

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S SPECIAL MEETING OF JUNE 1, 2011

Prepared by Rick Freeman

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www.singingbridge.net

THE MEETING: There were two members of the public present.

The Selectmen met at 6 PM for the purpose of reviewing and signing the Warrant for the Town Meeting of June 18. The Warrant is to be posted on Friday, June 3. There were two noteworthy actions taken by the Board.

1. Earlier in the spring the Selectmen had discussed the possibility of asking the Town to vote to make the positions of Town Clerk and Tax Collector appointments by the Selectmen rather than elected by the voters. This was originally suggested by Dolores Pinette. An article had been prepared to do this. Bill Plummer moved to strike this article from the Warrant. The motion passed 2-1 (Pinette opposed).

2. The Planning Board has prepared a number of amendments to the Building Permit and Shoreland Zoning Ordinances. The most significant of these involved increases in the fees for building permits and bringing the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance into compliance with a court order regarding the definition of developed areas.

As I reported earlier, at the May 24 meeting the Selectmen voted 2-1 (Birdsall opposed) not to move forward with the ordinance changes unless the Planning Board changed the wording of provisions in both ordinances covering permits for fabric storage structures. The language in question was:

"Fabric storage structures/garages that are no larger than 12' W x 10' H x 20' L and are not permanently fixed to the ground do not need a building permit. Fabric storage structures/garages that are larger than 12' W x 10' H x 20' L and are in place for more than seven months in any period of twelve consecutive months will require a building permit."

The purpose of the proposed amendment was to exempt temporary fabric structures within a certain size range from the requirement to obtain a building permit. The Selectmen wanted this language changed to remove all reference to dimensions and to require permits only for fabric structures permanently fixed to the ground.

Since the Planning Board was not meeting to consider this matter until 7 PM, the Selectmen recessed to await the Planning Board's action. At its meeting the Planning Board voted unanimously to retain the proposed language and reported this decision to the Selectmen. The Selectmen then voted 2-1

(Birdsall opposed) to delete the language dealing with permits for fabric structures from the two ordinances and approved the remaining proposed amendments for inclusion on the Warrant for the Town Meeting.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, June 14 at the Town Office.

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