

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2012

PRESENT: Chairman Littlefield, Selectmen: Woodsome, Gale, & Abbott, Ruth Blake, Brigit McCallum, Jack Seery, Christina Silberman & David Lowe. Nancy Brandt arrived during reports.

Chairman Littlefield opened the meeting at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING: Chairman Littlefield opened the public hearing to receive public comment regarding amending the Waterboro Zoning Ordinance, Section 12.04- Performance Bond and amending the Land Subdivision Regulations, Section 7.1.5. There were no comments from the public. Selectman Abbott explained that the Board asked the Planning Board to review the bonding language and this has had legal review. The proposed new language is comprehensive. Chairman Littlefield closed the public hearing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

HEARING OF DELEGATION: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Littlefield reviewed the following correspondence:

1. Treasurer's weekly financial reports
2. Rep. Libby's newsletter
3. Memo from the 12 Town group re: Jan. 16th meeting
4. Letter from Dr. John Davis, Supt of RSU #57
5. Invitation to York County Commissioners Open House for the new York County Government / Emergency Management Agency Facility
6. Time Warner Cable routine notice re: broadcaster agreements/programming

REPORTS: Selectmen's Report: Selectman Woodsome said that he has received one response to his request for people to contact him to discuss ways to recognize veterans in Waterboro. Selectman Woodsome asked anyone with ideas on ways to recognize veterans in Waterboro and show our appreciation to them, to please contact him.

Selectman Abbott said that he will attend the EcoMaine Board of Directors meeting on Thursday.

Chairman Littlefield read a report by Selectman Girard outlining the following:

- The York County Advocacy Group is meeting next Tuesday at the State House in Augusta from 11:30 am to 1pm. This group is comprised of Town Managers and Administrators from York County that meet on a regular basis with elected officials who serve in Augusta. They discuss issues of importance to York County and ensure the towns' and cities' needs are being met. The small towns are not well represented at these meetings. Selectman Girard suggests that Nancy Brandt attend the meeting next week. There are some changes potentially coming to the LIHEAP program that could impact Waterboro. A bill has been introduced that would change LIHEAP from a program run by the State Housing Authority to a block grant type of program. This would require the town to apply for the grant, provide the personnel to manage the grant and expenditures from that grant as well as meet with and qualify residents to receive funding. This would shift a lot of man hours onto the local communities predictably at a cost for our staff's increased time to manage the program. York County Commissioner

Bowles was at the meeting and said he felt the County government could easily pick up the responsibility of this program. Nancy Johnson may benefit by attending as GA will be impacted if this is shifted to the town.

- Also noted last evening was that the Department of Transportation has put \$7 million in a kitty for grants to work on state aid roads and intersections where town roads meet state roads. The match to the grant is a 50/50 split with a \$500,000 cap per project. Not sure what funds are left but a lot of towns are taking advantage of the funding.
- The York County Budget Committee will be presenting their budget to the Commissioners tomorrow at 4:30 pm in Alfred at the court house in the first floor courtroom if anyone is interested in attending.
- Reminder that the Road Review Committee is meeting tomorrow evening at 6pm. This was a postponement from last week.

Chairman Littlefield reported that he attended the 6 Town Group meeting to discuss the educational component of the budget with the new Superintendent and new Financial Manager. The outgoing Financial Manager is staying on board through the budget process. The outlook for the educational component is bleak. The state is looking at ways to cut funding and the municipalities are expected to pick up the slack. Chairman Littlefield said that Waterboro has been picking up the slack for education to the detriment of the infrastructure. The town has cut funding for roads and building maintenance and employees have not had a raise in the last 3 years, except for previously negotiated pay steps. The next meeting will be Feb. 21st at the Alfred town hall in the Selectmen's chambers.

Selectman Gale commented that if the LIHEAP program is sent to the towns as a way for the state to save money, it will end up costing the towns a lot of money. This is federal money and the paperwork and accountability is very complicated and it would take up many man hours. Selectman Woodsome asked how this came about. Selectman Gale commented that it may have come from the Governor. Chairman Littlefield replied that he sees it as symptomatic of a large scale effort by the State to put more of a burden on municipalities. Selectman Abbott said he does not have a problem in principal with the state pushing this onto municipalities but the state has to stop dictating what the towns do. If the Department of Education is not going to fund the schools then they have to back away from requirements that schools do certain things.

Town Administrator's Report: Ms. Brandt said she is working on the budget and has two more department heads to meet with. She hopes to have the budget ready for the Board on Friday.

Librarian Report: Waterboro Librarian Ruth Blake reported on the following:

- The last of the new windows have been installed and it has made a big difference. The ceiling still needs insulation and the walls need more insulation.
- They have federal income tax forms and can copy the state forms for people.
- The Friends of Waterboro Public Library (FPWPL) held a silent auction in December. A patron donated \$500.00 and the silent auction raised \$300.00. This will cover the cost to participate in the e-book program. Patrons will be able to access e-books through the library.
- The State has provided the library with access to Ancestry.com.
- Patrons can now sign up for a Portland library card for no fee.

- A series of Manga books (Japanese comics) was offered for free to non-profit agencies but shipping was not included. A patron donated the shipping fee and the books are in and should be out on the shelves in a couple of weeks.
- Story hour is going well with 9-12 kids each week. Sylvia Davis also goes to the Children's Challenge daycare every Monday and does a story hour there. Story hour is usually the third Saturday of the month at 10 am. This month it will be on the 28th due to a scheduling problem.
- Kid's game night continues for pre-k through 2nd grade children. It has been popular. There has been a request for a game night for older kids and they are looking into starting this.
- In the fall, they began children's programming each month. In October they did pumpkin painting, in November they did a harvest basket, and in December they did paper bag gingerbread houses. Volunteers run the programs. They have puppet making, Valentine's Day card making, painting, and tie dying programs coming up.
- Patron Appreciation Week will be Feb. 6th–11th. There will be goodies and hot cider. Patrons can make Valentine cards during this week and it is not just for children. On Feb. 11th they will have a special children's workshop to make cards and they can also make cards for the Meals on Wheels program to distribute in Waterboro.
- They are looking to start an adult book discussion group. There is a meeting on Feb. 2nd at 7 pm to discuss the group and organize it.

They library is getting along. They continue to purchase books and videos as they can. They are getting new patrons in and there are lots of people using the computers.

Chairman Littlefield commended the library staff for their work and the connections made on both local and state levels. Selectman Gale commented that there is only so much space at the library and asked if the library is looking to focus on a particular area. Ms. Blake said they did a survey and the majority of people said they want them to continue on as they have been and they are doing what they can with what they have. Selectman Gale asked about a book swap. Ms. Blake said that the Friends have a project where Bill Dunn in Hollis sells books they don't use on e-bay. This money goes to the Friends. They do sometimes put books out for people to take. The Board thanked Ms. Blake for her report.

Library Trustees Report: Trustee Brigit McCallum reported that they are working on getting more members. She is interested in freeing up some space in the library for a "cozy corner" with some chairs for people to sit and read. Ms. McCallum is working on a mosaic project to go around the front door. If this works and holds up through the winter she would like to the whole front of the library as a community project. She would like this to be representative of not just the library but of the Waterboro community. Ms. McCallum would also like to have additional picnic tables out front for patrons to use. If anyone is interested in the mosaic project, e-mail Ms. McCallum at brigit@waterborolibrary.org. The plan for the mosaic project is to make it so it can be taken down and moved if necessary. She will be looking for financial, material and design support. The Board thanked Ms. McCallum for her report.

FOWPL(Friends of Waterboro Public Library) Report: Friends member Jack Seery said that the Friends are in the background raising money for the library. If people have books to donate, including non-fiction & academic, Bill Dunn can sell them on e-bay to raise money for the library. Mr. Dunn does this as a hobby and it brings in about \$1,000 every six months. Chairman Littlefield asked if there was anything further on the prospects for a

new library. Mr. Seery replied that he doesn't see it happening within his lifetime. Selectman Abbott commented that it seems that the small libraries are having a bit of a renaissance and are busier now. Mr. Seery agreed, and said that when budgets are tight people don't buy books, they go to the library. Libraries are booming because there are a lot of free services. Selectman Gale said that the library is a community center and goes beyond just borrowing books. Mr. Seery said people can work with the library to imagine different programs that can be done with limited space. The Board thanked Mr. Seery for his report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Discuss/vote to amend the Waterboro Zoning Ordinance, Section 12.04- Performance Bond and amending the Land Subdivision Regulations, Section 7.1.5:** Selectman Gale moved to accept the revisions as stated, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **4 years**.
- 2. Discuss/vote on committee appointments:** Selectman Woodsome moved to appoint James Bouley to the Library Trustees, Michael DeAngelis to the Assessing Board of Review and Patricia Aureli to the Transfer Station/Recycling Committee, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **4 years**.
- 3. Discuss/vote to approve applications from Waterboro Eagles for Games of Chance Licenses for sealed tickets, daily pool, and cards:** Selectman Abbott moved to approve the Games of Chance licenses for the Waterboro Eagles for daily pool, cards and sealed tickets for the year ensuing, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **4 years**.
- 4. Discuss/vote on a request from the Waterboro Eagles for a blanket letter of approval for Chance Licenses from 1/1/2012 through 1/1/2015:** Selectman Abbott moved to table this item indefinitely, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **4 years**.
- 5. Reschedule 2nd quarter budget review:** Selectman Abbott suggested rescheduling the 2nd quarter budget review to Tuesday, January 31, 2012 after the Selectmen's regular business meeting. The business meeting will be kept at one hour and the 2nd quarter budget review will begin at 7 pm on January 31, 2012.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Discuss the Town Report:** The Board discussed the town report dedication. Jon Tufts was nominated as the dedicatee but this has not been finalized. The Board discussed also dedicating the report to someone still living and suggested Esther Smith. Selectman Abbott said that there are people outside of town government that are also doing great things for the town. The Board will finalize the plans for the town report at their meeting on January 31st.
- 2. Discuss the January 26th meeting with all board & committee members:** Ms. Brandt said that Town Attorney Ken Cole is lined up to attend the meeting and has provided a packet on the right to know law. Chairman Littlefield asked if anyone from Maine Municipal Association (MMA) is available to provide information on conducting meetings. Ms. Brandt indicated that Attorney Cole can do this. Selectman Gale suggested the person that did the presentation at MMA on effective meetings. Ms. Brandt said that she will check with MMA. The meeting will include one hour with the board and committee Chairs and a second hour with all board and committee members.

3. Status update on Eagle Scout project: there is no additional information on this item and it will be added to pending decisions.

OTHER:

- 1. Moved by Selectman Abbott, seconded by Selectman Woodsome to sign warrants for bills and payroll, voted and passed, **4 yeas.**
- 2. Moved by Selectman Woodsome, seconded by Selectman Abbott to accept the minutes of the 01/10/12 regular meeting as written, voted and passed, **4 yeas.**

PENDING DECISIONS

- 1. Public Service Announcements: Selectman Gale is working on this
- 2. Committee self-evaluations: Selectman Gale will cover this at the meeting on Jan. 26th
- 3. Work with Logan Circle residents on water runoff issue: ongoing
- 4. Review Driveway Opening Permit language: pending
- 5. Board & Committee status: headway is being made and there are still vacancies on some boards and committees. Please complete an application at town hall if interested.
- 6. Water District survey: Returns are still coming in
- 7. Water District office space lease: pending

WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

- 1. Notify new board and committee members and chairpersons of appointments.
- 2. Confirm Feb. 1st date for a joint meeting with the Planning Board.
- 3. Follow up with Eagles Club on gaming licenses.
- 4. Notify the Finance Committee and Department Heads of rescheduled date of Jan. 31st for 2nd quarter budget reviews.
- 5. Schedule final plans for Town Report for Jan. 31st agenda

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. Discuss scheduling a meeting with the Charter Review Commission
- 2. Discuss budget process and schedule

Chairman Littlefield read the reminders.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Woodsome moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **4 yeas.**

SIGNED:

- 1. Warrants for bills & payroll
- 2. Minutes of 01/10/12

APPROVED: Date: _____
