

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF November 9 , 2010

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:

There were two members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of October 27 were approved.

1. Tax Abatements: Mary McDonald reported the following with regard to tax abatements:

- an appeal for abatement by the Goodspeeds was rejected by the County Commissioners.
- A request for an abatement from LaPlannte and Dorfman revealed a clear error in the Town's tax records. The request was granted by the Selectmen.
- Moore requested an abatement for the value of her trailer and because of an error in the acreage of her lot. The latter was granted by the Selectmen.
- Mary is still trying to schedule a time for Bill van Tuinen to be available at the Town Office to discuss tax assessments with Town property owners.

2. Stephen Mace meet with the Board to submit his resignation from the Conservation Commission. He explained that there were presently only two members of the Commission so that there could not be a quorum for meetings and that no meetings had been held since June. The Selectman accepted his resignation and thanked him for his willingness to serve the Town. The Selectmen then said that efforts should be made to find volunteers to serve on this Commission.

As I understand it, the Commission is responsible for administering the Adolph Ipcar Preserve in Five Islands. It also has developed and maintained walking trails in the Ipcar and Weber Preserves and behind the school to link with trails in the Newman Sanctuary. The Commission still has unexpended funds from a grant to support trail building.. According to Town Reports, the Commission has also organized the annual Coastal Clean-up. People interested in serving on the Conservation Commission should contact Mary McDonald at the Town Office (371-2820) or talk with a Selectman

3. Dale Savoie, Road Commissioner, met with the Selectmen to discuss two culverts that are discharging water onto nearby properties and require repair. Dale said that he would need easements from the property owners in order to bring equipment onto their properties to conduct the repairs. Dale will talk with the owners about this.

4. The Selectmen agreed to offer the surplus fire engine #2 to the Westport Volunteer Fire Department for the sum of \$5 with the stipulation that if and when they no longer need the engine, they will pass it on to a non-profit or charitable organization.

5. Dolores Pinette reported that the Town-owned Property Management Board (TOPMB) had raised a question about the terms of the lease between the Town and Five Islands Lobster Co. governing subletting of the facilities. Apparently the concern is whether a third party would be buying shrimp at the wharf from fishermen that are not Georgetown residents and therefore are not otherwise entitled to use the wharf. The lease allows the tenant to sublet the fast food business, the ice cream business, and the retail lobster business with the written permission of the TOPMB. It was agreed that Dolores would call Chris Johnston, president of Five Islands Lobster Co. and ask him if he intended to sublet any part of the business.

6. Mary reported receiving correspondence from Town Attorney Skip Stinson. The upshot is the following:

- On October 20 the attorney for Haddock & Montgomery submitted to the Court a PROPOSED order remanding the case back to the Planning Board.
- On the same day, Skip sent the Judge a letter objecting to the proposed order.
- On November 5, Skip's office got around to sending the above two items to Mary after repeated requests from her.

At issue is what to do about the structure built by Haddock and Montgomery several years ago on the Loop Road on Indian Point. The structure exceeds the Town's maximum height limit and was built in the wrong place, among other problems. As I understand it, it is now up to the judge to decide whether to issue the PROPOSED order, modify it, or do something entirely different.

7. Mary reported that the Animal Control Officer had picked up three dogs running at large. Two of them had not been registered as required by Town Ordinance. Mary will write appropriate letters to the offending dog owners.

8. The planning for personnel reviews for Town employees other than those at the Transfer Station was tabled once again.

9. Mary reported that Rheta Morgan had responded that she would be honored to receive the cane as the oldest Georgetown resident. The Selectmen will present to her a certificate at a time to be determined. The cane itself will remain in the Town Office for safe keeping.

10. Mary reported that she had paid back \$100,000 against the Tax Anticipation Note she had taken out. The funds came from property tax payments made last week.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, November 23 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman