

FREEMAN'S REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF MAY 28, 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 four members of the public present.

The first item of business was a public hearing on the application to renew the liquor license for the Osprey Restaurant. There was no public comment and the Selectmen unanimously voted to renew the license.

The minutes of the meetings of May 14 and May 23 were approved.

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

During the Public Comment Period, Rick Cliffe made several comments on the School Budget. He pointed out that the School Budget was by far the largest item in the Town Budget and that he was very disappointed by the cursory review given to the School Budget by the Selectmen and the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) when they met on May 7 and at the School Budget Hearing on May 14. He said that both the FAC and Selectmen should make a more thorough review of the school budget before submitting it for the school budget hearing. He also said that he had reviewed the report cards of the AOS 98, RSU 1, and Wiscasset elementary schools and found that among those 9 schools Georgetown had the lowest scores in both reading and math.

Geoff Birdsall pointed out that the school committee is a separately elected body answerable directly to the community. Bill Plummer said that citizens can move to reduce or disapprove the school budget at the Town meeting but in his 40 years of attending Town Meetings he has never seen that happen.

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 item was:

A funding request from the Greater Bath Elder Outreach for \$400. You might recall that at the Budget Hearing it was noted that no funds were included for this organization and that a volunteer announced that the organization had made an error and that she had the letter request. She gave it to the Selectmen. Before the Selectmen signed the warrant for the Town Meeting, they added \$300 for this organization, which is what they have received in past years.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tree Growth: Regarding Orin Winn's application to renew, the State Forest Service will be coming to inspect the lot.

Town Office Gallery Director: There is no news about a replacement. The children's art will probably be removed over the weekend of June 8. Kristin Malin has agreed to show her art during July and August.

Kosalka CEO issues: The State Inspector has apparently issued a permit to the campground for this season despite the presence of Porta-Potties that are ruled out by the State regulations for commercial campgrounds. The Town will notify Kosalka and the State that other arrangements will have to be made for next year.

The Town has received another letter from Bud Brown about the failure to replace the mailbox knocked down during snow plowing this winter. The Snow Plowing Contractor (Dale Savoie) had been directed to replace the box but has not yet done so. Bill Plummer will direct Dale to do this by Friday (May 31) or the Town will withhold payments due to Dale.

NEW BUSINESS Ira Pinkham has been directed by the Harbor Master to remove his vessel (Miss Morris Island) from the mooring in Five Islands Harbor owned by Evelyn and Calvin Stevens and to move his own mooring.

Two Members of the Conservation Commission (Kate MacKay and John Hagan) appeared to inform the Selectmen about the Conservation Commission project about planning for future sea level rise in Georgetown. For more on this project, see the Conservation Commission minutes for their meeting of January 14, 2013 at:

<http://www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php>

IMPORTANT DATES:

Municipal Elections: Tuesday June 4

Town Meeting: Saturday June 8 at 9 AM.

CANDIDATES WHOSE NAMES WILL BE ON THE BALLOT

Coombs, Kristen	Town Clerk One Year Term
Plummer, William IV	Selectman Three Year Term
McDonald, Mary	Treasurer One Year Term
Coombs, Kristen	Tax Collector One Year Term
Savoie, Dale	Road Commissioner One Year Term
Hudson, Colleen	School Committee Three Year Term
King, Andrew	Town-Owned Property Management Board Three Year Term
Stevens, Evelyn	Cemetery District Trustee Three Year Term

WRITE-IN CANDIDATE I also know of one write-in candidate:
Cathy Collins for Town Clerk and Tax Collector (one year term)

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, June 11 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman