

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2012

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

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

The minutes of the meeting of December 13, 2011 were approved.

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

1. Under Old Business, the letter from the Town Attorney regarding the hoop garage installed on the Haddock/Montgomery property was read. The key sentence is "It is, therefore, my opinion that this use of the hoop garage is in violation of the ordinance unless a variance is obtained." Bob Trabona (Codes Enforcement Officer) suggested since the issue is compliance with the judge's decision in the case it would be best to have the Town Attorney take this up with the attorney for Haddock and Montgomery. The Selectmen agreed and Mary was directed to convey this to the Town Attorney.

2. Bob Trabona announced that he intended to retire as Codes Enforcement Officer by June 30, 2013. This should allow time for the selection, training, and certification of a replacement. An ad will be drawn up seeking applications for a new CEO.

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:

- Mary informed the Board of a letter from the Department of Marine Resources informing the Town that the Bolster's limited-purpose aquiculture license for oyster culture on Robinhood Cove is up for renewal.

- Mary reported that 28 customers (2.4% of our 1161) in the Town had opted out of the Smart Meter program.

- We are receiving requests for funding from local charities such as Coastal Trans, Elmhurst, and

Patten Free Library. These are being forwarded to the Financial Advisory Committee for consideration in drawing up the budget for the next fiscal year.

- Lincoln County reported that recycling was up for December over the quantity a year ago. And R. C. Rogers reported that the tonnage from the Compactor and the Bulky Waste were down for December over the prior year.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mary reported that the penalty and legal fee reimbursement from Haddock and Montgomery had been received and deposited. The amount was \$66,102. The money will be carried forward as unexpended balance to lower the taxes for the next fiscal year.
2. The Town-owned Property Management Board reported that Michael Stevens had been sent a final notice regarding his overdue commercial user fee for use of the Town Wharf with a deadline for payment of January 3, 2012. He has not yet paid the fee. Mary has requested that the Harbor Master cite Stevens for trespass if he attempts to use the wharf before the fee has been paid.
3. Regarding the updating of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Coastal Digital Flood Insurance Maps, FEMA will be sending letters in the next several months to Town officials inviting them to a so-called Community Coordination Meeting. This meeting usually occurs after preliminary maps are issued but generally about a year before the maps go into effect.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Joann Klonowski came before the Board with Animal Control Officer (ACO) Kate MacKay to report incidents of a neighbor's dogs killing her chickens. She wanted the dogs to be controlled and restitution for the loss of the show chickens. It was decided that the ACO would issue fines for the dogs running at large and would notify their owner by mail that they would now be considered dangerous dogs under State law and if chickens were harmed again, this would be reported to the State for State action. MS Klonowski was advised that the Town had no power to require restitution and that was a matter for the courts.
2. It was announced that Cathy Collins has resigned her position as Registrar of Voters. The Selectmen appointed Kristin Coombs to this position.
3. Kathy Gravino was elevated from an alternate member of the Conservation Committee to a regular of the Committee.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Mary requested that she be authorized to send letters to Senator Goodall and Representative McDonald regarding the failure of the State to remit fines collected from Shellfishing Convictions the Town as required by State Law. She was directed to draft the letter for signature by the First Selectman.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman