

REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2021

Prepared by Rick Cliffe

Note: 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 following Board approval at the next meeting. If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

THE MEETING: The meeting was conducted on Zoom. SelectBoard members Rich Donaldson, Jon Collins, and Bronwen Tudor plus administrator Amanda Campbell were present. Jon Hentz and Dave Polito attended to discuss issues (below). In addition there were 4 members of the public in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2021 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.

- **Weapon for Shellfish Warden:** Jon Hentz attended the meeting to request that the Selectboard allow him to carry a weapon (pistol) while on his Shellfish Warden duties. He provided an overview of his experience in handling guns since he was a teenager. He summarized various jobs/positions, including in the Navy, where he was qualified and did carry weapons of various types. He summarized a number of incidents that have occurred in Georgetown where he would have been more comfortable if he'd had a weapon. He summarized support, including a letter from the Shellfish Conservation Committee, as well as county law enforcement. Bronwen thanked him for his service and said she respects his qualifications and experience. She questioned whether it was in the Town's best interest to have the warden armed. Jon Collins said that he hadn't realized how much time Jon had put into training and qualification. The Board tabled Jon's request until the next meeting.
- **Transfer Station Issues:** Dave Polito came to the meeting to discuss the "chronic shortage of staff" at the transfer station. This is a recurring issue, especially when one of the attendants takes sick or vacation time or an attendant leaves for another position. Dave pointed out that entry level wages are too low to attract good, reliable people to the job. There are no viable alternatives except roadside pickup which the Solid Waste Committee has been evaluating. Bronwen asked about handling of bulky waste if we go to roadside pickup. It was noted that roadside pickup would not be able to service many of the private roads in town. No decisions were made. Dave will be meeting with the FAC. The committee and FAC can address the pay rate issue in the 2021-22 proposed budget.
- **Route 127 Corridor Management Plan:** I (Rick Cliffe) participated in support of developing a Corridor Management Plan for Route 127 in Georgetown and Arrowsic. I had submitted a draft Plan/Schedule and a list of potential committee members in advance of the meeting. I summarized the plan and noted that we held a Zoom organizational meeting last week to gain committee concurrence. I requested this be an "ad hoc" committee. The Board approved going forward with this project.
- **Upcoming NOAA Presentation:** The Conservation Commission will host an upcoming virtual program entitled, "What's New in the Clean-up of Marine Debris in New England Waters?" The program will be led by NOAA's Marine Debris Program Northeast Regional Coordinator, Demi Fox. There will be time for questions. The program will be Monday, February 8th, at 7 pm. If you want to attend, please register at gtownconserbation.com.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Amanda reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda on the Town website.

The most interesting items were:

- Received Senator Eloise Vitelli’s end of the year letter. It will be included in the Town Report.
- Received a funding request from the Bath Area Food Bank. The FAC will address this request in the 2021-2022 budget.
- Amanda received notice from the County administrator that they are seeking an individual for the Sagadahoc Budget Advisory Committee. Anyone with an interest should call Amanda.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Vacation & Sick Time:** Amanda provided an overview of the meeting she attended with the Maine Department of Labor (DOL) and other nearby town representatives. They discussed State laws and regulations that apply to paid vacation and sick leave of municipal employees and volunteer firefighters. She summarized that Georgetown policies required some minor revisions to be consistent. The Board will review proposed revisions at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Radar Speed Trailer:** Maine DOT has offered Georgetown use of a radar speed trailer to be setup in front of GCS. The Town would have to transport the trailer from the previous user. Charlie Collins agreed to do so. Amanda commented that drivers go “way too fast” in front of the school. It was agreed that the Town should apply. It was also noted that the school is currently working to get blinking speed signs in this location.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

Date & Time	Event	Place	Comment
Monday, Feb 8, 7 pm	NOAA Presentation (see description above)	Zoom	Register at www.gtownconserbation.com
Monday, Feb 15	Town Office CLOSED		President’s Day
Saturday, Feb 20	4 th Anti-Social Dinner	GCC	See GCC FaceBook page to reserve your dinner

The next meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, February 9th. The public is welcome to attend on ZOOM. Contact Amanda Campbell or Alex Neese at the Town Office to get the Meeting ID and Password.

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