

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF MAY 10, 2011

Prepared by Rick Freeman

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(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: The minutes of the meeting of April 26, 2011 were approved.

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

1. Misty Green (Communications Director) and Brodie Hinckley (Emergency Management Director) of Sagadahoc County meet with the Selectmen and members of the Fire Department to discuss the ongoing problem with poor radio reception from the County Dispatcher. The planned solution is to move transmission from the Court House in Bath to the tower at the West Bath Fire House. The equipment has been ordered and should be available in about five weeks. There are still problems with the details of the lease; but these should be worked out in about a week.

2. The Internet Service Group, now calling themselves The Georgetown Island Connection (TGIC), met with the Selectmen to describe their intention to apply to the ConnectME Authority for a grant to support the establishment of high-speed internet throughout the Town and to seek the support of the Selectmen. Grant applications are due July 11. The Selectmen agreed to support the grant application and directed Mary McDonald to ask the Arrowsic Selectmen what they did to support the successful effort in their town.

3. Mary McDonald described a report from the Harbor master (George Dufour) on his inquires about how other towns dealt with moving fuel across town docks. He reported that there was general agreement that the liability for any damage due to spillage was with the boat owner or fuel hauler. The other towns that he contacted did not have any specific regulations or prohibitions. The Selectmen voted 2-1 that no Town action to regulate fuel handling at the Town Wharf is required. Bill Plummer voted against this, saying that he believed that the Town could be liable for damages in the case of a spill.

4. Regarding the upcoming Election (Tuesday, June 14) and Town Meeting (Saturday, June 18), the Selectmen decided: (I) The polls will be open on Tuesday from 11 AM to 7 PM; and (ii) Andrew Roth-Wells will be the Moderator of the meeting.

5. Mary McDonald reported on a note received from the Chair of the Financial Advisory Committee (Rick Devito) saying that he had been informed by the Patten Free Library that unless the Town appropriated the full amount requested by the Library (\$15,861) it would not issue free library cards to

any Town residents. Recall that at the meeting on April 26, Dolores Pinette had moved to reduce the contribution to the Patten Free Library from \$15,861 to \$6,000 with the intention of funding free library cards for children only. That motion had passed on a 2-1 vote. The Selectmen took no action on this information.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mary reported on correspondence received. The most interesting items were:

- a copy of a letter from the Maine Department of Conservation to those property owners in the Town with property in the Tree Growth Program reminding them of their responsibilities under the program. Mary also reported that the Town does not have copies of the Forest Management Plans required under the program. She will see if copies can be obtained from the State or, if not, she will write to the property owners requesting copies.

- a note from the administrator for Sagadahoc County informing the Town that the public hearing on the County Budget is on May 12, at 6 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regarding the request from Larry Davis to remove his property from the Tree Growth Program, there were questions raised about the property valuation on which his penalty was based. Since the effective date of the removal would not be until April 1, 2012, his request was tabled until the next meeting.
2. Regarding the request of the Hudsons to have their lot (08U-034) which is presently treated for tax purposes as one lot considered as two separate lots, Mary reported that there was no record at the Registry of Deeds combining the original two lots. Therefore the selectmen agreed that there were two separate lots.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Dolores asked about training requirements for the new Town Clerk. Mary said that the term of the present Town Clerk did not end until June 30 and that she would therefore have two weeks to train the new clerk. In addition the State has a two day training class shortly after the election.
2. Regarding the residence status of an applicant for renewing a residential clamming license, information showing that he has an address in Auburn will be forwarded to the Town Clerk.
3. The Selectmen voted to assign money received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for prior storm damage to the Road Commissioner's account.
4. Orestes Magliozzi had requested Town assistance in arranging for power to his lot (R1, L13) at the end of the Jewett Road. The Selectmen voted (3-0) that this was a civil matter, not a Town matter and that no Town action was required.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 24 at the Town Office.

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