

FREEMAN'S REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2013

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

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

The meeting began as a public hearing about the granting of a liquor license for Grey Havens. There was no public comment. The Selectmen voted to grant the license.

The minutes of the meeting of March 26 were approved.

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

1. Fred Kahrl came in representing Friends of Seguin Island Light (FoSIL) to request that the Selectmen waive the fees for the 5 moorings that they have available for use by visitors to the Island. He mentioned the historical significance of the lighthouse, the value of public access, and the difficulty that FoSIL has in meeting its budget. Bill Plummer said that he thought it was important to stick to the terms of the Town Ordinance that establishes the fees. The Selectmen agreed to deny the requested waiver. Bill, Geoff, and Dolores then agreed collectively to make a contribution to FoSIL in the amount of the fees. There was then a discussion of the need for FoSIL to do a better job of raising money for the mooring fees and suggestions of ways this might be done.

2. Eric and Pat Kosalka, owners of the Sagadahoc Bay Campground, came in to discuss with the Selectmen letters they had received from the Codes Enforcement Officer regarding possible violations of Shoreland Zoning and State campground rules. The letters, dated November 7 and December 7, 2012 and March 1, 2013, are public documents. The Kosalkas disputed some of the alleged violations but acknowledged that there were some problems requiring their action. A letter will be prepared for their signature at the next meeting of the Selectmen (April 23) spelling out what was agreed to during this discussion.

3. The Selectmen reviewed the Planning Board's proposed amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance and agreed that they should go to Public Hearing on May 1. The most significant change is the deletion of Section 13 A. (1) which requires that lands in the Shoreland Zone that are adjacent to freshwater and tidal wetlands that are rated as moderate or high value waterfowl and wading bird habitat be placed in the Resource Protection zone. The Planning Board will also be recommending that about 55 parcels that are presently zoned Resource Protection be changed to the Limited Residential zone. The Board is on the process of having the Zoning Maps changed to reflect this. The new maps will be available for the Public Hearing on May 1.

This change was made possible by a change in the Department of Environmental Protection Guidelines for Shoreland Zoning. This change does not eliminate all protection for these wetlands. The State's Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) establishes a set of Protected Natural Resources which includes coastal wetlands, and significant wildlife habitat. A permit is required when an "activity" will be located adjacent to a coastal wetland or significant wildlife habitat. These permits are issued by the State Department of Environmental Protection.

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

OLD BUSINESS: There was no significant old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Contracts with R. C. Rogers for hauling municipal solid waste and with F. A. P. Lawn Car for cemetery mowing were signed.
2. It was decided to change the contract for dealing with cats and dogs brought in by the Animal Control Officer from Coastal Humane Society in Brunswick to the Lincoln County Animal Shelter in Edgecomb. The primary considerations were cost and availability of services.
3. The Selectmen reviewed amendments to the Cemetery District Ordinance proposed by the Cemetery Committee. Most of the changes dealt with the availability of lots. One of the proposed changes added "lights" to a list of things that were not permitted in or around lots. The Selectmen Approved all of the proposed changes except for the prohibition of "lights." The approved amendments will go to Public Hearing on May 1.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Selectmen went into executive session to review an application for renewal of tree growth status for Orin Winn at 05R Lot 039 off the Marrtown Road.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, April 23 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman