

Submitted By:  
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved By:

**MINUTES**

March 16, 2005

*Called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Selectmen 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 Town Landing Committee concerning the Acre Lot Wharf extension **Meeting held with the Town Landing Committee. They had brought a funding request before the Budget Committee to lengthen the Acre Lot Wharf and add an "L". The cost for this project would be \$175,900.00 plus \$3,000 to \$4,000 for permit fees. The Budget Committee stated that they would support it if it wasn't for the LD1 Tax Cap. The Town Landing Committee wanted to know the Selectmen's opinion on the project. They also stated that if the project amount was approved at Town Meeting they would withdraw their \$15,000.00 request for the normal Town Landing Maintenance account.**

Selectman Douglass mentioned that this was a tough budget year and explained why. He also explained that the Budget Committee members, who are elected officials and set their own meeting policies, were asked to scrutinize all the budget requests.

Arthur Pierce and Doug Alexander from the Town Landing Committee mentioned the constant loss of shore access and also pointed out that they were unable to put a float in at the Meadowbrook Landing because the neighbors were against it. Arthur Pierce explained that at least 25 people use the Acre Lot now and it can't be used at low tide or at high tide if it is windy. The proposed project would allow for five places to unload, two hoists, and a wave fence to protect one boat on the inside of the L. Doug Alexander reminded the Selectmen of the comment made by Eddie Hunt who stated that if something happened to him, 15 more fishermen would be looking for a place to work out of. Arthur Pierce also stated that if any of the marine businesses were lost in a fire etc, they could probably use the Acre Lot on a temporary basis. He also reminded the Selectmen that one of the Comprehensive Plan goals was to protect the lifestyle of fishermen and continued on to discuss the use of Malaga Island and lifetime permits. Selectman Douglass stated that the Comprehensive Plan had not been voted on yet.

Selectman Wells stated that it was his opinion that this expansion was important and the best way to fund it would be through a bond. He also mentioned that it had been a long time since the town has invested any money into the Acre Lot. The T/A explained the bond procedure. Doug Alexander introduced Tim Harkins from Coastal Enterprises Incorporated (CEI) who works with the working waterfront division. Mr. Harkins explained the low interest loan program (6%)

sponsored by CEI. Selectman Wells gave more background on CEI. Selectman Wells mentioned having three different funding options for Town Meeting.

Selectman Rice asked if the money became available would the project be ready to go. Arthur Pierce stated that they would indeed be ready to go and they had chosen Proc Marine because they can drill sockets in ledge. The Town landing Committee had already cut the project by \$31,581 by going with a cement deck. It was also stated that that Proc Marine would not charge for the design and blueprints as long as they were awarded the contract. This was a savings of \$65.00 per hour. Peter Roberts stated that this was a "design build." Skip Rideout had built the original Acre lot Wharf and recommended Proc marine for the expansion.

Selectman Rice stated that he fully supported the project as long as it can be funded. He asked if the Town should fund the full amount or put off bonding for one year. Peter Roberts recommended funding it now. Arthur Pierce asked if there could be two warrant articles – one to raise the entire amount and the second to go out to bond. Mike Rice recommended bonding as the best approach considering the budget outlook for this year. Sam Burgess Jr. stated that the Acre Lot is the only place he can work from and many younger folks use it also.

Selectman Douglass stated that he had no preference for either full funding or bond and would support either. Peter Roberts asked what to do with Proc Marine, who he expects will call anytime, if the project is not fully funded at Town Meeting and we have to go for a bond? The loan process was discussed and the T/A will check with the Town Attorney for the wording of the warrant articles.

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Posting roads and exemptions

The Road Commissioner, Curtis Doughty, briefed the Selectmen on the road conditions. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to post all Town roads in accordance with the "Ordinance for Restricting Vehicle Weight on Posted Ways" effective at 6 a.m. on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The Selectmen signed weight exemptions for Purse Line Bait. The T/A will advertise the postings and send out letters to the major contractors in the area.

- Change of Selectmen's Meeting times

After having a "straw poll" vote of the audience the Selectmen decided to keep the current schedule of 6:00 p.m. from Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup> and 7:00 p.m. from April 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>.

- Abutter notification of subdivision application for Bruce Poliquin (Map 45, Lots 29 & 51).

**Reviewed. No action taken.**

- Request from Bruce Poliquin to amend the Subdivision Ordinance

Selectmen reviewed the proposed amendment allowing "cluster housing." Because the Planning Board agreed in concept, but did not agree with the wording, the Selectmen took no action. Selectman Rice stated that if it had sponsorship from the Planning Board it would carry, however if not supported by the Planning Board he could not endorse it being on the Town Meeting Warrant.

- Purchase of a 8x20 used box container for Universal Waste Storage at the Transfer Station (TV's and monitors) as required by DEP.

**Selectmen voted (3-0) to authorize the purchase. It will be placed between the propane tank area and universal waste shed.**

- T/A vacation from May 28<sup>th</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Selectmen approved the vacation.**

4. Review the following items:

- **None**

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

- Comprehensive Plan Whole Committee meeting on Thu, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Selectman Rice will attend.**

- Meeting with the Budget Committee on Tue, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Selectmen Wells and Rice will attend.**

- Selectmen's Warrant and Town Report Workshop on Thurs, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Selectmen will attend.**

- Attendance at the MMA LD1 Presentation in Bath on Weds, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Selectmen voted (3-0) to cancel the Selectmen's Meeting so they could attend the LD1 presentation.**

6. Miscellaneous

- **Selectmen reviewed a notice from the State Bureau of Parks and Lands concerning a proposed expansion of a dock owned by Newbold Varian on the New Meadows River. No further action taken.**
- **Les Smith, Chairman of the Road Committee, recommended going to bond for the Stoneybrook Road rebuild. Selectman Douglass and Rice asked for the progress on obtaining right of ways and minor easements from abutters. Mr. Smith stated that the Town had not heard from Lynn Pantalena and that Anestis Investments requested a payment of \$1,500.00. He also stated that he would be meeting with Danny Coombs. Mr. Smith said that if necessary the road could be redesigned to avoid the Pantalena and Anestis properties. It was mentioned that the Town could bond for the Stoneybrook Road rebuild and Acre lot expansion at the same time.**

*Adjourned: 7:00 p.m.*