

Submitted By:
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES

Approved By:

October 19, 2005

Called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Selectmen Rice, Douglass and Perkins present.

1. Review and Sign:

- Accounts payable and payroll warrants
All items reviewed and signed.

2. Meetings and Hearings:

- Conduct Public Hearing for General Assistance Ordinance Amendments

The Public Hearing was held at 7:01 p.m. The T/A presented the ordinance amendments and Selectman Rice asked for public comments. Dan Clifford stated that he was concerned that there would be a shortage of funding and the Town and State would be unable to assist those in need. The T/A reviewed the guidelines of the GA program. Selectmen voted (3-0) to adopt the amendments to the maximum state guidelines.

- Meet with the PCATV Committee for an update

Bill Perkins, Committee Chair, reviewed the Committee's new operating procedures (SOP). These are extensions of the current policies and were started as guidelines to safeguard the PCATV committee from people submitting hoax ads for the Bulletin Board. The SOP also sets the procedure for a person to appeal the decision of the PCATV Station Manager if the Manager determines a submission should not be aired because it does not meet the PCATV guidelines. Appeals would be made to the PCATV Committee and then to the Board of Selectmen. The Committee is striving to make sure that only appropriate material is aired taking into consideration first amendment rights. Selectman Douglass recommended that the process for appeal be separated from the job description of the Bulletin Board Manager. It was also suggested that the word "extreme" be removed from the language.

Bill Perkins also discussed the use of disclaimers on the submissions. Selectman Rice stated that he would like to see information on assistance programs and "safety nets" get out to the community, such as the apartment at the Popham Chapel House which is available should a family have their house burn down.

Everett Perkins, who has been maintaining the Bulletin Board over the last several weeks, reviewed the technical aspect of the Station. He also explained that Dick Wenzel, who is the Committee's technical expert, has been away and now that he is back they expect to make some major progress. He further explained that the SOP establishes a "chain of command". He also added that the Committee is currently sorting through equipment and problems and it wouldn't be long before everything is running as it should be.

Everett Perkins stated that the Committee would like to approve the SOP before electing a President. Selectman Douglass asked if the President would act as the Station Manager and what the job description for Station Manager was. Everett Perkins explained that the SOP is a "living document" and changes will be discussed at next PCATV meeting.

Bill Perkins advised the Selectmen that the PACTV Committee would have a warrant article at the 2006 Annual Town Meeting to seek appropriations from the Cable TV franchise monies to support the PACTV Channel. The outcome of that vote will show whether the Town supports Channel 7 or not.

The Selectmen were informed that the Committee was working on setting up the Community Outreach and Training program and also that there was no age stipulation for an individual borrowing equipment as long as they have been trained. However, if the person was very young the Committee may require that an adult be with him/her. The transmitters at the Town Hall are now connected to the school. Although the school is not actively involved at this time the Committee is hoping that they will be in the future.

Bill Perkins also introduced all the committee members.

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Meeting time for Popham Steering Committee

The Selectmen approved switching the meeting times for the Phippsburg based meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Alternative 7 to Amendment 1 of the Atlantic Herring Fish Management Plan

Selectmen voted (3-0) to support the amendment and signed a letter to be forwarded to the Marine Resources Council.

4. Review the following items:

- **None**

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

- Northeast Municipal Forum

No one will attend.

- Two Bridges Regional Jail Site Visit

Selectmen Rice and Perkins will attend. Selectmen Douglass may attend.

- Regional Transportation Forum

Selectmen will not attend. The T/A will send a copy to the Road Committee Chair and Road Commissioner.

6. Miscellaneous

- **The T/A briefed the Selectmen on the Department of Labor inspection package that was sent to all communities. The information has been forwarded on to each Department Head for their compliance review. A free courtesy inspection through "Safety Works" will be scheduled for December.**

- **The T/A reported that there were four GA cases over the last week, which is high for this time of year.**

- **Selectmen approved a request from the T/A to work at home on the Comprehensive Plan on Oct 24th**

- **Selectmen Perkins reported that he has found the new Transfer Station Tractor to be adequate for the intended use.**

Adjourned at 7:47.