

## REPORT ON SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2012

Prepared by Rick Freeman

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(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 seven members of the public present.

The minutes of the meeting of February 16, 2012 were approved.

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

1. Jon Hentz and Road Commissioner Dale Savoie came in to discuss the Town's response to Light Capital Paving Plan received from the Maine Department of Transportation (ME-DOT). The Plan indicates that ME-DOT plans to apply a 5/8 inch layer of asphalt on Route 127 from the Dairy Queen to the Reid State Park gate during the coming summer. Dale and Jon think that this is a bad plan because of the poor state of the present road surface, shoulders, and edges in some areas. Biennial Transportation Reports submitted by the Town in 2008 and 2010 have detailed the repairs that they believe are necessary prior to repaving the road. The new Biennial Transportation Report currently being compiled will make the same points again. This Report will be accompanied by a letter from the Selectmen emphasizing the need to do the repairs before laying new pavement.

2. During the opening Public Comment Period, I expressed my surprise that the matter of compliance with the Tree Growth Tax Law was not on the agenda for this meeting. I said that I agreed that it was appropriate to look at all of the lots in Tree Growth in the Town. But I think that the Town should move as quickly as possible to resolve the questions about Bruce Poliquin's participation in the program. If his use of the Law is legitimate, it would be good to remove the cloud over his name as soon as possible. On the other hand, if his use of the Tree Growth Law is an abuse of the law, it is important to find this out and resolve the matter. I asked when the matter will be on the agenda for the Selectmen. Geoff Birdsall replied, "I can't say." Later he said to me that he thought that it would be "fairly soon."

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](http://www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php)

The most interesting items were:

- There was a letter from the County Commissioners announcing that there will be an increase of about 5% in the amount that the County will have to pay in the next fiscal year for the jail.

- There was a letter from the Sagadahoc County EMA Director asking whether the Town would support a county wide reverse 9-1-1 Emergency Notification System. According to Wikipedia, "reverse 911 is a public safety communications system ... used by public safety organizations ... to communicate with groups of people in a defined geographic area. The system uses a database of telephone numbers and associated addresses to deliver recorded emergency notifications to a selected set of telephone service subscribers." The Selectmen agreed to support it with the requested contribution of \$750 per year.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Regarding Eric Kosalka's suit against the Town for his dogs, The matter is in the hands of the Town Attorney.
2. Regarding the updating of the Town's Emergency Operations Plan, the Selectmen and Mary McDonald are reviewing it. Comments will be returned to Jerry Gamache, Emergency Management Director for the Town. He will then incorporate them into a final Report.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Regarding the School Committee's need for additional storage space, the Selectmen were clear about not wanting to build another structure as was suggested by the School Custodian. The School Committee was urged to find other possibilities.
2. Spatial Alternatives had asked for access to the Town's tax maps and assessment data. They are working on the Broadband Initiative for the State of Maine to develop GIS based parcel data. When completed they will provide each participating town with a composite GIS file representing their parcels. There would be no charge to the Town. The request had been tabled at the last meeting. It was passed.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION;

The Selectmen went into Executive Session with three members of the Solid Waste Committee (Dave Polito, Sharon Trabona, and Alison Freeman) to discuss a personnel issue at the Transfer Station. They then discussed a General Assistance matter.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, March 13, at the Town Office.  
Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman.