

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

April 3, 2012

5:30 pm EXECUTIVE SESSION: Selectman Gale moved to go into executive session at 5:38 pm per Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(E) to discuss a legal matter, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **4 yeas**. Selectman Woodsome arrived at 5:48 pm. Selectman Girard moved to come out of executive session at 6:00 pm, seconded by Selectman Abbott voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

PRESENT: Chairman Littlefield, Selectmen: Woodsome, Gale, Girard & Abbott, Nancy Brandt, Dick Bateman, Shawn Girard, Scott Davis, Jerry Daigle Christina Silberman & David Lowe. Road Commissioner Doug Foglio arrived during new business.

Chairman Littlefield opened the meeting at 6:03 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Littlefield congratulated the Massabesic Middle School Wrestling Team for having an undefeated season this year. Chairman Littlefield also congratulated the Waterboro Parks and Recreation sponsored AAU 8th grade basketball team for qualifying to go to the Nationals in Florida. They are in the process of conducting fundraisers to pay for the players to go to Nationals. Call 247-6211 to make a donation.

HEARING OF DELEGATION: Shawn Girard, property owner, addressed the Selectmen about the need for fire hydrants in the Lake Arrowhead area. Mr. Girard said that a month ago he lost a very good friend in a house fire at 23 Paradise Lane. Lake Arrowhead is not a small community. There are 1300-1500 houses there. Hydrants and/or dry wells will make a difference. Mr. Girard recognized that budgets are tight but this needs to be looked at. Chairman Littlefield said that the Board discussed the hydrant request but the request came in after the budget had been developed. There were also some unanswered questions and the Board felt that more time was needed so the request was not included in this budget. This does not mean that the Board does not think this is a good idea. Scott Davis of Lake Arrowhead also spoke on the hydrant request. Mr. Davis said that Lake Arrowhead is not regulated by the PUC and they are not a water district. They are a private homeowners association. Mr. Davis said that Lake Arrowhead would not charge a rental fee for the hydrants. Mr. Davis said the proposal is for the town to provide the materials for 4 hydrants and pay for the specialty labor to live tap the water mains. Lake Arrowhead would do all of the excavation and other labor and would thereafter maintain the hydrants. These hydrants would be available for use by Waterboro Fire Department for any fire, not only for fires in Lake Arrowhead. The Board suggested that Mr. Davis arrange to meet with the Fire Chief to further discuss the request with a possibility of asking the voters to approve the expense in November. The Board scheduled a workshop on this matter for July 10, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Littlefield reviewed the following correspondence:

1. Routine notice from Time Warner Cable re: programmers and broadcaster agreements
2. Letter regarding an issue with a dog on Ossipee Hill Road
3. Treasurer's Weekly Financial Reports

REPORTS: Selectmen's Report: None

Town Administrator's Report: Nancy Brandt reported that the projection for revenue sharing was released today at \$432,897 for fiscal year 2013. Ms. Brandt said that a new thermostat for the town office has been installed and she can control it through her computer. Ms. Brandt announced that the town's "Open for Business" certification program application has been completed and will be submitted by Representative Aaron Libby this week. Ms. Brandt reviewed the current purchase order policy and discussed the difference between this one and the previous one as previously requested by Selectman Woodsome. Selectman Woodsome asked if the furnace in the old building has been replaced with the furnace from the Fire Department yet. Ms. Brandt replied that this has not been done yet and that she has received one quote and is waiting for another quote to do the work.

Saco River Community TV: Dave Lowe shared some updates on behalf of Saco River Community TV Station Manager Patrick Bonzant. The TV station recently overhauled their computer system and things are running very well. They are running a tell view server system that allows everything to be stored in a "cloud". They are now able to offer some limited live streaming. This requires being connected to the TV station. RSU 57 meetings are now being archived and broadcast on education access channel 16. Some programs that are currently running that have been taped by volunteers include Waterborough Historical Society's program on the Taylor Frey Home, Waterboro Acupuncturist Jessica Peck's program focused on local businesses, and Steve Eveld of Raven Hill Orchard is now producing a local cooking show. If anyone is interested in learning about the TV production process or is interested in having their own show, please visit Saco River Community Television on Plains Road in Hollis. The Board thanked Mr. Lowe for his report.

Cable Television Cmte: Cable TV Committee member Dick Bateman reported that we are still operating under the old franchise agreement from 1988 with extensions. The cable company proposed a new franchise agreement and the Cable TV Committee did not agree with it. They met in January and proposed 5-6 changes mostly supported by federal law. They have not heard anything back from Time Warner Cable since then. The Chairman of the Committee, Tony Vigue, is currently contacting all of the towns to discuss improvements to the equipment and they would like Time Warner Cable to pay for some of the equipment. The Board thanked Mr. Bateman for his report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss/vote on a property tax abatement for tax map 13, lot 75A: Selectman Girard disclosed that she is a property abutter to Northeastern General Contractors but does not feel she has a conflict of interest. Chairman Littlefield stated that he has noticed that his wife signed as a Notary on several of the documents submitted by Northeastern General Contractors but he does not feel that he has a conflict of interest. Assessor's Agent Jerry Daigle outlined the abatement request which is for a gravel pit owned by Northeastern General Contractors. The tax rate for the active portion of a gravel pit is \$25,000 per acre. The property is currently assessed as having 23 acres of active pit. The owner indicates that there are only 5 acres of active pit at this time which is the maximum set by State law. Northeastern General Contractors President Clifton

Marean further explained the request. The Board raised questions regarding how to properly value gravel pits, particularly the area that has been excavated but has not yet been reclaimed and the area used for storage and to support the work being done in the “active” area of the pit. The Board wants to ensure that all gravel pits are being assessed similarly and suggested that pits be visited periodically to ensure the area being used is being assessed properly. Mr. Daigle will review the issues raised and report back to the Selectmen. Selectman Girard moved to approve the abatement request by removing 13 acres from the \$25,000 per acre assessment, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **5 years**.

2. Discuss/vote on property tax abatement #12-30 for tax map 33, lot 3: Selectman Girard moved to approve the abatement as recommended by the Assessor’s Agent, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 years**.

3. Discuss/vote on property tax abatement #12-31 for tax map 4, lot 48B: Selectman Girard moved to approve the abatement as recommended by the Assessor’s Agent, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 years**.

4. Discuss the purchase/bidding policy: Selectman Girard asked if there was an issue with the current policy that brought this forward. Selectman Woodsome responded that he wanted clarification on the policy so that he could respond correctly to citizens’ inquiries. The Board reviewed the policy for bidding and Ms. Brandt answered questions from the Board.

5. Discuss/vote to approve a partial payment waiver: Selectman Abbott moved to approve the partial payment waiver as presented, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **5 years**.

Selectman Littlefield recognized Road Commissioner Doug Foglio and asked if he had anything to discuss. Mr. Foglio explained that he was asked to attend a meeting last week but was unable to do so because he was away so he came to see if there was anything the Board needed. Chairman Littlefield replied that the Board voted to grant the over limit permit. Selectman Girard asked if Mr. Foglio would be available Thursday afternoon to review the driveway opening permit language. Mr. Foglio asked if anything has been received from MDOT as a result of their meeting. Ms. Brandt replied that she has not received anything further. Mr. Foglio said that MDOT is now proposing to install a small island at the intersection of Old Alfred Road and Route 5. People can e-mail Brian Keezer at MDOT at brian.keezer@maine.gov with input. Mr. Foglio suggested another thing to consider when assessing gravel pits is the depth of the ledge being excavated, one pit may only have a 4’ depth of ledge while another pit may have a 400’ depth of ledge. The Planning Board could make a change to assess gravel pits by so much per acre per elevated foot. Selectman Abbott raised another issue that some pits are being assessed for secondary road frontage while other pits are not.

6. Discuss/vote to approve a quit claim deed: Selectman Abbott moved to approve the quitclaim deed, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **5 years**.

7. Discuss/vote to establish an ordinance to exempt eligible active duty military personnel from vehicle excise tax: Selectman Abbott made the motion to move forward with the approval process of this ordinance, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **5 years**.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss traffic/crosswalk signs and signals: Selectman Abbott moved that the town either take down the town supported blinking lights at the crosswalks at the campground or transfer ownership of the lights to the campground no later than May 25, 2012, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **3 yeas, 2 nays (Gale & Girard).**

2. Discuss progress in hiring a Code Enforcement Officer: Ms. Brandt said that the background investigation has been completed. This matter will be discussed later this evening in executive session.

OTHER:

1. Moved by Selectman Abbott, seconded by Selectman Girard 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 3/27/12 regular meeting as written, voted and passed, **3 yeas, 2 abstained (Abbott & Girard-not present at meeting).**

PENDING DECISIONS

1. **Public Service Announcements:** The first project is nearing completion

2. **Review Driveway Opening Permit language:** Selectman Girard will meet with the Road Commissioner on Thursday to review this.

3. **Board & Committee status:** Chairman Littlefield encouraged interested citizens to contact the town office for information and read the list of **current vacancies:** 1- Assessing Board of Review, 2-Fair Hearing Committee, 4Hiring Panel, 1-Zoning Board of Appeals, 2-20/20 Master Planning Committee, 2-Finance Committee, 1 alternate-Planning Board, 3-Parks and Recreation, 5-Conservation Commission, 7-Economic Development Committee, 9-Public Safety Committee Liaison

4. **Water District survey:** Mr. Levy will attend the April 24th Selectmen's meeting to review this.

5. **Water District office space lease:** Awaiting the Water District's response

6. **Eagle Scout Project:** No further information

7. **Internet and Electronic Mail Policy revisions:** Under review

WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

1. Send a letter to the campground about the crosswalk lights.

2. Contact the Animal Control Officer for a report on the dog issue on Ossipee Hill Road

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Schedule quarterly budget reviews

2. Discuss boat launch issue with a hole that needs to be filled in

Chairman Littlefield read the meeting reminders.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Selectman Girard moved to go into executive session at 8:26 pm per Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) to discuss the new Code Enforcement Officer, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **5 yeas.** Selectman Girard moved to come out of executive session at 8:38 pm, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **5 yeas.**

Selectman Abbott moved to extend an offer of employment as Waterboro Code Enforcement Officer to Mark Mitchell as recommended by the Hiring Panel, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **4 yeas, 1 nay (Gale)**.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Abbott moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Minutes of 3/27/12
3. Partial payment waiver authorization
4. Quitclaim Deed

APPROVED: Date: _____
