

FREEMAN'S REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2016

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 my Town Meeting website:

www.singingbridge.net

THE MEETING: There were 4 members of the public present. The minutes of the meeting of April 12 were approved.

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

1. There was an extended discussion of changes in the Board of Appeals Ordinance that had been suggested by the Town Attorney. Ole Jaeger of the Board of Appeals joined in this discussion on behalf of the Board of Appeals. There were questions of inconsistencies among the proposed changes as well as the necessity of some of the changes. The Board tabled changes in the Ordinance pending further review by the Town Attorney of the questions raised.

2. Under New Business Bill Plummer announced that he would not attend any of the remaining Selectmen's meetings this fiscal 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

OLD BUSINESS:

First Church: Kate MacKay reported that she was still awaiting results of the church usage survey.

The TOPMB had discussed the Select Board's recommendation regarding fees and voted to leave the fees as they had submitted to the Board earlier.

Mary McDonald reported that the Workers' Compensation audit had been conducted on Friday, April 22 and that it "went fine." The auditors will advise about any needed adjustments.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kelly James has expressed interest in serving on the Financial Advisory Committee. Discussion was tabled until after the Town Meeting.

Mary McDonald reported on changes in the veterans and homestead exemptions for property taxation as of April 1, 2016. There was a net change of one additional veteran's exemption and 9 new homestead exemptions.

Mary McDonald reported on a request from the Emergency Management Director about insurance coverage in cases where volunteers and/or equipment are needed. The insurance agency had responded that Maine law stipulated that volunteers and equipment were covered by the Town's insurance policy.

The Board voted to change the schedule for paying Selectmen from a fiscal year to a monthly basis effective at the start of the new fiscal year.

There was an animal control issue from last year. Matt Reed's dog had killed two of Kristin Start's chickens while running free. Reed had apparently objected that the requested replacement cost was too high. The Select Board will send Reed a letter stating that State law requires that he pay to replace the chickens.

The Selectmen asked Mary to contact Andrew Roth-Wells and James Paterson about their willingness to serve as Moderator at the Town Meeting.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 10, at the Town Office. The major item of business will be discussion of the proposed Town Budget with the Financial Advisory Committee.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday, May 11, 7 PM: Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance changes

Tuesday, May 17, 7 PM: Public Hearing on the proposed School Budget

Wednesday, May 18, 7 PM Public Hearing on Municipal Budget.

Tuesday, June 7, 7 PM: Meet the Candidates night.

Tuesday, June 14, 8 AM to 98 PM: VOTE in party primaries and for Municipal Officers.

Saturday, June 18, 9 AM: Town Meeting.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman