

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF January 11, 2011

Prepared by Rick Freeman

Note: (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 web site and at the Town Office and other places following Board approval at the next meeting.

(3). Reports of earlier meetings and some supplementary materials are available at my Town Meeting website:

www.singingbridge.net

THE MEETING: There were two members of the public present at the start of the meeting. Dale Savoie joined the meeting later.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The first item on the agenda is normally an invitation for public comment. I raised the following question:

"Do you have a procedure or process in place for evaluating the performance of the snow plow contractor? My reason for asking is that I have gotten comments from several Town residents to the effect that the Contractor is not doing a good job and especially that the main road in Arrowsic has been in better condition than the Georgetown roads. I have told these people that their comments should be directed to the Selectmen."

Each of the Selectmen responded that they often drove the Town roads during and after snow storms to observe the condition of the roads. They said that if anyone had complaints they should call any of the Selectmen and that they would forward the complaints to the Contractor for immediate attention.

Their phone numbers are:

Geoff Birdsall - 371-2387

Dolores Pinette - 371-2444 (or at the Georgetown Country Store - 371-2106)

Bill Plummer - 449-6321

When Dale Savoie joined the meeting later, he said that people with complaints or problems should also call him at:

751-1952

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING The minutes of the meeting of December 28, 2010 were approved.

TAX ABATEMENT REQUESTS:

1. Bill van Tuinen has written to Dr. Sampson and Mr. and Mrs. Magliozzi requesting additional information on their requested abatements.

2. Bill van Tuinen recommended an abatement of \$13,700 on the request of Mr. and Mrs. Magliozzi for an abatement on Lot 10R-026 due to an error in mapping a property split. The Selectmen voted to accept his recommendation.

3. Bill van Tuinen will be at the Town Office on Thursday, January 27. He will meet with the Selectmen in a Public Meeting at 9:30 to discuss abatement issues. He will then be available to meet with property owners to answer questions. People interested in meeting with him on that day should call Mary McDonald (371-2820) to set up an appointment.

4. Two additional abatement requests (Barbara Barabe and the Merricks) were forwarded to Bill van Tuinen for his recommendation.

CORRESPONDENCE: A number of items were briefly described by Mary McDonald. One item is a copy of a request from Robert Bolster to renew an aquaculture license for culturing oysters in Robinhood Cove. This is available for inspection on the bulletin board at the Town Office.

There were also requests for funding in the next Town appropriation from Spectrum Generations, Sweetser, and Coastal Transportation. These were forwarded to the Financial Advisory Committee for consideration during the formulation of the budget for the next fiscal year.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Speaking for the Planning Board, Codes Enforcement Officer Bob Trabona reported that at its last meeting the Planning Board had approved the minutes of its December 15 meeting at which it had reaffirmed its decision to deny a building permit to Wanda Haddock and Bruce Montgomery. The Chair John Jones was preparing a letter reporting this to the Judge of Superior Court who had remanded the case back to the Planning Board.

Mary McDonald also reported that she had received a letter from the attorney for Haddock and Montgomery regarding a settlement offer. This is to be discussed with legal counsel in executive session at the next Selectmen's meeting on January 25th at 7:15 pm.

2. Mary reported that she had received from Fire Chief Larry Mann the results of additional tests of radio communications with the Sagadahoc Country Communication Center. The results indicate that ongoing problems have not yet been resolved. These results will be forwarded to the appropriate County personnel.

3. Bill Plummer reported on his meeting with Directors of the Georgetown Historical Society about the possible storage of old Town records in appropriate space in the basement of the Center. The next steps are to determine what State Law says about storing records outside of the Town Office and to determine the volume of records that might be moved to the Historical Society Building. If this space is used, there will have to be improvements made to the Historical Society space and a cost sharing arrangement worked out.

CONTINUING ITEMS: Personnel Reviews: Each Selectman has a list of Town employees requiring reviews. At the next meeting the Selectmen will decide on a schedule and procedure for conducting these reviews.

OTHER ITEMS/UPDATES:

1. Mary is getting a quote on the work needed on the exterior of the building (new paint, wood in some places), so we can plan for the next budget.
2. Mary reported that Nancy Kinner, an Environmental Engineer at UNH and a property owner, is interested in serving on the Conservation Commission. At present the Committee has no active members. The Selectmen will make appointments if interested people can be found to serve. ANYONE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THIS IMPORTANT COMMITTEE SHOULD CALL MARY OR ONE OF THE SELECTMEN AND REPORT THEIR INTEREST.
3. The Selectmen decided to schedule the Regular Town meeting on Saturday, June 18.
4. The Financial Advisory Committee is preparing a letter to be sent by the Selectmen to all Committees, Boards, and so forth to start the budgeting process for the coming fiscal year.
5. Mary reported a complaint about a “puddle” on Five Islands Road in front of Jack Williams’ property. Dale Savoie reported that this is a long standing problem and should be the responsibility of the State since this is a state road. He will contact the State Department of Transportation to have them inspect the problem.
6. The Selectmen then went into Executive Session to discuss general assistance.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be on Tuesday, January 25 at the Town Office. At 7 PM there will be a public hearing regarding a liquor license for Grey Havens Inn. At 7:15, they will go in to executive session to discuss legal matters with the Town Attorney. After that the public meeting will resume.

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