

**Note: I distributed these notes last Wednesday but apparently they did not get transmitted. I have not figured out why but I am resending them. If you already received notes earlier this week, please disregard.**

**Rick Cliffe**

## **REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF JUNE 25, 2018**

Prepared by Rick Cliffe

**Note: (1). 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.**

(2). If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

(3). Reports of earlier meetings and some supplementary materials are available at Rick Freeman's 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 June 12, 2017 were approved. They will be posted on the Town website.

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

- **Organization of the Board:** Geoff Birdsall was re-elected Chair. He is also designated responsible for legal matters. Dolores Pinette will be responsible for personnel matters and Rich Donaldson will be responsible for volunteer issues. One Board member was assigned to coordinate with each Town committee/board.
- **GVFD Budget Issue:** Ron Hayward came to the meeting to request GVFD be allowed to shift unexpended operating (payroll) funds to the maintenance line. He explained that the department's equipment is getting old and requires increased maintenance.
- **Comprehensive Plan:** John McIlvain came to the meeting to provide a status update and request input from the Board. He indicated that the Comprehensive Planning Committee has completed review of the Inventory section of the plan and is currently doing a final edit. The Inventory, covering the required 13 topic areas, will be published to the community in August. The Committee released the Community Survey at the Town Meeting. This survey will provide input (statistical data, issues, comments, suggestions, etc.) to the Committee which supplements the Inventory. The Committee plans to hold an open to all meeting in September to present results of the survey to the whole town. John asked the Board what they see as issues the Town needs to address in the next 10-15 years. He pointed out that the Comprehensive Plan Committee will document issues and provide options that the Town can consider but they are not the "do-ers". He anticipates that existing town committees and organizations will actually implement ideas that are proposed and approved. Geoff pointed out that aging of the fire department is a big issue for the town. Cost of housing is an issue that affects families' ability to remain and/or move into the community. Geoff noted that the Age Friendly Subcommittee appears to be "marketing" Georgetown to attract older people. AARP says age friendly is inclusive but we don't seem to be doing that. He has concerns about changes already being implemented. Dolores expressed that the Committee is "putting the cart before the horse" moving ahead with various issues.

John and I (Rick) will take these concerns back to the Comprehensive Planning Committee and subcommittees.

- **Recycling Budget:** Lincoln County Recycling sent a letter in early June advising that fees for recycling will increase by approximately \$6,000 in FY18/19 but the letter was received too late to have the increase incorporated into the Town budget before the Town Meeting. Therefore, the Board is scheduling a Special Town Meeting July 12th to adjust the budget. In addition to the recycling increase, the Board anticipates that the tipping fee at the Bath landfill will also increase when they receive the new contract in the Fall. Both will be addressed at the Special Town Meeting. It was also noted that the transfer station no longer accepts mattresses and box springs. They must be taken to the Bath landfill and a fee of \$10 each will be assessed. Dolores Pinette expressed concern that this policy could result in “illegal dumping” in town.

#### 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)

The most interesting items were:

- State Department of Marine Resources (DMR) advised of some recent re-openings of shellfish conservation closures.
- Bath Area Food Bank notified the Town that they are moving to 807 Middle Street in July. The first distribution from the new facility will be August 2nd.
- AARP sent a letter of welcome to Georgetown, the 56th Maine community to join the Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- **Abatement Applications:** Bill Van Tuinen, who has been out for a while due to medical issues, came to Georgetown yesterday to review his recommendations for a number of abatement applications. He also had recommendations for penalty amounts on two parcels withdrawn from Open Space and Tree Growth. Mary indicated she would have them ready for Board review at the next meeting.
- **Boards and Committees:** The Board discussed and approved appointments from a number of people who have shown interest in various committees. They will be sworn in at the Town Office. There are also a couple of re-appointments where Mary has not yet confirmed they are willing to continue for another year. Updated listings of all committees and boards will be posted on the Town website.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- **Town Meeting Minutes:** The Board reviewed draft minutes from the Town Meeting. They had no changes. The minutes will be posted on the Town Website.
- **Deputy Harbor Master Duties:** There was a brief discussion of responsibility for issuing citations. That responsibility lies with the Harbor Master. It was noted that Rob Lowell will remain on the TOPMB until he completes training and takes over Harbor Master Duties – probably next spring.

#### COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMUNITY SURVEY:

Survey can be completed on-line using the following link - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GtownCP>

Paper Copies of the Survey are available at the Town Office, Post Office, Country Store and Transfer Station. Copies can be downloaded and printed out on the on-line page above.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

| <b>Date &amp; Time</b>    | <b>Event</b>            | <b>Place</b>         | <b>Comment</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Sunday, July 1, 12 noon   | Blessing of the Fleet   | Town Dock            |                |
| Wednesday, July 4, 2 pm   | Parade                  | Community Center     |                |
| Saturday, July 14         | Fire Department Auction | Five Islands Station |                |
| Saturday, July 14, 5-7 pm | Bath Municipal Band     | Community Center     |                |

The next meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, July 10 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe