

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

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

The minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2011 were approved.

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

1. Kate MacKay and Rosalie Paul came in to talk with the Selectmen about Central Maine Power's "Smart Meter" Program. They had prepared a 12 page document summarizing information that they had found on health risks, fire risks, and security, privacy and financial risks alleged to be associated with smart meters. In the document, they close by saying,

"Given all these reports of troubles with smart meters, we believe Georgetown should say No to smart meters. ...

In the likelihood that our objections will be ignored by CMP and PUC, we believe that Georgetown should:

Require that CMP notify each resident of the exact time they will be installing meters (for persons who haven't opted out).

Inform its citizens of the dangers of fires, especially in older homes, and the dangers of appliances being destroyed at the switch over

Set up a registry to receive information from any citizen who has problems from the smart meters ...

Begin the discussion about responsibilities for the cost of fixing problems that surface from the Smart Meter installations."

During the subsequent discussion, Dolores Pinette wondered what the Selectmen could do and whether a citizens' group would be a better mechanism - similar to the Georgetown Island Connection that has been working to get high-speed internet in Georgetown. At the end it was decided that Mary McDonald should send the document from Kate and Rosalie to CMP and request their response.

2. The Selectmen reviewed the reports regarding the total assessed valuation of the Town (\$469.9 million) and after some discussion set the mil rate for this tax year at \$7.10 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This will produce an overlay of \$87,355. Mary said that she hoped that the tax bills would be mailed by Friday, October 7.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

Mary reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda at: [www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php](http://www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php)

## OLD BUSINESS:

1. There was a report regarding the settlement negotiations in the Haddock-Montgomery case. This was to be discussed later in executive session.
2. On the radio communications problem, the County reports that the majority of the system is running and they are verifying that it stays running. If all goes according to plan the cut over is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept 28. They will then check the reception in the problem areas in the Town. Bill Plummer will accompany the County personnel for these tests. The Selectmen requested a full report for the next meeting.
3. It was reported that the tires dumped on Flying Point had been removed. Jay Holt, Nancy Sferra (Nature Conservancy) and Skip Cahill deserve a big thanks.
4. Regarding the request that Committees and Boards consider holding all meetings in the evening, it was reported that the Harbors and Waterways Committee and the Town-owned Property Management Board would consider this at their next meetings. The Board of Appeals has responded that since many of their meetings are to hear appeals and lawyers are often involved it was necessary for the Board to meet during the day.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Kate MacKay has offered to serve on the Financial Advisory Committee. Since this committee does not meet again until January, it was the question of whether to make another appointment was tabled for a month.
2. The School has reported that it needs storage space for desks, chairs, projectors, etc. They had inquired to the Historical Society but they had said no since they are waiting to hear about whether the Selectmen want to use space for old Town Records. Bill Plummer moved to allow the School to use space in the Church cellar on a short term basis. But it was agreed that the Town should begin to plan for a long term solution for the storage needs of all Town bodies.

Codes Enforcement Officer Bob Trabona briefed the Selectmen on two matters: a letter from Michael Beebe to the Planning Board asking questions about the zoning status of his lot at 84 Loop Road; and a call from John Evans raising questions about a building permit issued on July 6 to Jason and Sarah Ridgeway to move a structure at 36 Loop Road. The letter from Beebe will be handled by the Planning Board.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, October 11 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman