

Submitted By:
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

Approved By:

November 10, 2004

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Selectman Wells, Rice and Douglass present. Meeting was taped for CATV.

1. Review and Sign:

- Accounts payable, payroll warrants and minutes

Reviewed and signed.

2. Meetings and Hearings:

- Meet with Judy Ventry and the Planning Board concerning apartments in her home

Meeting held. Refer to Planning Board minutes.

- Meet with the Historical Preservation Commission concerning relocation of the Murphy House

Meeting held with Orman Hines. He requested permission to move the Murphy House and the old Phippsburg Post Office (located on Parker Head Road) to the piece of town owned land on the corner of Sam Day Hill Road and Granite Ledge Road. Selectmen voted (3-0) to allow the temporary storage of the buildings on this piece of property. The Commission will have to investigate water, waste and parking before making any move permanent. The Commission should be prepared to get a sanction at the May 2005 Town Meeting for their plans and have a budget prepared for Town Meeting on expected costs. This issue will be revisited.

- Meet with Josh Bate concerning CATV

Meeting held with Mr. Bate who had been taping the meeting for broadcast on CATV with borrowed equipment from Bath CATV. He stated that he would continue to tape and broadcast meetings as a private individual. He had contacted Everett Perkins who is interested in participating on a committee and also attempted to contact Bill Perkins, who has not returned his calls. Mr. Bate volunteered to act as an advisor for a Town Committee but did not wish to participate as a member. Bath CATV will air the recorded meetings in different time slots until taping is done consistently, at which time they will designate a specific time slot each week. Mr. Bate recommended that the Town Committee, once established, contact Harpswell for ideas and also West Bath after they start broadcasting in 2005. The Town currently has \$15,000, which was provided by Suscom, in a special account for CATV broadcasting equipment and will receive another \$10,000 for this purpose in 2005. The Selectmen commended Mr. Bate on his work because the broadcasting of meetings and events will be a great public benefit. The T/A will advertise for citizens willing to serve on a CATV Committee.

- Meet with the Assessing Agent to sign the Municipal Valuation return and other post commitment paperwork

Meeting held. The Selectmen reviewed and signed the Municipal Valuation return. Juanita Wilson, Contract Assessor, also reported that she has had 36 inquiries concerning the new interim valuations which has resulted in 12 to 14 taxpayers actually meeting with her. No one has expressed that the values are unfair and a few acreages have been corrected through this process. Ms. Wilson also explained that she needs to spend Mondays at Town Hall doing internal work and she would not be available for the general public as she is on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Comp Plan Executive Summary and Public Hearing

The Summary was reviewed and will be mailed out next week. Because State Law requires at least 30 days between advertising and the public hearing (which includes having copies of the full Comprehensive Plan available for review) they have been rescheduled for January 10th and 11th with snow dates for January 13th and 18th. The T/A briefed the Selectmen on a second request from Mark Hawkes to have his name removed from any acknowledgements in the Comprehensive Plan. This is the second time that Mr. Hawkes requested this be done. The first time the Selectmen stated that since Mr. Hawkes had participated in the Public process his name would be contained in any acknowledgements with a “(resigned)” after it (see Selectmen’s minutes of October 27th.) Mr. Hawkes maintains that since his appointment had expired he could not have resigned. The Selectmen maintain that he continued to participate in the process under their jurisdiction and therefore he has resigned. Selectmen voted (3-0) not to remove Mr. Hawkes name from the Comprehensive Plan involvement, but to list “(resigned)” after it.

- Handicapped accessibility report on polling places

Reviewed. The State Elections Bureau had a Handicapped Accessibility study conducted of all polling places in the State of Maine this past summer. Both the Town Office and School were reviewed for accessibility. There were minor issues which will be addressed during the spring, however a major issue was the paved entrance to Town Hall which has too much angle, no flat spot at the doorway and no handrails. The T/A is discussing solutions with the Road Commissioner.

- Purchase of Rogers parcel by Land for Maine Future Program

Reviewed. The Town had received a letter from the Land for Maine Future Program requesting any comments concerning their possible purchase of 68 acres of property located along Winnegance Creek. This property is owned by Stephen and Sharon Rogers and is designated as Map 42, Lot 2. The Rogers were present and stated that they had not seen a copy of the letter. They were provided a copy. The Selectmen reviewed the letter and enclosures and took no action.

- Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule

Selectmen voted (3-0) not to hold a Selectmen’s meeting on November 24th. November 25th and 26th are State holidays and will be observed.

4. Review the following items:

- Multicounty Jail Meeting Agenda
- BMV Audit Report
- Russell Alexander Transfer Station Operators certification
- Shellfish Report
- Chamber of Commerce name change

All items reviewed. Selectman Douglass asked that the hours listed on the Shellfish Warden Report be indicated in 24 hour time. The T/A will request minutes of the Multicounty Jail meetings.

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

- None

6. Miscellaneous

- **Dick Lemont, Shellfish Chairman, advised the Selectmen that the Shellfish Committee would be meeting on November 18th vs. 25th.**
- **The T/A was reminded to have a new outside light installed on the back of Town Hall.**
- **The T/A informed the Selectmen that Pine Tree Engineering would be meeting with the Road Commissioner and Road Committee sometime during the week of November 15th to review Stoneybrook Road rebuild plans.**
- **Selectman Douglass stated that he had informed Arnold Rice of the findings from his visit with the D.A. concerning littering (see minutes of October 27th.) Doug Alexander stated that somehow the State Game Wardens have been able to write summonses. Mr. Alexander also stated that there has been a decline in littering in the Basin due to the efforts of the Police Chief, John Skroski. Selectmen directed the Chief of Police to write a littering summons if he sees a violation take place. Selectman Douglass reported that Arnold Rice had mentioned that the Portland Press Herald had an article on how the Town of Limington has handled littering problems through the adoption of an Ordinance.**
- **The Police Chief, John Skroski, reported that he has had good success with the new DOT District in Scarborough concerning a letter he had sent up concerning signs and speed limits. They will be taking action within the next several weeks. He also read a letter from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy that stated that they do not offer radar certification for part time police officers, but they can be trained and certified either by the radar unit manufacturer or through field training with an experienced officer. The Court Judge will decide on an individual case basis if the officer testifying is trained to their satisfaction. Part Time Officer Jeremy Dewese has been field trained by the Chief of Police and has also had training through the 100 hour course.**
- **Jean Perkins discussed the possibility of having Contractor Ron Harrison (Westport Island) install her emergency holding tank since he is already on site doing work for her on a rock retaining wall. Her malfunctioning OBD is scheduled to be replaced by a system that the State will partially fund on the Parker Head Town property. However, because of the time frame for the system installation the State has authorized an emergency holding tank to be installed and local contractors in Phippsburg were authorized to be sole bidders. The contract was awarded to Ed Skillin for \$1,900.00. The Code Enforcement Officer, Lee Rainey, briefed the Selectmen on this issue. The Selectmen informed Ms. Perkins that the contract with Ed Skillin still stood and that the CEO would contact him to get an estimated start date and relay that on to Ms. Perkins. They also informed her that the process in place at this time needed to be followed through on. The Parker Head system will be put out to bid again (see minutes of October 20th). The CEO also advised the Selectmen that Ron Harrison may not have the insurance coverage (i.e. Workers Comp and Liability) as per State requirements to complete State funded contract work. The CEO will confirm Mr. Harrison's insurance coverage.**
- **The T/A passed on the following items from the Road Commissioner, Curtis Doughty, who will attend the next Selectmen's Meeting to discuss them. (1) Dino Spugnardi (Map 037, Lot 015-01) has requested another driveway to his property on Painted Point Road; (2) Karen Jorgenson (West Point Road) has requested a driveway entrance on east side of West Point Road at the bottom of the hill in vicinity of the Church; (3) Darren and Judy Ventry have requested that the Basin Road be plowed to its intersection with Devils Highway because that is the closest**

route to their property; (4) The Road Commissioner has 2 or 3 old culverts which have been replaced and would like to know if the Selectmen want to put them out to bid. They are bent with crushed ends and have junk value. Selectmen voted to have them put out to bid.

Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.