

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2010

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

### THE MEETING:

There were two members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of November 23, 2010 were approved.

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

The Town-owned Property Management Board (TOPMB) has sent certified letters to the two fishermen who are substantially in arrears in paying required fees for use of the Town wharf. They are Michael Stevens and Ira Pinkham. They were notified that they had until December 17 to make full payment. There followed an extensive discussion of what action should be taken by the Town if payment was not made by the 17<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to pursue two paths in that event:

- instruct the Harbor Master to warn them that since they had not paid the fees, any use of the wharf by them would constitute trespass under Maine law and to cite them (this course had been discussed with the Harbor Master last spring); and

- pursue a claim in Small Claims Court for the amounts due.

### OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Mary McDonald reported that the Town has received the County Commissioners' signed denial of a tax abatement appeal made by Robert and Kimberly Goodspeed.

2. The Tax Anticipation Note has been paid in full. The total interest paid was \$396.47 compared with \$1,494.85 last year.

3. The Town received a letter from Curtains Without Borders, Inc., regarding a project to locate and document historical scenery - whatever that means. No one had any suggestions as to candidate scenery. The letter was referred to the Georgetown Historical Society.

4. As reported by Lincoln County Recycling, recycling for October and November is down from 59.6 tons in 2009 to 51.6 tons in 2010 down. No reason was given for this at the meeting. A member of the Solid Waste Management Committee has told me that the numbers for both recycling and unrecycled trash have been down over the past two years and that the thinking of the Committee is that because of the economy people are buying less and therefore have less to take to the Transfer Station.

5. Sarah Curran of Planning Decisions, Inc. (a public opinion survey and marketing research firm) wrote to say that she is assisting the Maine Council of Governments regarding needs assessment. She would like to meet with the Selectmen to talk about issues facing the Town. She has been scheduled for the December 28 meeting of the Selectmen at 7:30. This is obviously a public meeting; so Townspeople can attend and offer their comments on issues facing the Town.

6. The Board of Appeals has approved updated Rules of Procedures governing appeals heard by the Board. These have been posted on the Town web site:

<http://www.maine.gov/local/towninfo.php?t=166&p=1131>

7. It was reported in my last report that Rheta Morgan would be presented with the Boston Cane early in December, Unfortunately, she passed away before the presentation could be made. A certificate has been prepared for her family. Mary McDonald will send a letter offering the Cane to Ruth Kosalka who is the next person on the list.

8. Personnel reviews for Town employees were again tabled but will be taken up at the first meeting in January.

9. It had been reported that there was an error on the budget worksheet regarding donations to charities and because of this, the appropriation is \$450 short of what was needed to meet all requests. The Selectmen agreed to make up the difference out of their contingency fund.

10. The Registrar of Voters is appointed to a two-year term at the beginning of each odd-numbered year. Cathy Collins currently serves in this position and her term expires at the end of this month. At the meeting it was agreed to ask Cathy if she would accept reappointment. I understand that as of Wednesday she has agreed to continue in this position.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, December 28 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman