

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES
April 24, 2012

PRESENT: Chairman Littlefield, Selectmen: Woodsome, Girard & Abbott, Nancy Brandt, Steve Levy, David Benton, Matt Bors, Lisa Bennett, many members of the Fire Department, David Barker, Lisa Faith, Mary Ross, Jerry Daigle, Pat Aureli, Rep. Libby & Christina Silberman.

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION: Fire Chief Matt Bors announced that Firefighter Duane McCoy will achieve 40 years as a member of the Waterboro Fire Department on April 30th. Mr. McCoy has served the Fire Department in many capacities during these 40 years and Chief Bors recognized his significant accomplishment. Chief Bors stated that there has been a significant decline in volunteers and call force members for the Fire Department. The Chief extended sincere appreciation to Mr. McCoy for everything he has done for the Fire Department and presented him with a plaque. Duane McCoy's son Nate McCoy said that he joined the Fire Department at age 14 and at that time his father Duane bet him he would not achieve 20 years. He said his 20 year anniversary is coming up soon. Nate McCoy agreed with Chief Bors that it is difficult today to find new members willing to commit the time, effort and sacrifice to serve the Department. He recalled being called away from many holiday dinners and celebrations to respond to calls and he thanked the Chief for the recognition. Duane McCoy said it has been fun and it is a lot of hard work. He thanked the Department and the people and said he plans to continue on.

PUBLIC HEARING: Chairman Littlefield opened the public hearing to establish an ordinance to exempt eligible active duty military personnel from vehicle excise tax. David Barker spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance. Chairman Littlefield closed the public hearing.

Selectman Abbott moved to take the appointment with Steve Levy out of order and hear it now, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **4 yeas**.

APPOINTMENTS: Steve Levy of Maine Rural Water Systems to review the survey results and discuss rates: Mr. Levy explained that the Waterboro Water District has restrictions on their ability to do water main extensions. If a main extension is done, the people benefiting by the extension have to make a financial investment. A survey was conducted of the Old Alfred Rd. neighborhood regarding water quality and the possibility of extending public water. There was a 36% response rate. Mr. Levy reviewed the results. 71.9% of respondents indicated that they would not be willing to invest \$2,000 or more in a main extension and this was a low estimate. There are concerns with the quality of water in the neighborhood but respondents were not willing to make the investment. Mr. Levy said based on the results, he does not feel the Water District will be able to do an extension. The Board thanked Mr. Levy for his time.

DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF

1. Fire Dept.-FEMA grant: Chief Bors explained the Live-In Partners Grant program. Selectman Girard moved to sign the Live-In Partners Grant application with the understanding that the town is under no obligation until we know exactly what is being offered, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **4 yeas**.

2. Discuss/vote on a property tax abatement request recommended for denial by the Assessors' Agent for tax map 9 lot 14-6: Assessor's Agent Jerry Daigle reviewed his April 18th memo to the Board regarding the Board's request to review the land assessments in this neighborhood. Mr. Daigle recommended granting an abatement of \$291.60 for tax map 9 lot 14-6. Selectman Woodsome moved to accept the Assessors' Agent's recommendation to grant an abatement in the amount of \$291.60 for tax map 9 lot 14-6, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **4 yeas**.

3. Assessors' Agent update on Personal Property collection: Assessor's Agent Jerry Daigle reported on the status of uncollected personal property tax accounts that were sent for collection. The Board asked Mr. Daigle to follow up on file #61624.

3. Parks & Rec.-Update on parks signage: Chairman Littlefield reported that he received an e-mail from the Parks & Rec Director indicating that a bulk order was placed with other communities. There will be 4 "Drug Free Zone" signs coming to be placed at Friendship Park, the Lion's Field and at the boat launch. "No Smoking" signs will also be posted in these areas.

4. General Assistance-update report: Ms. Brandt indicated that the General Assistance report was included in the Selectmen's packet. The Board discussed the general assistance budget Lepage veto. Rep. Libby provided additional information and said the Legislature will further discuss this on May 15th. The Board thanked Rep. Libby for the information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

HEARING OF DELEGATION: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Littlefield reviewed the following correspondence:

1. Assessor's Agent notice of May office hours
2. Confidential-legal
3. Treasurer's financial reports
4. E-bulletin-General Assistance Budget Update
5. Rep. Libby newsletter

REPORTS: Selectmen's Reports: Selectman Abbott reported that the Finance Committee meetings have started and they are reviewing the budget. The Finance Committee did lose a member and there are now two vacancies if anyone is interested in applying. The Finance Committee has met with the Road Commissioner and will be meeting with the Fire Chief. Selectman Abbott reported that the Transfer Station/ Recycling Committee met and they are waiting to get an update on the Zero Waste project at the Middle School. Ms. Silberman indicated that she has been in touch with Mr. Pope is planning to attend the Selectmen's meeting and the Transfer Station/ Recycling Committee meeting on May 22nd to discuss the project. Selectman Abbott said that there is an article in today's Portland paper about EcoMaine retiring their remaining debt by August 1st. There will be \$10,000 savings by doing this. There will be a one million dollar reduction in assessments to the communities next year. There has been a decline in revenues for what EcoMaine sells electricity for.

Selectman Woodsome asked if we know who collected the trash along Route 5. Road Commissioner Doug Foglio said the trash was picked up by a couple that lives on West Shore Road and the State picked up the bags. Selectman Girard said this is very

noticeable and thanked them. Later during the meeting the couple was identified as John & Judy Collomy and the Board echoed their appreciation.

Town Administrator's Report: Ms. Brandt reported that senior luncheons will begin May 10th and will be held the 2nd and 4th Thursday at the Snowmobile Club. The first meeting on the Alfred Road drainage project will be held tomorrow morning. Ms. Brandt said she received an e-mail from Glacial Energy regarding locking in at a fixed price for electricity. She is waiting for information on a cap amount and will forward this to the Board. Maine Municipal Association's Risk Management Services Safety Enhancement grants are now available and Ms. Brandt is submitting an application for ergonomic equipment at the Library.

RSU # 57: RSU #57 School Board members Mary Ross and Lisa Faith were present. Ms. Ross reported on the following;

- Currently in negotiations with the ed techs and teachers. The Teacher's negotiations are closed and the ed tech negotiations are open
- The proposed overall school budget is an increase of 3.313%, Waterboro's increase will be 3.32%
- 2 years ago there were several layoffs that hurt many of the schools. This year they are losing the "Jobs" money but planned for this last year. Waterboro Elementary needs an Assistant Principal because it is too big for one administrator. They are adding a 3rd grade teacher. The Middle School is adding a Guidance Counselor. They are adding to the gifted and talented program. They are adding a full time band person at the High School.
- The State is closing some group homes and there will be an increase in students with special needs. This will mean a big jump in the special needs budget.
- Some of the schools are still on AYP and do not meet the Federal guidelines and they are adding Title 1 math, English, reading.
- All lights have been replaced and this will mean big savings over the years.
- Without having to increase the budget, the High School will be able to provide I-Pads to incoming freshmen. Freshmen and sophomores will have I-Pads next year. The Middle School has chosen to cut their supply budget so that they can have I-Pads in the classroom. A benefit of having the I-Pads is that students that are home sick can Skype their classes with the teacher's permission and won't miss the class. Use of I-Pads may also help to save on purchasing books.

Selectman Abbott asked if the increase includes adult education and Ms. Ross said yes. Selectman Woodsome asked about the benefits and costs of adult education. Ms. Ross said she does not have the breakdowns but will provide this information to the Board. Selectman Woodsome said that the proposed budget is up 1 million dollars and asked "Where is the ceiling?" Ms. Ross said a large portion of the budget increase is due to the special ed needs. Selectmen and School Board members expressed frustrations with State mandates and funding levels for education. Mr. Ross indicated that kindergarten registrations are above 90 students so far for Waterboro. This is a high number and if enrollment continues to increase some of the students may have to be sent to other schools in the district because the budget does not include hiring another kindergarten teacher.

Ms. Faith reported on the following:

- Performance based standards work continues, we are in a cohort with 15 other districts including over 30,000 students. RSU #57 is ahead of the curve with this because they have already laid the groundwork.
- Math, science and social studies targets have been set for next year and they are finalizing the English language arts target. These will be presented to the School Board at their meeting on May 23rd.
- The educate electronic system will be implemented next year and this will be used to track student progress.
- The strategic plan is being worked on by the Curriculum Committee which includes the vision statement, mission statement, core beliefs and specific goals and this will be presented to the School Board also on May 23rd.
- Transportation is monitoring things. There is a request for 6 new buses next year. Bus purchases have been on hold for several years and future annual purchases will be less.
- Policy review continues and they are working on the J section that pertains to student's rules and regulations.
- Graduation for Massabesic High School has been scheduled for June 7th at Cumberland County Civic Center. Project Graduation will be held at the Freeport Y. A parent group has organized this year's Project Graduation and the Principal is very impressed with their work.
- Massabesic High School is a leader in Cumberland and York County in dual enrollment. This is for students that are attending high school but have enrolled in college courses at YCCC, SMCC, or USM. This allows students to take courses not offered at the high school and gives them a head start on college. There are over 100 students in over 100 courses.
- There will be an increase in the percentage of graduates for the 2nd year in a row with an 82% rate.

Chairman Littlefield asked if the school pays for the college courses. Ms. Faith responded that the school pays for the course but the student pays for their transportation and any needed materials such as books. Selectman Woodsome asked if there is a discount on the tuition and Ms. Faith did not know. Selectman Woodsome said he would like to know the total costs for this. The Selectmen thanked the School Board members for their information.

Road Commissioner: Road Commissioner Doug Foglio reported the following. Most of the dirt roads have been graded but it has been very dry. There is very little surface gravel remaining on the dirt roads. Ditches need to be cleaned out before a surface coat can be added. Ossipee Hill Road needs some work, the surface is wearing thin and there are trees that need to be trimmed. There are some tree cutters on a private lot there now and Mr. Foglio is going to ask them to cut the trees along the road at no charge. This will open up the road. Bagley Road is an ongoing problem. If the ditches are cleaned out then a coat of pavement should be put on this road and this would save money. Selectman Woodsome asked if funds are in the budget for this. Mr. Foglio said there are some funds and the town has some gravel. Bennett Hill Road should also have some ditches and be paved. West Shore Road needs work. There are a lot of people living off this road now. There are trees in the right of way that should be removed. OTT Communications and CMP are going to move the telephone pole at the end of the road. There are some dangerous situations on this road with sight lines and there have been accidents and near

misses. Trees and brush have been removed in several areas. There is a dry lagoon that was put in with State grant money with an outlet and a pipe across Courtney Way. Water was still going into the road because it was never ditched. They have cleaned it, ditched it and put in stone check dams so the water won't move too fast and they will be able to move snow out of the road. They did projects on Windy Drive, Mast Road, and Bradeen Road. These roads were all able to be saved. Sweeping will begin this week at a cost of \$1,600 per day. Paving plants are open and Mr. Foglio will be obtaining quotes for paving. He plans to pave New Dam Road from Old Portland Road to the bridge. A section of Roberts Ridge Road and Alder Drive also needs to be paved. Subdivisions also need paving but there is disagreement about whether or not the town should pave them. Mr. Foglio feels that something needs to be done about the subdivisions. Main Street needs to be paved but he is not sure if funds will be available.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss/vote on issue with Connolly Point: Mr. Foglio explained that the issue is that Connolly Point is a private road. Connolly Point is on the town's plowing list and it should not be. Mr. Foglio said that he has been instructed not to expend town funds on public roads and he will not do so unless the Selectmen vote to have him to otherwise. Chairman Littlefield explained that there is a statutory requirement that public funds cannot be expended on private roads. Selectman Abbott questioned why Connolly Point is on the plow list and said if it should not be there then they need to vote to take it off. Selectman Girard said that residents should be notified that it will not be plowed if it is verified to be a private road. Selectman Abbott moved to postpone action on this item until information is verified, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **4 yeas**.

Mr. Foglio asked if the Board would consider allowing the campground to reimburse the town for the cost of electricity for the crosswalk lights. Mr. Foglio stated that he will be meeting with the campground owner to discuss the lights and wants to be sure the Board would allow this. The consensus of the Board is that this is something that could be allowed based on their prior vote on the matter. Mr. Foglio said that there is an issue with Straw Mill Brook and he would like to discuss this with the Board at a workshop. Chairman Littlefield said they will discuss the workshop request at their next meeting.

Chairman Littlefield asked about the status of repairs on the West Road bridge. Mr. Foglio replied that MDOT has been working on the bridge and described what is being done. Chairman Littlefield asked if he has met with the engineer about Hamilton Road and Mr. Foglio said no, he has not met with him yet. Mr. Foglio said they are meeting tomorrow morning with Wright Pierce to discuss the grant funded work on Old Alfred Rd. Selectman Girard asked about the status of Old Alfred Rd. being turned over to the town. Mr. Foglio said he has talked with MDOT and is planning to meet with them again and that MDOT seems to think that the road is in great shape. Selectman Girard said she will not vote to accept it if the road is not in good shape. Mr. Foglio said there is an annual meeting at Maine Aggregate Association tomorrow night. He is considering attending a roundhouse discussion, a pay per plate affair, on May 22nd with Governor LePage. He wants to tell the Governor he has serious concerns about the MDOT standards for our roads. The Board thanked Mr. Foglio.

2. Discuss/vote to establish an ordinance to exempt eligible active duty military personnel from vehicle excise tax: Selectman Girard moved to establish an ordinance to

exempt eligible active duty military personnel from vehicle excise tax, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **4 years**.

3. Discuss/vote waiver form for partial payments (2): Selectman Abbott moved to approve the partial payment waivers, seconded by Selectman Girard, voted and passed, **4 years**.

4. Discuss/vote on committee application 1-Conservaton Commission: This item was postponed until after the Board meets with the applicant.

OLD BUSINESS: None

Chairman Littlefield said that the 20/20 Committee has asked to change their meeting with the Board from May 9th to May 16th at 6 pm at Central Station Fire Station and the Board agreed.

OTHER:

1. Moved by Selectman Abbott, seconded by Selectman Woodsome to sign warrants for bills and payroll, voted and passed, **4 years**.

PENDING

1. Public Service Announcements: This is being worked on

2. Review Driveway Opening Permit language: Selectman Girard is working on this with the Road Commissioner

3. Board & Committee status: Chairman Littlefield reviewed the current vacancies and asked anyone that is interested to contact the town office

4. Water District office space lease

5. Internet and Electronic Mail Policy revisions

WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

1. Review Connolly Point issue

2. Schedule an appointment with the committee applicant

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Review the Bylaws regarding the agenda content

Chairman Littlefield read the meeting reminders.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Abbott moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **4 years**.

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll

APPROVED: Date: _____

