

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF JULY 27, 2010

Prepared by Rick Freeman

**Notes:** (1) If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

(2) These are not official minutes - - just notes taken by me. Official minutes will be available from the Town Office and will be posted on the Town website and at the Town Office and other places following Board approval at the next meeting.

### THE MEETING:

There were three members of the public present.

Mr. Birdsall opened the meeting by calling for public comments. Bob Trabona reported that the Meetings page of the Town website had accidentally been deleted. He will be working with the State to restore it. In the meantime meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes of past meetings of boards and committees are not available on the web.

After making a small correction regarding Mrs. Pinette's comments on the award of the snow plowing contract, the minutes of the meeting of July 13 were approved.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEMS: In my judgment, the following three items were the most important things covered during the meeting.

1. Ron Hayward appeared for the Fire Department to report on modifications to the Five Islands Fire House needed to accommodate the new "Engine #3" which is expected to arrive in three weeks to a month. The Fire Department has a proposal from Frohmiller Construction to do the work for \$6,087. The Selectmen approved modifying the Town owned building and the expenditure of the required amount from the Fire Department Sinking Fund. The Selectmen also approved work to fix a leaking roof on the Five Islands Fire House provided the cost is no more than \$1,500.

2. Mrs. McDonald reported that the Town has just received the judge's decision in the Town's appeal of the Board of Environmental Protection's (BEP) rejection of our definition of "developed area" in our Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. The judge affirmed the BP order and rejected the Town's appeal. [Note: I expect that the Planning Board will be discussing this decision at its next meeting on Wednesday, August 4 at 7 PM.]

3. The Regional Planning Committee came in to brief the Board on the status of talks with members of Alternative Organizational Structure (AOS) 49 about joining them to meet School Consolidation requirements. Present for the Committee were Kristin Malin, Donald Cowing, Nina Roth-Wells, Colleen Hudson, and Meg McDiarmid. The Committee has reached agreement with AOS 49 to join them effective July 1, 2011. The members of AOS 49 are Boothbay, Boothbay Harbor, Edgecomb, and Southport. The agreement allows Georgetown to

keep control of its budget, to maintain school choice, and the keep ownership of our building. Costs will be lower than the present arrangement with Augusta.

The Committee is planning public informational meetings on September 13 and October 21. There will be a mailing with information in late September. The agreement will be put to a vote at the November 2 regular election. More information will soon be available at the School web page:

[www.georgetown.u47.k12.me.us/](http://www.georgetown.u47.k12.me.us/)

The new AOS will be called "Rocky Channels AOS." The indian meaning of Sheepscot is (roughly speaking) Rocky Channels.

Other items of note include the following. For a complete record of the meeting, see the minutes.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Information on the Maine Revenue Service's "Circuit Breaker" Program is now available at the Town Office.

Mrs. McDonald is still gathering information regarding a question from the Trench family about the assessment of their property in the open space program.

An amendment to the lease for Todd's Landing to extend the lease beyond its expiration on June 30, 2010 pending agreement on a new lease was approved and signed by the Selectmen.

A memo was received from the TOPMB requesting support for the development of detailed policy for enforcing the collection of users fees for the wharf and floats. The Selectmen supported this action. The TOPMB is meeting at 4 PM Wednesday, July 28 to develop the policy.

The Department of Environmental Protection has approved the amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance voted by the Town in June.

The State Planning Office has approved our amendments to the Floodplain Ordinance but is requesting additional changes to be made at our next regular Town meeting.

State law regarding overboard discharges has been changed. The information has been posted and owners with overboard discharges have been notified.

### OLD BUSINESS:

On appointments to boards and committees:

- John Teller was appointed alternate to the Harbors Committee on a 2 to 1 vote (Mr. Plummer opposed).

- There are openings on the Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission (3), and Shellfish Conservation Committee.

The position of Animal Control Officer is open. An interested candidate will be interviewed at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Mrs. Pinette offered clarifications to the comments attributed to her in the Times-Record account of the meeting of July 13 and commented on the letter to the editor from Charles Collins published on Wednesday, July 21

#### NEW BUSINESS

There was some discussion of the damage to roads from the rains of July 21 and 23. It was reported that Mr. Savoie was making progress on repairs to the Town roads and that the State would continue its work on repairs to the state road.

The Selectmen then went into executive session with members of the Solid Waste Management Committee to discuss personnel matters

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday August 10 at the Town Office.

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