

REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF MARCH 8, 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 3 members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of February 23, 2016 were approved with minor corrections. 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.

- **Tricentennial:** Angie Mead came to give an update on plans for the Tricentennial celebration next July 23. She brought a small model showing the layout for all activities. The plan is to convert traffic to a one-way loop through Five Islands for the event. An ambulance and a sheriff's deputy will be stationed on the loop with emergency access. Parking will be limited in town but there will be shuttle service from parking lots. Angie indicated that CMP is taking total responsibility for the fireworks. The Board asked if the Tricentennial Committee needed anything and she indicated just support for the road re-routing.
- **Shellfish Committee:** Chad Campbell, Shellfish Committee Chair, came to discuss the upcoming budget submission. The Shellfish Committee is requesting one-time funding for net material (a role lasts approximately 8-10 years) and yearly funding for seed clams. He indicated that the hatchery needs to know requirements for seed a year in advance. There was some discussion about conservation duties, particularly cleaning up existing nets that are no longer functioning. In the end, the Board agreed to support funding for the netting and seed but Geoff pointed out that funding cannot be promised until the municipal budget is approved at the Town Meeting.
- **Assessing Items:** There was a fairly extensive discussion about an abatement request from an estate. The abatement requested significant reductions in land and building valuations based on the realtor's estimate of value. Mary had put together a map and comparison of valuations for the nearby properties. The Board agreed that valuations were consistent with all the others in the area. They denied the abatement.
- **Local Food Ordinance:** At the last Selectboard meeting, Douglas Wollmar had brought a draft "Local Food and Community Self-governance Ordinance" for the Selectboard to review. He had indicated that a number of communities in Maine were adopting this type of ordinance which allows residents to sell locally grown or manufactured food. Geoff indicated he did some research in the past couple of weeks finding that there are a number of legal cases currently in various stages that are addressing this issue. The current situation is that State and Federal laws trump local ordinances. After some discussion the Board agreed that this issue will not go on the warrant for this year's Town Meeting. But the Board will watch what happens in the legal cases and revisit the issue next year.

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:

- ME DOA advising of State Park Fee Sharing for 2015 - \$5818.
- Lincoln County recycling numbers for 2015 – overall up from the previous year.
- Request from Elmhurst for \$800. The request will be passed to the FAC.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

- Get to Know Your Neighbor party at Robinhood Meeting House, 2-4 pm, Sunday, March 13
- Public Hearing for Liquor License – Gray Havens Inn, 7 pm, Tuesday, March 22
- “Tick Talk” at GHS – 7 pm, Wednesday, March 23

The next meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, March 22 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe