

## REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETINGS in GEORGETOWN

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 my Town Meeting website:

[www.singingbridge.net](http://www.singingbridge.net)

### REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF January 8, 2012

Prepared by Rick Cliffe

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

The minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2012 were approved.

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

1. **Tree Growth:** During the Public Comment segment, I brought up the issue of review and approval of the Tree Growth application by Ledge Island LCC which was scheduled on the agenda for executive session. I pointed out that the reason Forest Management and Harvesting Plans are considered confidential is that they may contain part/all of an owner's business plan. But from the perspective of property tax reduction, there really are two issues that must be addressed in the management and harvesting plan and each can be answered, to the public, with a simple yes/no. The first issue, does the owner specify they will harvest *something* from the property? The second issue, does the owner specify that they will harvest for *commercial* purpose? Unless the answer to both of these questions is yes, the application can and should be denied. Since the executive session was scheduled at the end of the meeting, the selectmen agreed to provide feedback at the next meeting.

2. **Clam Flat Conservation Closures:** Chad Campbell came to discuss follow-up from the meeting held with the Conservation Committee on November 27<sup>th</sup>. He addressed four flats where the committee is proposing conservation closures and one very small flat behind the Transfer Station which the committee proposes to open for approximately a week next August. He also discussed plans by two individuals to seed specific flats at their own expense. Both Bill and Delores reiterated their position that flats seeded by individuals would remain open to all licensed residents. The selectmen unanimously approved three of the closures and the short open as proposed. The fourth closure, with individual seeding, was approved 2-1. The Conservation Committee will submit required paperwork to the state.

## 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:

An inquiry from MMA asking for the potential impact of Governor LePage's proposal to have excise taxes, for commercial vehicles only, submitted to the state for use in road maintenance. The Town Clerk is pulling together the data in support of this request. Selectmen agreed it would have much smaller impact on Georgetown than on other towns with larger commercial trucking businesses (like Topsham and Freeport).

The Spirit of America Foundation is seeking nominees for their Tribute award. Bill suggested that the selectmen recommend the Georgetown Working League – especially since it is their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The Fire Department requested that the dry hydrant at Charles Pond be added to the town snow plow contract at a cost of \$300 annually.

A note from Kathy Gravino on the recent passing of Jack Swift. Bill noted that Jack has been actively involved and supporting Georgetown government and volunteers for many years and it would be appropriate that the Town recognize his contributions. It was unanimously agreed Mary would draft a letter for endorsement by the selectmen.

## OLD BUSINESS:

Goodman Property: Mary has posted a notice that the Selectmen will hold a site visit to the Goodman's at 12:00 noon on Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. As noted in minutes from last November 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, the intent is "to determine what, if anything, the town is going to do about the water on their property".

Selectmen are still seeking a volunteer replacement Town Office Gallery Director. Mary has had discussion with a couple of individuals previously identified but the position remains open. If anyone has any interest, please contact Mary at the Town Office.

Bob Trabona, CEO, provided an update on the two letters previously sent to owners who are doing construction without the required building permits. Neither has responded to the letters he discussed at the previous meeting. His plan is to hand-deliver a final letter in the near future. Legal action and/or fines could result.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe