

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF MAY 24, 2011

Prepared by Rick Freeman

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

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

The first item on the Agenda was a public hearing for the Osprey Restaurant liquor license. Chris Johnston, owner, joined the meeting. There was no public comment. The license was approved unanimously.

The minutes of the meeting of May 10, 2011 were approved.

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

1. The Selectmen reviewed revised budget numbers that reflected the following changes:

- the Town's share of an unanticipated 5% increase in the Sagadahoc County budget for the jail - approved by the Selectmen (3-0):
- an increase in the School budget to cover the tuition for two new secondary school students for next year;
- restoring the requested allocation to the Patten Free Library - approved by the Selectmen (3-0).

The Financial Advisory Committee estimates that this will result in a mil rate for the coming year of 7.066

2. The Selectmen reviewed revisions to the Building Permit and Shoreland Zoning Ordinances as prepared by the Planning Board. The Selectmen voted 2-1 (Birdsall opposed) not to move forward with the ordinance changes unless the Planning Board changes the wording of the provision covering permits for fabric storage structures.

3. The Selectmen reviewed a draft letter to FairPoint Communications regarding high-speed internet access. The draft had been prepared by Georgetown Island Connection. The Selectmen approved the letter and signed it. Copies are being sent to Senators Collins and Snowe, Representative Pingree, State Senator Goodall, State Representative MacDonald, members of the Public Utility Commission, and others.

4. Regarding the property of Yaeger and Louise Hudson (08U-034), it had earlier been reported that this was recorded in the Registry of Deeds as two lots. The question now is whether the Town should

correct the tax assessment to reflect the higher value of two lots and bill the Yaegers for three years of back taxes. Since there was uncertainty about how and why the Town's tax assessment records were changed to show this as only one lot, the Selectmen decided to seek only one year of back taxes.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Mary reported on correspondence received. The most interesting item was an e-mail from Animal Control Officer Kate MacKay reporting on her recent activities concerning an unregistered dog and a quarantined dog.

The next regular meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, June 7 at the Town Office. There will be a special meeting at 6 PM on June 1 for the purpose of signing the warrant for the Town Meeting.

#### LATE NEWS

The Town learned this morning that the Superior Court had rejected the appeal by Bruce Montgomery and Wanda Haddock of the Planning Board decision not to issue a building permit for modifications to their illegal structure on the Loop Road. The remaining issues are the recovery of the Town's legal expenses, the removal of the structure and the imposition of fines for disregarding a Stop Work Order 6-7 years ago. These issues will apparently be the subject of negotiations.

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