

SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
May 17, 2011

PRESENT: Dennis Abbott, Gordon Littlefield, TammyJo Girard, Nancy Brandt, Jon Gale, David Woodsome, Pam Witman, David Lowe, Bob Gobeil, Gregg Hesslein, Roger Boufard, Fred Fay, Paul Tebbetts, Todd Abbott, Don & Sue Bornstein and Patti Berry.

Selectman Girard opened meeting with pledge at 6:00 p.m.

**APPOINTMENTS**

6:00 – Gregg Hesslein District Ranger for the Maine Forestry Service. Stated that they are looking to see if there is any interest by the town to take over the tower for probably \$1.00. There is some work that needs to be done as they haven't done maintenance in a number of years. Selectman Girard questioned the time frame and Gregg didn't think it was anything that needed to be decided right away. As they have not been putting money into the tower it's not a financial issue but they now use planes much more than the towers. Stated that they do have time to do an assessment of the structure and if the town doesn't want it could be shut down because it needs to either be maintained or taken down. If the town wants it will be "as is" condition. Selectman Littlefield felt it may be an opportunity to turn it over to the Land Trust as there is some historical value and would hate to lose a piece of history. Gregg explained that a locked gate would limit the liability. There is a private landowner where the tower sits so the town would need to negotiate a lease with them. Stated that the Fire Dept. does have some interest in it. Selectman Gale would be in favor if there is some way to preserve it without spending money.

6:15 – Sue Bornstein explained that they are looking for an extension as there has been lots of rain and can't get equipment down there right now to do the work. Stated that there is pending legislation to which Selectman Girard noted that as of May 11, 2011 that proposed legislation is dead. Sue asked to leave the stone to the end of the eaves instead of sod and grass which will just be a muddy mess. Selectman Girard noted a letter from the contractor in February which states he plans to access by the walkway so as to not damage the grass. Patti explained that there is such a thing as a rain garden which might be a compromise. Don Bornstein explained that they are just looking for a week or two. Selectman Woodsome felt a month extension would be sufficient. Will send a letter once the decision is made.

**HEARING OF DELEGATION**

Todd Abbott explained that the ATV Club is working on a municipal grant to finish the trail. Need to turn in the paperwork by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Next week will be back on the agenda with the project layout and any other information the board would like. Selectman Girard stated that she would be very supportive of this and explained that the funding comes from ATV registrations. Discussed connecting the trails to businesses and Todd explained that the goal is to connect all businesses to the trails. Selectman Girard recommended having Tom look over the grant application before they sign it.

Todd explained that he lives on Ross Corner Road in North Waterboro which gets confused with Ross Corner Road in Shapleigh. Proposed it be Middle Road all the way through. Selectman

Woodsome stated that he supports that completely. Patti stated that it needs to be submitted to the Slectmen, they are the only ones authorized to change road names. Nancy to check on the process and bring back at the first meeting in June.

### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

1. Reported that she has the warrant with final Finance Committee recommendations.
2. Reported that she has ordered the journal entries requested by the Dept. Heads.
3. Reported that today she received the road salt bid so will be sending that in within the next few days.
4. Working on the information for the handout for Town Meeting.

### **SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

1. Selectman Girard reported that she attended the meeting on Thursday at R.S.U. 57 on the budget. They kept the increase down to around 3% with no layoffs because of an additional \$1 million from the state. To the Town of Waterboro who has 41% of the students an increase of 2.85% or \$191,000 for a total of \$6,929,567. Budget Meeting is beingheld next Tuesday at 7 pm at Massabesic Middle School and anyone interested in participating in the budget process should attend this meeting. This is like our annual town meeting. Explained that the Selectmen have nothing to do with the school budget and the only way to get it down is if the citizens attend these meetings and vote.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT'S**

Road Review Committee – No one present to report.

Road Commissioner – Reported that the salesperson from Southworth-Milton has a buyer for the town sweeper for \$5,000 or could trade in with the town tractor towards a new tractor. Selectman Girard requested something in writing since we may be buying a new tractor after town meeting. Reported that Hemlock is dry but a lot of water coming out of the pipe on the other side of the road so it is working.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Selectman Abbott stated that Bob Carroll still owns the property that the fire tower sits on. Felt they should discuss this with Jason and the Fire Chief. Selectman Girard stated that as it's on the National Historic Registry not sure it can be torn down. Will pass this by the Historical Society and see if they are interested in it, stated that the Land Trust really isn't interested in structures. Will put this back on the agenda in June.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to extend the deadline for Mr. & Mrs. Bornstein but deny the request to exceed the 30% expansion. Patti explained that they can apply to the ZBA for a variance to do the rain garden. Also stated that these conditions were proposed by them not imposed by us. Selectman Littlefield stated that he is not sure there is a clear reason to compromise. Selectman Gale felt this may give them a chance to do a better job. Vote 4-1-0 with Selectman Girard opposed. Patti will send a letter to the Bornsteins. Selectman Abbott stated that he would be willing to consider the rain garden.
3. Patti requested the authority to seek legal action against the owner of 198 Eest Shore Road, Map 35 Lot 6 for a deck built illegally and the deadline has passed for removal but

- has not been removed. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to authorize the Code Enforcement Officer to take legal action. Vote 5-0-0.
4. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to grant the application from Blast from the Past Liquor License renewal. Vote 5-0-0.
  5. Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Gale to grant the application from Asian Taste Liquor License renewal. Vote 5-0-0.
  6. Discussed outstanding balances for Parks & Rec. and Mike explained that he will not accept a registration from anyone on this list because they have an outstanding balance. There are two families carrying a balance that are in constant communication. Motion by Selectman Abbott and seconded by Selectman Gale that effective immediately that the only waiving of fees be done by this board through the Town Administrator. Felt that this takes the pressure off the Parks & Rec. Director. Mike asked about charging interest and the board did not feel that is necessary. Vote 5-0-0. Discussed non-residents and the surcharge, would like to revisit this next fall. Discussed collecting these unpaid balances, Nancy will come up with a plan on collections. Selectman Littlefield stated that he doesn't like taxpayers subsidizing non-residents. Would like to see some continuous effort from these people, even a few dollars each week would show an effort.
  7. Selectman Girard reviewed articles in the warrant which are different from previous years. Total budget is \$3,920,395.00 which is a 1.9% increase over last year's budget. Also noted an article in the Reporter which was incorrect regarding raises for the Town Administrator, Fire Chief and Librarian. A retraction was supposed to be printed but has not been seen. Explained that the amount reported was per year not per hour. Motion by Selectman Abbott and seconded by Selectman Woodsome to accept the warrant as presented to the townspeople. Vote 5-0-0.
  8. Motion by Selectman Abbott and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to take the action recommended by the Town Administrator on transfers. Vote 5-0-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Discussed the EcoMaine Rep. and Selectman Abbott agreed to hold the position until they can find a replacement. Will address next week.
2. Selectman Girard responded to comments that the "Selectmen messed up another project" regarding the Transfer Station project. They tried to do the right thing and hired an engineer and at the completion found a flaw. Selectman Woodsome reported that he talked to Clint regarding his concerns and directed him to get those things corrected. Nancy stated that she has not heard anything yet from the engineer and will follow up this week.

## **OTHER**

1. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to sign warrants for bills and payroll. Vote 5-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to accept the minutes of 4/26/2011 and 5/10/2011 as written. Vote 5-0-0
3. Selectman Girard read an email report from Rep. Libby
4. Selectman Girard read reminders.

**Pending Decisions**

- 1. Public Service Announcements
- 2. Performance Bonds
- 3. Committee self-evaluations

**Action List**

- 1. Follow up on the tower in June
- 2. Patti to follow up with Bornstein's
- 3. Nancy to work on outstanding balances

**Agenda**

- 1. ATV Club re: Municipal Grant
- 2. Sidewalk sweeper
- 3. Personal property collection update – 2 weeks

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Selectman Woodsome and seconded by Selectman Gale to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Vote 5-0-0.

**SIGNED:**

- 1. Warrants for bills & payroll
- 2. Minutes of 4/26/2011 & 5/10/2011
- 3. Concealed weapon applications

**APPROVED:**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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