

KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION

Special Meeting

Tuesday – July 25, 2023 – 11:30 A.M.

The Special Meeting of the Knox County Commission was held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 11:30 A.M., at the County Courthouse, 62 Union Street, Rockland, Maine.

Commission members present were: Edward B. Glaser, Commissioner District #1 and Richard L. Parent, Jr., Commissioner District #2.

County staff present included: County Administrator Andrew Hart, Administrative Assistant Wendy Galvin, Finance Director Kathy Robinson and Sheriff Patrick Polky.

Absent: Sharyn L. Pohlman, Commissioner District #3

Others: Steve Betts, Reporter for Village Soup/Courier Gazette.

Special Meeting – Agenda Tuesday – July 25, 2023 – 11:30 A.M.

I. 11:30 Meeting Called to Order

II. 11:31 Action Item

1. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Former Deputy Timothy Davis for K-9 Marek.
2. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a K-9 Purchase and Sales Agreement.

III. Adjourn

I. Meeting Called to Order

Commissioner Glaser called the Special Meeting of the Knox County Commission to order at 11:31 A.M.

II. Action Item

1. Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Former Deputy Timothy Davis for K-9 Marek.

- **Sheriff** – We consulted with legal counsel to make sure everything was on the “up & up” before we proceeded. Unfortunately, we lost Deputy Davis as a Deputy. We tried on a couple occasions to retain him, but personal reasons drew him away. In the past, when this has happened, we’ve allowed those canine Deputies to purchase their canine. Marek was slightly different in the fact the County actually made the purchase of him without a Deputy involved. It was recommended to that we sell Marek outright to Mr. Davis. Then that will leave us with two (2) retired Deputies.
- **Commissioner Glaser** – How long was Marek with us?
- **Sheriff** – I believe we got him in 2019. So, we have had Marek for four (4) years.
- **Commissioner Glaser** – It seems like it’s a fair price for a trained dog. There’s nothing in this agreement that says the two of them can’t work as a canine team someplace else. When someone leaves you put in an anti-compete clause, and we are not doing that.
- **Sheriff** – That is correct. That is part of the sale. At this point, the understanding is that he will be out of service. If they decide to go back in service it will be up to that agency to deal.
- **Commissioner Glaser** – We have no say in it whatsoever. We are basically saying go do whatever you want to do. You have a trained dog, if you want to continue then you can do it.
- **Sheriff** – Correct.
- **Commissioner Parent** – How old is Marek?
- **Sheriff** - He was about six (6) months to a year when we first looked at him. He’s about 5 or 6 right now. He could make it approximately two (2) more years in service if they chose that.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Parent to Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement with Former Deputy Timothy Davis for K-9 Marek. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Glaser. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

2. **Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a K-9 Purchase and Sales Agreement.**

- **Sheriff** – Known handler had a few additional dogs and was looking for a place to donate two (2). Our Deputy Chris Taylor will receive a donated dog. We had some assessments done with the training team, and we're still waiting on the veterinary interview which should be today or tomorrow. As long as that all works out, we would like to enter into a Purchase and Sales Agreement with that Deputy like we have done in the past. This will be like the old version; we pay a dollar so that there is a canine on our payroll. The new dog's name is Lucy. We will get her trained, deputized and then she will start working primarily for tracking purposes.
- **Commissioner Glaser** – How long is training going to take, and how long until we will get a K-9 Officer?
- **Sheriff** – The training can take a few months. That will depend on the aptitude of the animal. Most likely within a year to 18 months we should she her performing.
- **Commissioner Parent** – If we need dog in the meantime, what do we do?
- **Sheriff** – We would reach out to our partner agencies. A few around the County have canine and the State Police do as well.

- *A motion was made by Commissioner Parent to Act to Approve and Authorize the County Administrator to Sign a K-9 Purchase and Sales Agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Glaser. A vote was taken with all in favor.*

III. Adjourn

The special meeting adjourned at 11:38 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Galvin
Administrative Assistant

The Knox County Commission approved these minutes at their regular meeting held on August 8th, 2023.