

REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF August 23, 2011

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 August 9, 2011 were approved.

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

1. Regarding Preparations for Hurricane Irene: First, the newly appointed Emergency Management Director, Jerome Gamache will be sworn in on Wednesday. He will then be directed to confer with the Fire Chief about preparations for any emergencies that might occur because of the forecasted storm conditions. Finally, Bill Plummer announced that the Georgetown Community Center will be open for anyone needing shelter.

2. The August and September hours for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector have been posted. They are: TEMPORARY SCHEDULE For August/September:

9AM-12 PM and 1 PM-5 PM Mondays and Wednesdays

On Fridays the Hours will be until 7 PM except for Sept 16th & 23rd

Saturday appointments can be made by arrangement.

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:

1. A notice from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection stating approval of the amendments to the Town's Shoreland Zoning Ordinance that were passed at the June Town Meeting. The Conditional Approval/Partial Denial of our amendments passed in June 2009 was removed.

2. A notice from the Sagadahoc Registrar of Deeds announcing new prices for services made necessary by legislation passed in June.
3. A notice of the Sagadahoc County Tax Levy. It is \$820,858 due on September 1 with interest accruing as of November 1. Mary McDonald will inquire as to whether the Town can get materials on line or by email at no charge or a reduced fee.
4. A notice from Central Maine Power that all Town residents have now been informed by mail that they can opt out of the smart meter program. Mary will ask CMP how many Town customers have opted out.
5. A note from Trish Bonner thanking the Town for the use of the Church to store white elephant pieces for the Working League Fair.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regarding the Haddock/Montgomery case: Mary reported that the fee affidavit concerning the Town's legal costs had been reconciled and forwarded to the Town Attorney. Also there was a message from the Town Attorney concerning the negotiations. It would be taken up in Executive Session.
2. Communications update: The Communications specialist is looking into obtaining equipment that would help him to monitor radio reception and trouble shoot any remaining problems. He also reported that the installation on the tower in West Bath is going smoothly and should be operating in the first week of September.
3. Regarding the road and drainage issues discussed at the last meeting, a meeting between MS Hess and the Road Commissioner has been scheduled for August 25. And Bernard Goodman has received the letter requesting an easement for access to his land to improve the drainage. He wants to have the Town stake off the area that it wants to have covered by the easement. The Road Commissioner will try to do this week. The next steps are to have a surveyor draw up a plot plan describing the easement and t have the Town Attorney draw up the necessary legal paperwork.

CONTINUING ITEMS:

Repairs to the outside of the Town Office are almost complete. Rot was found during the repairs to the outside of the School Building. A new estimate is being prepared. In the meantime, the School Committee requested that it be able to \$2,000 from the School Reserve Fund to cover the additional repairs. The request was approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Nancy Barney sent a letter inquiring about leasing the Fire Department lot on Bay Point (01U-004) to build a garage. After some discussion the Selectmen decided to keep the lot in its present use.
2. There was a note from George Dufour (Harbor Master) stating that he had issued a summons for someone who used the Town's Recreational Float for overnight dockage in violation of the TOPMB rules. The violator is to appear on August 25 and pay a fine of \$100 (\$50 per night of the violation).

3. Carolyn Bliss is requesting an extension of the November 16 deadline for filing a new forestry management plan to retain the Tree Growth tax status. It was agreed to keep the deadline but if Bliss has engaged a forester but cannot complete the plan by the deadline, the Selectmen would consider and extension at that time based on the circumstances.

4. There were three other property owners submitting corrected information regarding their property descriptions. These will be passed on the Bill van Tuinen for evaluation and possible correction before the tax bills go out.

5. The liquor license for the Robinhood Free Meeting House was renewed. Since the license has been held for more than five years and there have been no complaints, no public hearing was required.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 13 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman