

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF November 22, 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](http://www.singingbridge.net)

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

The minutes of the meeting of November 8, 2011 were approved.

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

1. Bronwen Tudor and Andy King presented the Town-owned Property Management Board's (TOPMB) request to draw \$10,480 from the Wharf Reserve Fund to make up the difference between the amount appropriated for the Wharf Repair Project at the Town Meeting in June (\$76,500) and the revised bid (\$86,980) that the TOPMB wants to accept. It was pointed out that by State law, the Selectmen had the authority to draw from reserve funds without Town Meeting approval but that the Selectman had adopted a policy of taking any requests to use more than \$5,000 from any reserve fund to the voters at the Annual or a special Town Meeting.

There are three components of the project under consideration: repairs and structural improvements to the wharf (I) under the Love Nest, (ii) under the Bait Shed, and (iii) under the South Deck. During the discussion it was pointed out that taking account of what had already been appropriated from the Reserve Fund for this project, there was still available more than \$19,000. Bronwen Tudor assured the Selectmen that it was the TOPMB's intent to rebuild the Wharf Reserve Fund from income received from the lease of the Town Wharf over the next several years. It was also pointed out that there were practical problems with either scaling back the project by dropping one of the components to get the cost down below the appropriated amount or delaying the award of the contract until a Special Town Meeting could be called.

Bill Plummer moved that the TOPMB request be approved. After further discussion, Geoff Birdsall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Under Correspondence, Mary McDonald read portions of a letter from a woman regarding deer on the Knubble and requesting that the Selectmen allow or promote "the thinning of the herd." Mary was directed to reply to her that this was not a Town matter and that she should contact the Game Warden.

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. It was reported that the garage on the Haddock-Montgomery property has been completely removed.
2. Regarding the radio communications problem Bill Plummer reported that he and the Communications Director at the Dispatch Center had been all over the island during the past week testing reception and found that in all locations that were checked the reception was good to very good. The conclusion was that “improvements have been made.”
3. Regarding animal control issues, there are still two people who have not gotten licenses for their dogs. They had been sent letters informing them of the requirement. They will now be issued summonses. Two owners who have been issued fines for allowing dogs to run at large have not paid their fines. They will be sent final letters of notice.
4. The Tax Anticipation Note was paid in full on November 17. The total interest on the note was just under \$109.
5. There are three owners of land under tree growth who have not met the requirement for up-dated forestry management plans. They will be sent letters telling them how much they will owe in penalties if the tree growth status is withdrawn.
6. Mary reported that the Town has signed the contract with Constellation Energy to lock in a lower electricity price.
7. There will be a briefing session for Town residents on the State’s Circuit Breaker property tax relief program at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 7 at the Community Center. Forms will be available and people will be able to get assistance in filling out applications.

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS:

1. The Director of Emergency Management, Jerome Gamache, was present to report on his plans for reviewing and updating the Georgetown Emergency Operations Plan. He has established an “advisory/support team” to assist him in his review. He plans to submit a revised plan to the Selectmen in June and to “‘exercise’ the plan using the ‘tabletop’ format” in August or September. Current members of the advisory/support team are: David Knauber, Bob Trabona, Ron Hayward, Ralph Wilkinson, and Karin Gamache. Anyone interested in contributing to this process is encouraged to contact Jerry at 371-2316.
2. David Moyes, Chair of the Harbor Committee came in to discuss the policies for appointing regular and alternate members of committees. He had thought that there was a policy of “promoting” alternate members to fill vacancies in the ranks of regular members. He was concerned that when an opening for a regular member of the Harbor Committee occurred, it had not been filled by appointing one of the long-serving Alternates. He was informed that there was no established policy in that regard. Dolores suggested that maybe the Selectmen should review this matter.

The Board then went into Executive Session for an update on General Assistance and for a possible personnel matter.

After the meeting, I learned that hard copies of the Town Report for 2009-2010 have just been received at the Town Office.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, December 13 at the Town Office.