

REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2016

Prepared by Rick Cliffe

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 Rick Freeman's Town Meeting website - www.singingbridge.net.

THE MEETING: There were 5 members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of December 8, 2015 were approved. They will be posted on the Town website.

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

- **Public Hearing:** Carlos Barrionuevo, new owner of the Robinhood Free Meeting House, came to support his application as a qualified caterer with Self-Sponsored Events. He provided an overview of his plan to host events such as wedding receptions, parties, etc sponsored by individuals or groups. He also indicated that he plans to self-sponsor events such as local concerts. The license application was unanimously approved by the Board.
- **School Tuition Students:** Nina Roth-Wells and Matt Carlson attended to discuss the school budget tuition line. Nina summarized that during their December meeting, the School Committee became aware that there were 10 new, unanticipated 7-12 tuition students this fall which could lead to a large budget shortfall. But over the last month the administration did a detailed review and found 5 anticipated students have actually left the district. Nina also indicated that the original budget had provision for 2 growth. At the School Committee meeting yesterday morning, they were able to identify funding within the budget to cover the remaining three. Therefore, there is no need for additional budget at this time. Nina also indicated that the School Committee and administration have put in place a process to verify numbers of tuition students going forward.

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:

- RSU 1 has published a Morse High School brochure. Copies are available in the hall at the Town Office.
- Spirit of America is soliciting 2016 nominations to recognize town volunteers. Anyone with a suggestion should contact Mary or one of the Selectmen.
- Mary pointed out that there was a nice article about the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department in last Wednesday's (1/6/16) Times Record.

OLD BUSINESS:

- First Church: Work parties will resume in February.
- There are still a number of board and committee vacancies – listed on the Town website. Anyone interested should contact Mary or one of the Selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Draft Letter to Committees: The Board reviewed a draft letter that lays out guidance for committees and boards to provide draft 2016-17 budgets to the Financial Advisory Committee. There was some discussion of key dates and committee assignments. There was also a discussion about the relationship and timing between the School Budget Hearing and the Municipal Budget Hearing in response to a question. Geoff pointed out that the School Committee is elected and totally responsible for the School Budget. School budget questions should be addressed at School Committee meetings or the School Budget hearing.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

- Kate announced that the Conservation Committee will sponsor a talk about ticks in March. The committee is interested in identifying successful deer repellants and deer-resistant plants.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, January 26, at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe