

Submitted By:
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved By:

MINUTES

June 29, 2005

Called to order at 7:20 p.m. with Selectmen Douglass and Perkins present.

1. Review and Sign:

- Accounts payable and payroll warrants.
- Administrative Abatements for Tax Collector

All items reviewed and signed.

2. Meetings and Hearings:

- Meet with Jared Darling concerning Percy easement over Parker Head Road and a briefing on the Parker Head Community Septic System.

Selectmen reviewed and voted (2-0) to sign the easement. There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Darling also asked permission to delay paving the road where the utilities will go until he has paving done for the Community Septic System, which could be several weeks to a month. Curtis Doughty, Road Commissioner, had no objections as long as the road section is maintained so that there are no complaints. Permission was granted by the Selectmen.

- Meet with the Chief of Police for status update.

The Chief of Police, John Skroski, informed the Selectmen that he had received only two applications for the position of Part Time Patrol Officer. One applicant had the 100-hour MCJA course and the other didn't. The Selectmen recommended that both applicants be interviewed and then a decision made whether to hire one or re-advertise the position.

The Chief also presented statistics on his department activities and showed the Selectmen some items that he has confiscated. He informed the Selectmen that he had worked 70 hours last week. Chief Skroski also stated that he has not received reports of abandoned cars in several months, and has had only one break-in reported over the last week. He also directed traffic for 3 hours at Popham on Saturday and the Parking Attendant issued over 70 tickets.

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Bids for Stoneybrook Road rebuild.

Two bids were received. They were from Harry Crooker and Sons for \$131,500 and Ed Skillin for \$160,670.00 (includes bid deduction of \$10,000 and \$5,400 respectively for allowing daily road closure.) Les Smith, Road Committee Chair, stated that Pine Tree Engineering found no problems with either bid and that there was a penalty clause if construction was not completed on time.

Selectmen voted (2-0) to award the bid to Crooker for \$131,500 and also

voted (2-0) to have the section of road closed during the day except for emergency vehicles and local traffic (people who live on the affected section of road.)

Selectmen voted (2-0) to authorize Mike Young, Town Administrator, to sign the contract on their behalf.

- Removal of dead tree on Totman Preserve by Owen Totman.

Charlie Stevens was present on behalf of the Town Lands Management Committee. Several trees at Totman Preserve had been struck by lightning and were dying. Mr. Totman asked permission to remove the trees for his personal use. Selectmen split the vote (1-1) to allow Mr. Totman to have the trees. The Selectmen requested that the Town Lands Management Committee meet and make a recommendation whether the trees are a threat and should be removed. They also requested that the Phippsburg Land Trust make a recommendation. Once recommendations are made the Selectmen will decide who may remove the trees. No further action taken.

4. Review the following items:

- Letter from Joyce Marco requesting that a stop work order be issued to Robert Smith for property located at 29 Main Road.

The letter was reviewed and Ms. Marco was present to discuss it. She is requesting that the Code Enforcement Officer rescind a plumbing permit that he issued for property owned by Robert Smith at 29 Main Road and issue a stop work order. She has also sent a request to Russell Martin at State Health Engineering requesting a review of the permit. However, Mr. Martin will not be back until after July 4th. Ms. Marco is requesting the stop work order to allow further conversation and more discovery. Selectman Douglass asked if discovery meant that she had not received all the documents from the Town that she requested. She stated that she received the documents but there may have been some errors in information that was provided for the issuance of permits. She also stated that she was not made aware during the Selectmen's meeting in June that there was a 30 day deadline for requesting a Board of Appeals hearing.

Lee Rainey, Code Enforcement Officer, stated that there is no question in his mind that the plumbing permit is valid and that the State had granted a legal variance. The original plumbing variance request to the State was returned for more information and it was remitted with the necessary information and approved. He also stated that although the permit has been issued, no work has started.

Ms. Marco stated that the abutters listed on the Board of Appeals application were concerned about 29 Main Road as well as others in the neighborhood. Selectman Douglass asked her to e-mail the names of the concerned citizens to the T/A.

The Selectmen informed Ms. Marco that it is the Code Enforcement Officer's responsibility to issue any stop work orders and the Board of Appeals is the town body that hears all appeals. Selectman Douglass stated that the Selectmen support the Code Officer's decision and that the State has not called the CEO to

have him rescind the plumbing permit. He further stated that the Board of Selectmen do not have right to issue a stop work order and the CEO cannot issue one without proof of a violation. If there is an issue with the conduct of the CEO then the Selectmen will investigate it, otherwise in is out of their hands.

- School Union Newsletter.
Reviewed. No action taken.
 - School Mentor Program.
Reviewed. No action taken.
5. Discuss attendance at the following meetings, courses, and seminars:
- Military Community Council Meeting.
The T/A will forward the information on to Selectman Rice. No further action taken.
6. Miscellaneous
- **Joyce Marco discussed the Lower High Street 129 subdivision in Bath and its proposed access onto High Street by Plants Seafood. A site walk review will be conducted on July 5th. It was her opinion that the traffic caused by the subdivision may cause problems for those traveling to Phippsburg.**

Adjourned: 8:03 p.m.