

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF JANUARY 27 , 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](http://www.singingbridge.net)

THE MEETING: Geoff Birdsall was absent. There were two members of the public present along with Bill van Tuinen, the tax assessment contractor.

The purpose of the meeting was to meet with the assessor to discuss process and time line.

1. The Selectmen requested that van Tuinen commit to providing each year's tax bills by September, preferably by September 1. This would reduce or eliminate the need for the Town to take out a tax anticipation note to meet the obligation to pay the County assessment in November. He agreed to do this.

2. He was then asked what the Town could do to make his job easier. He responded with several points:

- He had recently learned that the information contained in the building permit files for recently built houses was very helpful to him and reduced the time he needed to put in to on-site work.

- To make it easier for him to work with his own computer at the Town Office, it would be helpful to have a network cable installed in the meeting room to connect with the Town Office computers. Mary McDonald will look into this.

- He would like to have Town tax and zoning information accessible through a geographic information system (GIS), since this would make it easier for him to take account of topography, location, wetlands and other special features, and zoning in assessing land values. He mentioned the value of the Town's Zoning Maps which were constructed with GIS. He will contact the person who drew up these maps for the Town to see what would be involved in adding a GIS capability.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, February 8 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman