

REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 23, 2016

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.

THE MEETING: There were 3 members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of August 9, 2016 were approved. They will be posted on the Town website in the near future.

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

- **Clear Cutting:** Jason Lang came to give the Board an update on the clear cutting incident discussed at the last meeting. He has contacted the property owner in Connecticut and discussed the issue. He indicated she did not intend to violate the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. It appears that the man hired to do the cutting was not aware of ordinance restrictions within 250 feet of the water. The Board reviewed a number of pictures and Google maps with the intent of understanding the extent of the clear cut. Most of the discussion at this meeting concerned development and execution of a "Reforestation Plan" that must be reviewed and approved by the Selectboard. A state forester has also been consulted and he is providing support. Tim Forrester of Eco-Analysts has been contacted by the owner and its intended that he will help by developing the reforestation plan and then checking growth process each year. He came to the meeting to summarize what he's found in the last couple of days and what steps will be taken going forward. As a first step, Jason (CEO) will write a letter to the owner laying out the specific issues and requirements for a remediation plan. It is clear from the discussion that the reforestation effort will be very expensive.
- **Road Closing:** Kate MacKay brought forward a complaint she received from a resident that their road was closed for at least 30 minutes, without notice so that a contractor could install a septic line. After a brief discussion of the specifics, the Board agreed to notify the contractor that any road closures must be approved by the Town Road Commissioner and/or Selectboard, in advance, and notice must also be posted at the sight in advance of the closure.

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 State of ME Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry provided the 2016 Tree Growth Roster which is unchanged from last year. Mary noted that one parcel is up for 10 year review and it was agreed a reminder should be sent to the owner.
- American Red Cross submitted a funding request that will be passed to the FAC.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Downed Trees:** This issue was carried over from the last Selectboard meeting. An individual requested Board permission to cut up and removed some hardwood trees that fell on town property during a storm. Since the last meeting Board members visited the site and researched past precedence. Bob Trabona pointed out that he had been granted permission a few years ago. The Board is concerned about

potential liability. After discussion, the Board agreed to approve the cutting/removal with the stipulation that the cutter sign a release of liability. Further, the Board agreed that a policy should be developed to address this type situation in the future.

- **Nature Conservancy Property:** In response to an MMA request, Amanda pulled together a summary of Nature Conservancy Properties in Georgetown. There are approximately 824 acres which would be worth approximately \$2.4m if it wasn't held as conservation.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Road Paving:** The Town received a letter from a lawyer representing a non-resident owner regarding paving on Jewett Rd. After some discussion the Board agreed to advise Charlie Collins, the Road Commissioner, not to pave any further than the existing pavement.
- **Speed Bumps:** Road Commissioner Charlie Collins Submitted a request, from Indian Point residents, to place two speed bumps and signs between Sea Beach and Loop Road. He also proposed to remove the speed bumps in the fall and replace them in the spring. After discussion the Board voted 3-0 to deny the request based on both cost and past precedence.
- **GIEF Fundraising:** The Board approved an application for GIEF to held a bingo event to raise funds for the school

The next meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, September 13th at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe