brook Estates**

 **c. Roads**

 **d. NASWA**

 **e. Eagle Lake Fire Department**

 John reviewed the Town Manager’s report with the Board. He updated the Board on the

 status of the Micro Loan accounts. John added that the Ford F150 that the fire department

 uses for the Jaws of Life unit failed its yearly State of Maine motor vehicle inspection. We

 received a quote from Shaun Gagnon for $1,529 to repair the issues that he can repair. The

 truck will still need body work and replace the input seal to the torque converter. Eagle

 Lake Fire Chief Robert St. Germain said he was concerned because rockers and the

 remaining body work can get expensive. John said he will get the total cost for the unit to

 pass inspection and present the information to the Board at their next meeting.

 John added that he did a follow up on the town of Eagle Lake’s Aid to Firefighters grant

 application. John said he reached out to Lance Harbour and requested an update. Lance

 informed him that rescue trucks were not a priority for rural communities in this year’s

 grant. Lance recommended the Town of Eagle Lake apply for a brush truck and add

 compartments to allow it to carry the jaws of life unit.

 Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll moved to have John look at an Aid to Firefighters

 grant application for a Brush truck, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

  **Vote: Unanimously in Favor**

**6. MONTHLY FINANCIALS –August 2024**

 **Review monthly financials for August**

1. **Bank Reconciliations; Including Pond Brook Reconciliation**
2. **Sample Check Audit**
3. **Sign Warrants**
4. **Microloan**

 The Board reviewed the financials for the month of August 2024. Arthur Carroll asked

 if there were any questions or concerns. Hearing no concerns Arthur asked for a motion.

  **Bank Reconciliations:**

 Denise Martin motioned to approve the Bank Reconciliations for the Town of Eagle

 Lake for the month of August, seconded by Paul Nadeau.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 Denise Martin motioned to approve the bank reconciliations for the months of July and

 August for Pond Brook Estates, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 **Sample Check Audit for August:**

Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll asked the Board if everyone had an opportunity

 to review the Sample Check Audit for the month of August. Hearing that everyone had,

 he asked if anyone was willing to make a motion.

 Denise Martin motioned to approve the Sample Check Audit for both the Town of

 Eagle Lake and Pond Brook Estates, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in Favor.**

  **Micro Loan Reconciliation:**

 The Board reviewed the Micro Loan Reconciliation for August. Eagle Lake Board

 Chair Arthur Carroll asked how the Board felt about the Micro Loan Reconciliation.

 Denise Martin moved to approve the Micro Loan Reconciliation for the month of

 August, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in Favor.**

  **Warrants:**

 The Board reviewed the warrants for the previous month.

 Denise Martin motioned to sign the warrants, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Maurice Pelletier requested to speak to the Board. Maurice expressed concern that the

 Eagle Lake Water and Sewer District hired a new superintendent. His father and uncle

 compromise two-thirds of the Board of Directors of the Water and Sewer District.

 Maurice questioned how this could have happened and what about nepotism. How

 could the Board vote to set the superintendents salary, evaluate his work performance

 or determine his benefits package without violating nepotism standards. Maurice asked

 if the Board of Selectmen could take over operations of the Water and Sewer

 Department. The Board would become the governing body and the employees would

 become employees of the Town of Eagle Lake. John informed Maurice that the Water

 District Board of Trustees was set up by legislation of the State of Maine. John said that

 he felt that any changes to the structure would also require legislation.

 Maurice added that he felt that the property owned by the Town of Eagle Lake that

 contained the public beach and pavilion areas should be leased to Old Mill Marina.

 They have a camper park and a boat launch on their property next door. If the town

 leased the property to them, they would get revenue from the lease. John informed

 Maurice that the pavilion was donated to the Town of Eagle Lake. Any lease would

 need approval from the donor.

 **8. REVIEW AND ACCEPT MINUTES FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

 **AUGUST 28, 2024, BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING**

 **SEPTEMBER 9, 2024, SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN’S MEETING**

Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll asked the Board if they had a chance to review

 the minutes of the August 28, 2024 Board of Selectmen’s meeting and the September 9,

 2024 Special Town Meeting. Upon hearing no issues or concerns, Arthur asked for a

 motion.

 Denise Martin Motioned to approve minutes for August 28, 2024 Board of Selectmen’s

 meeting and September 9, 2024 Special Town Meeting seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

 **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 **9. REVIEW AND CONSIDER BIDS FOR HEATING OIL**

The Town of Eagle Lake received two bids for heating oil for the upcoming winter season. Daigle Oil submitted a bid for $254.3 fixed price, 2.651 rack price, Kerosene is $3.168 and diesel is $2.713. Dead River Oil Company submitted a bid of: $2.616 fixed price, 2.38.5 rack price, Kerosene is $3.29.6 and diesel is $2.79.5. Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll asked the Board what their thoughts were on the bids and if they were ready to vote.

Paul Nadeau motioned to accept the bid from Daigle Oil Company based on price, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

**Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 **10. REVIEW AND CONSIDER BIDS FOR FURNACE MAINTENANCE**

The Board reviewed bids for Furnace Maintenance for the upcoming winter season. John informed the Board that in addition to advertising in the local paper, he sent out a bid packet to Daigle Oil, Dead River Oil Company and Thayer LLC. We received bids from Dead River and Daigle and no bid from Thayer LLC. Upon opening the bids, the amounts are as follows:

Daigle Oil Company: Parts 15% mark up, Labor $105.00 during regular business hours and $205.00 nights and weekends.

Dead River Oil Company: Labor $130.00 during regular business hours and $195.00 nights and weekends.

Paul Nadeau motioned to award the bid to Daigle Oil Company based on price, seconded by Apryl Gagnon

  **Vote: Unanimously in Favor**

 **11. REVIEW AND CONSIDER BIDS FOR MAKAYLA DRIVE ROAD REPAIR**

The Board reviewed bids for Makayla Drive. John informed the Board that the work will consist of building up the unpaved portion of Makayla Drive by adding gravel compacted to 4 inches on the roadway and the turnaround and reshaping the shoulders so the water will run off towards the ditch. Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll said that we have two bids. After the bids were opened, the amounts were:

 Simard Construction $ 4,920 and JBBC Inc. $4,850.

 The Board noted how close the bids were.

 Arthur Carroll said he will motion to award the project to JBBC Inc. based on price, seconded by Raymond Saucier.

 **Vote: Unanimously in Favor.**

  **12. OPEN POLLS 8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M. ACCORDING TO 21-A, M.R.S.A. ARTICLE SECTION 626 FOR THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, PRESIDENTIAL AND STATE OF MAINE GENERAL ELECTION**

John reminded the Board that Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Eagle Lake’s polls need to be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. by State of Maine Statute. John added that since this is a Presidential Election, he is expecting traffic to be heavy at the polling place.

 Motion made by Denise Martin to open the polls from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 for elections, seconded by Paul Nadeau.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

  **13 APPOINT ELECTION WARDEN AND ELECTION CLERKS**

John informed the Board that he is expecting a contentious election with a number of

 voters coming out in support of their candidates. Because of the volume expected, John

 said that he is recommending a veteran crew of election workers. John asked the Board

 to appoint Dana Nadeau as Election Warden and Ann Nadeau and Laurie Belanger

 Boutot as Ballot Clerks.

 Motion made by Denise Martin to appoint Dana Nadeau as Election Warden and Ann

 Nadeau and Laurie Belanger- Boutot as ballot clerks, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

  **14. REVIEW AND CONSIDER UPDATING FIRE DEPARTMENT STANDARD**

 **OPEATING PROCEDURES**

 John reminded the Board that at the previous meeting Eagle Lake Fire Chief Robert St.

 Germain asked if the Board would consider revising the Standard Operating Procedures

 for the Eagle Lake Fire Department to lower the age requirements for driving Eagle

 Lake Fire Department’s fire engines from the current 25 to 21. John stated that he

 reached out to a number of area fire chiefs to see what their age requirements were for

 operating their own fire engines. John was surprised that a number of Chiefs said their

 age was 18 with successful completion of an EVOC course and the confidence of the

 department’s officers and chief. John added that he reached out to Maine Municipal

 and they recommend that we go no lower than 21. This is the age that the chief is

 requesting that we lower it to.

 Motion made by Denise Martin to change the Eagle Lake Fire Department’s Standard

 Operating Procedures to lower the age to drive Fire Engine from 25 to 21 provided

 they pass an EVOC course for the piece of equipment that they wish to operate and get

 the confidence and approval of the Officers of the Eagle Lake Fire Department and the

 Fire Chief, seconded by Paul Nadeau.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 **15. REVIEW AND CONSIDER PRICE ON MAP 3 LOT 10-1** John informed the Board that he received a call from real estate agent Holly Hardwick requesting the Board consider lowering the price on the property that they have for sale on Aroostook Road. Holly told John that the property is wet and she is recommending that they selling price be lowered from $38,000 to $34,000.

 Motion made by Denise Martin to follow the advice of real estate agent Holly Hardwick and lower the selling price for Map 3 Lot 10-1 from $38,000 to $34,000, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 16. SLY BROOK ROAD SUBSTATION UPDATE John said that he does not have much to update the Board on the Sly Brook Road Substation. He has a meeting with HUD Environmental Review Office Joshua Helms next week and he is hoping to get an update on where the Environmental Review stands. John stated that during previous conversations, an overhead of the site showing where the stakes are located would be an asset to moving the Review forward. Eagle Lake Selectman Paul Nadeau said he knew of someone who had a drone. Paul said he will reach out to him and see if he can take some photos for us.

 17. OTHER BUSINESS

 John reported he had no other business.

 18. ADJOURN

 Motion made by Denise Martin to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m., seconded by Apryl

 Gagnon.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

  **TOWN OF EAGLE LAKE**

**BOARD OF ASSESSOR’S MEETING**

**September 18, 2024**

 Eagle Lake Board Chair Arthur Carroll opened the Board of Assessors meeting at 8:08 p.m.

1. Review and Sign the 2024-25 Assessor’s Certification of Commitment, Municipal

 Assessment Warrant and Certificate of Commitment for the 2024-25 Municipal Tax

 Commitment.

 John presented the 2024-25 Assessor’s Certification of Commitment, Municipal

 Assessment Warrant and Certificate of Commitment for the 2024-25 Municipal Tax

 Commitment for the Board to review. The certificates were for the 15.78 mil rate.

Motion made by Denise Martin to sign the 2024-25 Assessor’s Certification of Commitment, Municipal Assessment Warrant and Certificate of Commitment for the 2024-25 Municipal Tax Commitment, seconded by Apryl Gagnon.

 **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 ADJOURN

 Motion made by Apryl Gagnon to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m., seconded by Denise

 Martin.

  **Vote: Unanimously in favor.**

 Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.