

Town of Ashland
Special Town Council Meeting

May 20, 2024

Present: Chairman Tyler Michaud, Sherri Calhoun, Christopher Bessey, Gerard Raymond, Gayle Burby and Manager Cyr Martin.

Absent: All Present

- I. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Michaud.
- II. **Public comments:** No public comments
- III. **Consent items:** No Consent Items
- IV. **New Business:**
 1. Sherri Calhoun motions to reverse the order of New Business Chris Bessey Seconded. No Discussion. Motion passed. Discuss and vote on NorthStar Motor Sports request to utilize the Ashland Town Trotting Park to have motor bike races. Buddy Collins, owner of NorthStar Motor Sports, would like to lease the Ashland Trotting Park from the town of Ashland. The races that were recently held at the sawdust pile brought a lot of kids and families out. And he saw the impact it had on the kids. His nonprofit company would like to bring something new to Ashland. The saw dust pile has limited parking and limited space. He explained he would like to make additional tracks, make a camping area, with Buddy investing in septic and water. He would also like to utilize the mud pits again. He wants to improve The Trotting Park and not to step on anyone's toes. He understands that people walk in the park and use the playground and would like to try to accommodate them. Some comments that were made by community members were, People Walk their dogs there, picnic there, play ultimate frisbee there and kids ride bikes there. Would they still be able to do that? Chairman Michaud liked the idea but wants to know the legality of it. We need to find out if it could go forward. Manager Martin said he would check with legal council and bring it back to the Town Council. Then it would go to a Public Hearing and a Town Vote in a Special Town Meeting. Sherri Calhoun thinks it's a good idea but understands that people want to walk and play ultimate frisbee there so we would have to come up with a solution for them. Chris Bessey knows it's used by community members but the councils job is to bring revenue to the town. Gerard Raymond likes Buddy's Idea but he didn't realize how many community members use The Trotting Park and thinks everyone needs to work together on this. And Gayle Burby thinks Buddy's idea is great and she thinks Buddy and his group want to work to accommodate everyone. Sherri Calhoun, pending legal approval motioned to send it to a Public Hearing to lease the land to NorthStar Motor Sport. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion Passed. Information meeting will be June 4th and The special Town meeting with the vote will be June 12.
 2. Review and discuss and approve or disprove new Subsidy calculations: Sherri Calhoun said the issue with the towns was not the amount of money it was that if we split the

subsidies up they would take them. We split them up so I want to take them at their word. Gerard Raymond commented that the towns wanted to see where the subsidies went and what is left over. We gave them the information they wanted. We should send it back to them to vote on and see if they keep their word. Chris Bessey said I don't like the Redline Subsidy It looks like they are being fined. Sherri Calhoun motions to send the subsidies back to the towns as proposed with an answer back to us by 7th Chris seconded. Sherri Calhoun amends to change the date to June 14. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion Carried.

V. **Old Business:** No Old Business

VI. **Manager's Report:** No Managers Report

VII. **Council items:**

1. Gayle Burby asked Manager Martin if it was required for the council members to take MMA classes. Manager Martin said it's not required but it is recommended. Next class is June 25 at The Northeastland in Presque Isle. The town will sign up all council members to go. Gayle Burby asked Manager Martin what is being done with the meth houses in town. Manager Martin explained that he calls the MDEA every week and suggested the townspeople call also.

VIII. **Adjournment:** Sherri Calhoun motioned to adjourn the meeting, Chris Bessey Seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

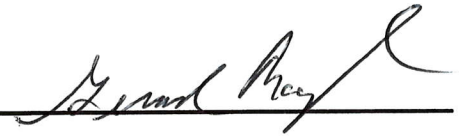
Respectfully submitted,


Susan Jimmo

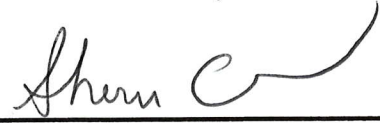
Recording Secretary



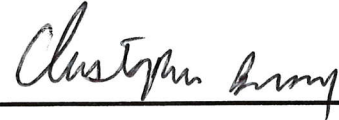
Tyler Michaud, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gerard Raymond", written above a solid horizontal line.

Gerard Raymond

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sherri Calhoun", written above a solid horizontal line.

Sherri Calhoun

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christopher Bessey", written above a solid horizontal line.

Christopher Bessey

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gayle Burby", written above a solid horizontal line.

Gayle Burby