

Submitted By:
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

Approved By:

October 13, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Selectman Wells, Rice and Douglass present.

1. Review and Sign:

- Accounts payable, payroll warrants and minutes

All items reviewed and signed.

2. Meetings and Hearings:

- Meet with the Assessing Agent to sign abatements and supplementals

No abatements or supplementals were presented. However, the Assessing Agent gave a briefing on her next step in equalization which will be to review all of the Tree Growth, Open Space and Charitable/Benevolent files for current documentation. The Agent also stated that she would be working in Phippsburg on Mondays through Wednesdays rather than Tuesdays through Thursdays.

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Town website

Josh Bate had sent an e-mail complaining that the meetings listing on the web site was not being updated on a regular basis. The T/A, who is also the webmaster, will put a disclaimer on the meetings list that explains that it will be updated to the best of his ability, however citizens should refer to the newspaper for official meeting updates or call the Town Office. Mr. Bate also recommended that the website be contracted out - on which the Selectmen took no action. The issue of Phippsburg taxpayers who have businesses located outside of Town being allowed to advertise on the website was discussed. This was a policy established by the original Website Committee, which the Selectmen will allow to continue.

- Request to broadcast meetings

The T/A informed the Selectmen that he has received several requests to broadcast meetings on cable television, including a request from Leila Percy. In accordance with the cable contract with Suscom, the Town has received \$15,000.00 to purchase equipment and up to 24 hours of free training will be provided. Bill Perkins from Cox Head Road had called the T/A last month and was interested in researching the procedure for taping and televising meetings. The T/A had provided him with contract information and contact names. Josh Bate also volunteered to be part of a committee to research this. The T/A will e-mail the information to Mr. Bate so he can contact Mr. Perkins. No further action taken.

- Comprehensive Plan timetable

The Selectmen voted (3-0) to delay the Public Hearings until December 1st and 2nd in order to give the citizens time to review complete copies of the Comprehensive Plan. The Executive summaries will be sent out to all residents and taxpayers the first week in November.

- Repair of school driveway and fence

At the recommendation of Dan Coffin, School Board Chair, the Selectmen voted (3-0) to take \$6,856.00 out of the School Capital Improvement Account to pay for the installation of fencing and paving at the school.

- Set a date for a Popham Park summer review
The T/A will contact Brian Murray, Park Manager, to set up a date.
- Letter to Mr. Hatch concerning target shooting at the “Green Piece” (tabled from last week)

The Selectmen discussed the issue of weapons firing at the “Green Piece” with members of the Sportsmen’s Association. It was determined that the firing of weapons at the “Green Piece” did not place the school children in danger because (1) The school is 1.1 miles from the firing area (as determined by Arnold Rice using GPS); (2) The angle that weapons are fired at is almost 90 degrees from the direction of the School, plus the property is actually located south of the School; and (3) There is a high ridge at the back of the property. Selectman Douglass will meet with the School Principal and explain the decision.

The T/A will send a letter to Mr. Hatch asking permission for the Sportsmen’s Association to replace the “School Safety Zone” signs that are located on his property.

It was also recommended that the Winnegance Wheelers install a warning sign that states “Shooting Area, Proceed with Caution” at the exit of the ATV trail that enters the “Green Piece.” Ed Hunt will discuss with the organization.

Arnold Rice, asked why the Chief of Police was not issuing littering summonses in the Basin. The Chief explained that unless the property owner was willing to testify, the District Attorney would not prosecute violators. This was contrary to Mr. Rice’s understanding. Selectman Douglass will discuss with the DA.

4. Review the following items:

- **None**

5. Discuss attendance at the following meetings, courses, and seminars:

- Gateway 1 Public Meeting
No one will attend.

6. Miscellaneous

- **Selectmen reviewed the School Union Newsletter and Referendum #1 Resolution signed by the County Commissioners. No action taken.**
- **John Rhodes lodged complaints against his neighbor, Eric Taylor on Fred Brigham Road. Mr. Rhodes stated that Mr. Taylor had (1) Placed a round concrete cylinder within 10 feet of Mr. Rhodes property line; (2) Placed an erosion fence on Mr. Rhodes property; (3) Dynamited part of Mr. Rhodes property and put rocks on it; (4) Covered up construction debris on his own property; and (5) installed a concrete tank within 110 feet of the water which was leaking something. The CEO will investigate the burying of building debris and the leakage of discolored water from the concrete tank. All of the other issues are a civil matter. Mr. Rhodes was told that he can remove the silt fencing if it is on his property.**

Adjourned at 7:59 p.m.