

Submitted By:  
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved By:

**MINUTES**

January 5, 2005

*Called to order at 6:03 p.m. with Selectmen 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 CATV Committee to review expectations

**Meeting held with CATV Committee members Bunny Geisler, Everett Perkins, Bill Perkins, Jason Wells and Tom Totman. Brent Hershey was unable to make the meeting. The T/A is still waiting for a School Representative to be selected.**

**The Selectmen commended the members for volunteering to assume the responsibility of taping and broadcasting public events. The Selectmen stated that is very important to focus on people speaking to the Selectmen, as well as the Selectmen themselves, during taping. The Selectmen emphasized that they always allow attendees to speak at the meetings, even though they are not required to do so, and they would be willing to make minor changes at meetings to facilitate the taping (i.e. podium for speakers, etc.).**

**Josh Bate stated that he would be happy to give guidance to the Committee and that as BACTV approaches program capacity they will have to turn programs away and will probably start with those coming from outside of Bath. He stated that the Town may want to consider sharing a second channel with Bath. He also pointed out that there are two philosophies - that of Bath which is "community based" programming and will draw more people to be involved and that of Brunswick which is "municipal based." Mr. Bate asked if the Town's taping of the meetings would become an "official record" and was told that the committee would research it.**

**Selectman Rice stated that the committee has very wide direction now, but if they want more clarification they should come back to another Selectmen's Meeting. Selectman Douglass stated that it is important that the taping of school events and meetings get done with good quality equipment – especially sound.**

**The committee will: (1) review Suscom contract specifications and BCATV policies and technical information; (2) start taping Selectmen's Meetings and then expand from that; (3) contact other municipalities to check on their policies, equipment, etc; (4) obtain legal opinions from MMA or the Town's Attorney if needed; (5) consider live broadcast vs. taping for some events; (6) draft a CATV policy; (7) discuss short term and long term goals; (8) have a financial package for Town Meeting if needed (currently there is \$15,000 set aside for equipment purchase and another \$10,000 becomes available in September 2005 from Suscom) and (9) ensure that taping does not upset the meeting process.**

- Hold General Assistance Ordinance Amendments Public Hearing (6:30 p.m.)

**Hearings were opened at 6:32 p.m. The Selectmen explained that the State recommended adopting increased GA maximums. No Public comment was made. Hearings closed at 6:34 p.m. Selectmen voted (2-0) to adopt the State recommended maximums.**

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Comprehensive Plan Hearings

**The T/A briefed the Selectmen on the upcoming Public Hearing agenda.**

- Hiring of new Shellfish Warden

**It was reported that Douglass Alexander had been unanimously recommended for the position of Municipal Shellfish Warden by a combination interview board consisting of West Bath and Phippsburg personnel. The Selectmen voted (2-0) to hire Douglass Alexander on a one year probation.**

4. Review the following items:

- MMA Tax Reform Information
- Inland Fisheries notification of Bald Eagle sites designated as "Essential Habitat."
- Chamber Connections after hours event
- Shellfish Warden Report
- Maine State Housing Authority Newsletter
- Thank you letter to T/A
- Police training report
- School Union Newsletter
- Sagadahoc Commissioner's Meeting Agenda

**All items reviewed. No action taken.**

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

- Maine Choices – Maine Budget Preview
- Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner Meeting

**No one will attend events.**

6. Miscellaneous

- **Dick Lemont, Shellfish Chairman, informed the Selectmen that the Shellfish Committee had voted to reimburse Kenneth McKenney's family for the full cost of his Commercial Shellfish license (\$150.00) and not to reissue it until the new season in April 2005. (Mr. McKenney is deceased.) Mr. Lemont will get the reimbursement information to the T/A. He also informed the Selectmen that the committee interpreted the Commercial Shellfish License issuance priority as meaning that the time frame for purchasing a Commercial License in a specific category is 14 days. If it is not purchased within 14 days the individual does not become eligible in another category.**
- **Jarred Darling from G.A.C. Enterprises asked if he would be used for pounding ledge on the Parker Head Road within the village. He was instructed to contact the Road Commissioner directly.**
- **Les Smith reported that Rob Prue, from Pine Tree Engineering, has reviewed**

**the Stoneybrook Rebuild Plan with the Road Committee. The Road Committee recommended that either they or the Road Commissioner meet with the affected property owners on site to review the plans and answer questions. Mr. Smith also mentioned that the Road Committee had asked Mr. Prue for a letter stating that the road will accommodate a tractor trailer and school bus passing. Mr. Smith further indicated that the road will not be built to 100,000 pound specifications, but will have 18 inches of gravel and 2 inches of pavement. The Selectmen agreed that a meeting with the property owners onsite (upon request) would be a good idea. The T/A will notify the property owners of this offer.**

- **The T/A reported that a new security light at the back of Town Hall has been installed.**

*Adjourned at 6:55 p.m.*