

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2012

PRESENT: Chairman Littlefield, Selectmen: Woodsome, Gale, Girard & Abbott, Nancy Brandt, Chief Matt Bors, Dep. Chief Lisa Bennett, Roger Bouffard with an unidentified man, Wade Andrews Christina Silberman & David Lowe.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

HEARING OF DELEGATION: Animal Control Officer Wade Andrews said he was asked to attend to answer some questions. Chairman Littlefield stated that he heard that Mr. Andrews was not getting cooperation from the District Attorney and asked for clarification. Mr. Andrews said that the District Attorney's office cooperates with regular summonses. Mr. Andrews was told by the District Attorney's office last year that they cannot handle the summonses for unlicensed dogs. The number of unlicensed dogs is much lower this year at 125 dogs. Selectman Girard said that if there is an issue with the District Attorney's office saying that they will not prosecute unlicensed dog owners than the Selectmen need to be made aware of this so it can be addressed. Town Clerk Yvette Murray joined the meeting and said that most of the unlicensed dog owners' telephone numbers we have on file are no longer in service and/or the notice that was mailed was returned undeliverable. Mr. Andrews said that the head of the Animal Welfare Dept. recommends going to the residences of the unlicensed dog owners to issue a summons with a goal of doing 25 per month. Selectman Woodsome asked what is required by law when he picks a dog up. Mr. Andrews said that normally when he picks up a dog he will keep it for an hour and if nobody calls, he will take the dog to the shelter in Kennebunk. In the past, he has kept the dogs longer before taking them to the shelter. The Town is required to contract with a shelter and pays an annual fee. The dog owner has to pay a \$25.00 impound fee to the Town and is given a receipt and then are able to go to the shelter to get their dog. The shelter may also charge a fee to the dog owner. Selectman Gale asked how often Mr. Andrews takes dogs to the shelter. Mr. Andrews replied that last year he took 40 animals, not just dogs, to the shelter. There are many times that he has connected with the owner before taking the dog to the shelter. In these cases Mr. Andrews collects the impound fee from the owner. Mr. Andrews recommends amending the ordinance to increase the impound fee. Selectman Girard suggested increasing the impound fee for repeat offenders. Chairman Littlefield pointed out that this is a safety matter also because licensing the dog ensures it has been vaccinated for rabies. Mr. Andrews said that there have been 4 cases of rabies found in wildlife in Waterboro in the last year. Selectman Girard commented that when a dog is vaccinated for rabies, the state now notifies the municipality. Ms. Murray said she crosschecks the rabies notifications against the licensed dogs and has found that some of the dogs are not licensed and she adds them to the records.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Littlefield reviewed the following correspondence:

1. Rep. Libby's newsletter

2. Information from Healthy Maine Partners on the *Turn York County Blue* program to raise awareness about colon cancer
3. Time Warner Cable routine notice regarding programming and broadcaster agreements
4. Treasurer's weekly financial reports
5. **Confidential** copies of 2 memos from the Town Administrator
6. **Confidential** two copies of documents from the Town Attorney regarding a lawsuit and a consent order

REPORTS: Selectmen's Report: None

Town Administrator's Report: Ms. Brandt said she has been working hard on the budget. She received a survey from MMA asking if the Town is in favor of proposed legislation that would change how the circuit breaker program works. The changes would require that towns that wish to participate send a list of properties with liens to the state. The State would compare this list to people that have applied for a property tax refund. If there is a lien on the property, the refund check would be made out to the owner and the municipality. Currently, a person that receives a property tax refund from the State does not have to show that the taxes are paid and refund checks are made out to the person only. Selectman Girard moved to indicate the Town's interest on the survey, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 years**.

Fire Department Report: Chief Matt Bors reported on the following:

- There are currently 3 active live-in students. They are working to bring the students up to speed because they came to us green. 2 of them are trained to drive the ambulance but they are not able to drive the bigger trucks. There is a significant need for drivers. One student has their EMS license, the other two do not. The students have had over 40 hours of in-house training.
- Chief Bors said they continue to struggle with turnout, approximately 4 people respond per call.
- Shuttlebus will no longer service fire apparatus effective immediately however any pending work orders will be completed. They will have to look at commercial vehicle mechanics for future needs.
- In the past month there have been 5 fire related events, 52 emergency medical service incidents, 4 general service calls, 4 good attend calls, 2 false alarms for a total of 67 responses.

Chief Bors apologized for missing the budget review meeting last week and said he provided a document regarding the current budget standing to the Selectmen and asked if they had any questions. Chairman Littlefield asked about the viability of the student live in program. Chief Bors said in his opinion the program is a benefit and he explained the pros and cons and answered additional questions from the Board. Selectman Abbott indicated that a more in depth discussion about the student live in program is needed and the Board is meeting with the chief on Saturday for a budget workshop. Selectman Abbott gave kudos to Chief Bors and Deputy Chief Bennett for the document they provided regarding the current budget standing and Chairman Littlefield concurred. The Board thanked the Chief for his report

EMA Report: Chief Bors said there is not a lot to report on Emergency Management. They are doing work in the dispatch room to be able to convert it to an emergency operations center. He is hoping to find someone internally to volunteer to serve as the Assistant EMA Director to attend the York County EMA meetings. Selectman Gale commented that the Fire Department employees are pretty handy and do carpentry & vehicle maintenance. They are a valuable resource and are not just sitting around waiting for a call. The Board thanked the Chief for his report.

Sheriff Report: Deputy Sheriff Shawn Sanborn reported on the following:

- There were 256 calls for service in January 2012. This is down from January 2011. Total calls for service in 2011 were 4,267. This is comparable to the prior year.
- There are 13 registered sex offenders that either work or live in Waterboro. People can search the Maine Sex Offender Registry online via Google or Bing or use the link on the Contract Deputy webpage on the town website, www.waterboro-me.net. Sheriff Sanborn reported that the Maine Computer Crimes Task Force asked him to meet them a couple of weeks ago on a residential search warrant in South Waterboro related to child pornography. They took several hard drives and the case will go the York County District Attorney's Office for indictment.
- Urged the public to secure their things to deter theft, lock your home and your vehicle. Motion sensor lights are a good idea as is having a dog. Motion sensor cameras can be very useful to help solve burglaries. Get to know your neighbors and watch out for each other.
- Urged parents to know where their children are, know their friends and their parents. Many illegal incidents involving teens and children would be averted if parents were good spies.
- If you have information on underage drinking or drug use, please notify the Sheriff's Department. Hosting an underage drinking party is a class B crime and you will be arrested and taken to jail. If you are aware of an underage drinking party anywhere and fail to report it, your inaction could lead to drunk driving fatalities, assaults, sexual assaults, hard drug overdoses, etc.
- Marijuana is a drug and contains more carcinogens than tobacco and he will not give breaks to marijuana users. They did have a drug dog patrol the high school parking lot and found marijuana in one vehicle. There was a house in Deputy Sanborn's neighborhood that was discovered to be a marijuana growing facility. They did conduct a search warrant and took 17 lbs. of marijuana from the house and arrested two men. Heroin is starting to come back. A meth amphetamine lab was broken up in Lebanon. Oxycodone and other opiate pills are a big problem. Pharmacy robberies in Southern Maine seem to take place on a weekly basis and due pharmacies have been warned that there may be an increase in robberies due to a large drug bust of oxycodone that was slated to be sold in Southern Maine.
- Placing snow or slush in a public way (the road) is against the law. Due to consistent complaints last winter, he has asked the Road Commissioner to notify him of any issues with people plowing or shoveling snow into the road and he will be following up on this.
- Be very careful on the ice. The ice is thin and it has not been cold enough for vehicles to drive on the ice.

- Deputy Sanborn was #1 in arrests for 2011 and #1 in traffic tickets and he mentions this not to brag but due to comments from some people in town that question the need for his position and say he does nothing. Waterboro is on par with the Town of Buxton as far as population and demographics and Buxton has a 10 person Police Department. Deputy Sanborn stated that Waterboro does not have adequate police coverage at this time.

Chairman Littlefield asked if there are issues with bath salts here and Deputy Sanborn said there have not been and it seems to be a large problem in Bangor. Selectman Girard commented that there is synthetic marijuana going around now and Deputy Sanborn said he has seen evidence of this. The Board thanked Deputy Sanborn for his report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Selectman Girard moved to add an item not on the agenda to discuss accepting the resignation of the Code Enforcement Officer, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

Selectman Woodsome moved to add an item not on the agenda to discuss filling the Code Enforcement Officer position, seconded by Selectmen Gale, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

1. Discuss Personnel Policy revisions: Selectman Girard moved to table this item until information is available from the Town Administrator, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

2. Code Enforcement Officer Resignation: Selectman Girard moved to accept the resignation of the Code Enforcement Officer, with regret, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

3. Discuss filling the Code Enforcement Officer position: Selectman Abbott asked if we have interim coverage and Ms. Brandt replied yes. Selectman Abbott suggested including qualifications for the position, especially on the plumbing side, and said our preference is to find someone that is certified. Selectman Girard moved to approve advertising for the Code Enforcement Officer position as provided by the Town Administrator, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Special Town Meeting: Selectman Abbott moved to schedule a Special Town Meeting for March 13, 2012 and to finalize the articles within the next week, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **5 yeas**. The Town Administrator will provide a list of suggested articles for approval at next week's meeting for the Special Town Meeting.

OTHER:

1. Moved by Selectman Girard, seconded by Selectman Abbott to sign warrants for bills and payroll, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.
2. Moved by Selectman Gale, seconded by Selectman Woodsome to accept the minutes of the 01/31/12 regular meeting as written, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

PENDING DECISIONS:

1. Public Service Announcements: In progress

- 2. Review Driveway Opening Permit language: Pending
- 3. Board & Committee status: Working to fill vacancies, there will be a 2nd Selectmen's public night on Thursday, Feb. 9th to discuss the functions of the different boards and committees and also to discuss ways to recognize Veterans
- 4. Water District survey: Awaiting compiled results
- 5. Water District office space lease: Pending
- 6. Eagle Scout Project: Pending
- 7. Internet and Electronic Mail Policy revisions: Pending

Chairman Littlefield read the reminders.

WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

- 1. Review the Internet and Electronic Mail Policy
- 2. Advertise for the Code Enforcement Officer position
- 3. Prepare list of items to consider for the Special Town Meeting

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. Discuss/vote on warrant articles for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for March 13, 2012
- 2. Provide an update of Public Relations

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Woodsome moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

SIGNED:

- 1. Warrants for bills & payroll
- 2. Minutes of 1/31/12

APPROVED: Date: _____
