

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF September 14 , 2010

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

ADDITION TO THE REPORT OF THE AUGUST 24 MEETING:

At this meeting the Selectmen gave unanimous support and endorsement to the plan of the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) to have the Georgetown School join the Rocky Channels Alternative Organizational Structure. For details, see my report of the RPC meeting of September 13. This report is also available at my Town Meeting website under "Supplementary Materials."

THE MEETING:

There were 3 members of the public present.

The minutes of the regular meeting of August 24 were approved.

There had been a special meeting called to discuss preparations for Hurricane Earl on Friday, September 3. Present were: Bill Plummer, Dolores Pinette, James Peavey, EMA Director for Georgetown, Larry Mann, Fire Chief, Reed Fulton, Assistant Fire Chief, Rosemary Hentz, Ambulance Chief, Jon Hentz, Safety Officer, George Dufour, Harbormaster, Dale Savoie, Road Commissioner. The minutes of this meeting were approved. There had also been a meeting on Tuesday, September 7 for the purpose of National Incident Management System training. No other business was conducted at this meeting. The minutes of this meeting were approved.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEMS: In my judgment, the following item was the most important thing covered during the meeting.

John Jones and Jack Schneider of the Planning Board joined the meeting to discuss next steps regarding the Town's appeal of the Board of Environmental Protection ruling requiring the Town to delete its definition of "Developed Area " from the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance. The Selectmen agreed with the Planning Board's recommendation not to pursue a further appeal to the State Supreme Court. There were two questions. (1) Do we need to have a Town Meeting to do this or can we simply submit to DEP a revised ordinance with the definition removed. There was general agreement that this amendment could only be done at a Town Meeting. (2) How much time do we have? Can we wait until the next regular Town Meeting in June? There was reluctance to call a Special Town Meeting for this purpose alone. Mary McDonald was asked to ask the Town Attorney about how much time we have and to advise the Planning Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

A draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the School regarding the use of the gym and

bathrooms in the event of emergency was reviewed and forwarded to the School

The Fire Department asked for an additional \$413 to cover costs of repairing a leaking roof at the Five Islands Fire House (See the report of the July 27 meeting). This was approved.

The Fire Department reported that engine #2 will soon be taken out of service and will either be donated to a department in need or go out to bid.

The Town has received copies of letters from the Land for Maine's Future Program regarding the potential purchase by the State of a conservation easement on the former Wilson property (160.5 acres on the Bay Point Road) now owned by the Nature Conservancy. The Nature Conservancy would continue to own the property. And the property would continue to have public access and be open to hunting and fishing. If the Land for Maine's Future Program Board approves the purchase, this guarantees that the land will be kept in its natural state in perpetuity.

William Plummer V joined the meeting to discuss his possible appointment as a regular member of the Shellfish Conservation Committee. His appointment was approved.

The Selectmen were updated on the status of the Haddock-Montgomery appeal appeal. Oral argument has been scheduled for October 5 & 6.

A new advertisement offering for sale the Aleada Pinkham house was approved. Bids will be due on October 8 and opened on October 13.

Bill van Tuinen has been in the Office working on getting the tax rolls ready so that tax bill can be prepared. Mary is to talk with him about possible arrangements for his meeting with tax payers to answer questions about their tax assessments. Mary also reported that additional lands have been placed in Open Space resulting in a reduction in the tax base in the neighborhood of \$1 million.

Mary McDonald was ordered to prepare a list of people needing personnel reviews and to begin organizing the necessary paper work. People to receive reviews include the Codes Enforcement Officer, Fire Chief, Harbor Master, and Shellfish Warden.

Bill Plummer reported that he has had conversations with people at the Georgetown Historical Society (GHS) about the possibility of using some of their space for storage of Town records (See the report of the August 10 meeting). He will prepare a more specific request and ask to meet with the GHS Board of Directors at their next meeting in December.

There was discussion about recruiting someone to be Deputy Shellfish Warden to assist Jon Hentz, learn the ropes, and perhaps eventually be a replacement for Jon. This topic will be discussed with Jon when he next meets with the Selectmen.

The Selectmen decided to change the date of the first meeting in October to Wednesday, Oct. 13.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, September 28 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman