

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF NOVEMBER 8, 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.

The minutes of the meeting of October 25, 2011 were approved.

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

1. Under Old Business, it was reported that the Town had received a copy of an e-mail from the attorney for Haddock and Montgomery stating that the required payment to the Town would be made by the end of November. Bill Plummer reported that it appeared that work on removal of the structure had begun.

2. Senator Seth Goodall's office has asked whether the Town would be interested in hosting a briefing session for Town residents on the State's Circuit Breaker property tax relief program. Mary was directed to respond that the Town would like to have such a session, especially if it could cover other forms of tax relief such as the Homestead Exemption. Suggested dates were November 30 and December 7 at 6 PM or 6:30 PM at the Georgetown Community Center. I will announce the date and time when it is set.

For more information on the State's Circuit Breaker program, see:

<http://www.maine.gov/revenue/taxrelief/tnr.htm>

For information on other property tax exemption programs, see:

<http://www.maine.gov/revenue/propertytax/sidebar/exemptions.htm>

3. Bill Plummer reported that a significant donation to the Georgetown Community Center was making it possible to purchase a propane generator that will come on automatically during power outages. Bill reminded the Selectmen that the Center was available to Town residents as a shelter during emergencies.

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

The most interesting items were:

- The Maine Resource Recovery Association reported that commodities prices are dropping for all recyclable materials except for plastics.
- Information on the Clyde Russell Scholarship Fund open to graduating seniors who will attend a four year college or a Maine Community College has been posted at the Town Office.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regarding the problem of radio communications with the County Dispatch Center, Bill Plummer reported that he had spoken with the County people and testing would be done on Monday.
2. Mary McDonald reported that she had been informed that as of October 27, there were 172 smart meters installed (a 15% completion rate).
3. Letters have been sent to the owners of unlicensed dogs requesting payment of the license fee.
4. The Tax Anticipation Note for \$400,000 was signed on October 31. \$120,000 has already been repaid.
5. The Town Report for 2009-10 is at the printer and should be ready by the end of the week.
6. Owners of land in Tree Growth were reminded in July of the need to submit updated forestry management plans. The deadline for submission is November 19. There are three owners who have not complied. They will be sent reminder letters.
7. On the other Old Business on the agenda, there were no new developments.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Michael Beebe, brother-in-law of Bruce Montgomery had written the Planning Board asking several questions about the zoning status of his adjoining property. After consulting with the Town Attorney, the Planning Board has replied to Mr. Beebe saying that the Superior Court Decision in the case of Town of Georgetown vs. Montgomery and Haddock would also apply to his property and suggesting that he should consult with an attorney if he had further questions. A copy of this letter had been sent to the selectmen.
2. The Selectmen interviewed Casey O’Kane for the position of substitute at the Transfer Station. No decision was made.

UPCOMING: The Town Office will be closed on Friday, November 11 (Veteran’s Day) and Thursday and Friday, November 24 & 25 (Thanksgiving).

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, November 22 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman