

## REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 27, 2020

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 a hybrid with most members attending on Zoom. Three members of the Solid Waste Committee attended to discuss issues at the Transfer Station. In addition, there were 3 members of the public.

The minutes of the meeting of October 13, 2020 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.

- Transfer Station: Dave Polito, Alison Freeman and Sharon Trabona of the Solid Waste Management Committee attended to discuss current issues at the Transfer Station. It was a lengthy and interesting discussion that included the following issues.
  - Bulky Waste – The current rules allow bulky waste only on Wednesday afternoon. This presents a problem to some users who cannot bring waste then because they have other jobs. After short discussion, the Board agreed that a weekend session (most likely Sunday afternoon) should be added to the schedule.
  - Drop Off (Circle) Process: All three committee members agreed that "traffic control" is a significant problem. Many residents are not following the circle route and drop-off locations established in the flyer, instead skipping ahead and/or parking and walking to the 5 stations. This sometimes causes social distancing issues. It also leads to inefficiency and confusion to residents. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to retain the drop-off process as is.
  - Masks and Social Distancing: Dave Polito indicated that 85-95% of residents are wearing masks but there are a few who refuse. It was also pointed out that a number of people are ignoring the social distancing. It was pointed out that Sagadahoc County and Georgetown have had very few cases of Covid-19. Should we therefore remove the requirement? Solid Waste Committee members indicated it is not a good time for complacency. Ultimately it was agreed that mask and social distancing requirements will remain in place.

Geoff Birdsall, former Selectman, reminded everyone that it was originally the Select Board's intent to protect people, both the Town employees and residents. Dave Polito added that the committee's priority is Safety, then convenience for users of the Transfer Station. Alison Freeman advised she would update the process flyer which can then be emailed to residents and/or posted around Town. Transfer Station employees will continue to guide/advise users to follow the process but they should avoid getting into confrontation with users. It is hoped that residents will follow the procedures.

- Assessing Items: Amanda indicated that she and Mary McDonald met with Bill Van Tuinen (assessor) to go over his recommendations. She proposed, and the Board accepted, a special meeting to be held Thursday, October 29, 4:30 pm, to set the MIL rate for property tax notifications. She and Mary will develop alternative scenarios and the resulting rates (normal process).

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:

- ME Department of Environmental Protection approved the changes to the Shore Zoning Ordinance (SZO).
- ME Department of Marine Resources advised they have cancelled the Maine Fishermen’s Forum scheduled in March 2021. The letter was forwarded to the Shellfish Conservation Committee.
- Oasis Free Clinics sent a copy of their 2019-20 Annual Report.
- Spectrum Generations submitted a funding request for \$400. It will be forwarded to FAC.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Emergency Communications: Sagadahoc Commissioner Grose emailed an update of County Communications plans, short-term and long-term. They address problems in Georgetown as well as other communities. Based on the recommendations of a consultant, \$12K will be required to complete near-term upgrades. Bids will be solicited via RFP.
- Hunting Concerns: The Conservation Commission requested that the Town post no hunting signs at the trail heads to Round the Cove and Ipcar Preserves but apparently the Town cannot legally post these properties without an ordinance. The Board agreed the Conservation Commission can post signs at the entries summarizing the distances from residences and schools.
- Vacation and Sick Time Policy: Rich Donaldson recommended that the Board review current Town policy. If update is required, he recommended that the Board conduct a workshop to discuss it.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

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<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Tuesday, November 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 8:00 am – 8:00 pm	National Election	GCS Gymnasium	If you didn’t vote early, please VOTE.

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The next regular meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. There will also be a special meeting (see Assessing Items above) on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30 pm. The public is welcome to attend either on ZOOM. Contact Amanda Campbell or Alex Neese at the Town Office to get the Meeting ID and Password.

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