

Submitted By:  
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MINUTES

Approved By:

November 16, 2005

*Called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Selectmen Rice, Douglass and Perkins present.*

1. Review and Sign:

- Accounts payable and payroll warrants
- PACTV Appointment

**All items reviewed and signed.**

2. Meetings and Hearings:

- Meet with Larry Scott concerning Red Oaks subdivision violation

**Meeting held with Larry Scott and his attorney, Jim Katsificas. Mr. Scott had sold one of his lots in Red Oaks subdivision without building the road as required by the Town's Subdivision Ordinance. The maximum penalty that could be assessed was \$2,500.00 and the minimum was \$500.00. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to assess a \$500.00 consensual fine. Mr. Scott admitted that he had sold the lot without building a road. However, Marie Varian, Planning Board Chair, stated that she had reviewed the subdivision checklist with Mr. Scott and/or his partner during the meetings and they had been informed of the requirement. Mr. Scott also stated that he had a sales agreement for the other three lots and that he and the proposed buyer would be meeting with the Planning Board on November 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss the transfer of the remaining subdivision parcels.**

- Meet with the Fire Chief, Rescue Chief and Road Commissioner concerning Dept. of Labor Inspections/Checklists

**Meeting was held with the Curtis Doughty, Road Commissioner and Jim Totman, Fire Chief. The T/A, Mike Young, gave a briefing on a Department of Labor presentation that he attended and reviewed the inspection program for OSHA compliance. Chief Totman requested to know how much compliance was expected by the Selectmen because if it was too time consuming the Fire and Rescue Department may not be able to keep up with the requirements and may need to hire full time personnel.**

**The T/A read an e-mail from Sue Jones, Rescue Chief, recommending that everything remain status quo until representatives from the Department of Labor give their presentation to the Selectmen and Department heads on January 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Curtis Doughty stated that he was concerned with the requirements for someone to cut trees, both in equipment and training. He would have to call in certified tree cutters or have more than one person trained.**

**Selectman Rice stated that the Department Heads need to see what the additional burdens would be to comply with the requirements and what the extra associated costs would be.**

**Selectmen Douglass mentioned that the Dept of Labor/OSHA standards**

were not new and the Town should have been complying with them a long time ago.

Further action will be decided after the January meeting with the Department of Labor.

- Meet with Les Smith, Chair of Road Committee, to discuss the Popham Road rebuild

The Road Commissioner, Selectman Rice, Selectman Perkins, and the Road Committee had met with State DOT representatives on November 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the rebuild of Route 209 (Popham Road-Minor Collector) from the intersection of Parker Head Road to the Percy Cottages. This project had been agreed to under the BTIP Program several years ago (1/3 cost share with the State) however the contract had expired

Les Smith, Road Committee Chair said that the first question to be answered was whether the Selectmen wished to continue the project. Mr. Smith felt that if any modifications were made to the original plan DOT would probably pull the project out of their schedule. At the Popham Steering Committee meetings this section of road was discussed and suggestions were brought forth for bike lanes and a redesign the Parker Head /Popham Road Intersection. This would be a major design change and there are no right of way records for the intersection. Mr. Smith stated that Elaine Clark and Sue Morrow from the State have been notified of the situation.

Mike Rice reiterated that the Popham Steering Committee meetings are open to the public. It was mentioned that at the last Popham Steering Committee meeting it was felt that Francis McDonald might be willing to sell a right of way to allow some brush cutting along the intersection.

Selectman Perkins stated that some people on the committee didn't want any changes.

Selectman Rice stated that some people wanted to widen lanes for bikes and pedestrians and it should be done at the same time as the rebuild, however he did not want to increase the cost share.

Selectman Douglass recommended that the Town continue with the original plan and pursue the other items separately.

Chief Totman recommended a rebuild of the Parker Head/Popham Road intersection.

3. Discuss the following issues:

- Increase in Road Crew equipment fees

The T/A and Road Commissioner recommended that the Selectmen consider increasing the road crew and contractors pay. The last raise was in 1999 or 2000. The increase would be based on cost of living adjustments, the increased cost due to commercial insurance requirements, and fuel price increases. A rough calculation showed an increase of 18% to 20%. Selectman Rice recommended that the Budget Committee be made aware of any increase and stated that he wanted to tend to this issue as soon as possible. The T/A and Road Commissioner will continue to gather data and refine the request. The increase could be retroactive to the first snow removal/sanding event of this winter season if approved. Tabled until a future meeting.

- Missing property pin on Cranberry Point Road due to grading  
**A property pin at 21 Cranberry Point Road (Angie Zimmerman's) was ripped out by a grader that was contracted by the Town. The pin was on private property and not in the Town's right of way. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to hire a surveyor to replace the pin at the Town's cost. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to fund it from the Selectmen's Contingency Fund. The T/A will get a quote from Ron Beal and John Woods.**
- E-mail from Jim Bunce concerning Parker Head Septic System  
**Reviewed. No further action taken.**
- State increase in Town Clerk fees  
**The State has increased the cost for marriage licenses, birth certificates and death certificates. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to split the fees as follows:  
Marriage Licenses: Clerk - \$25.00, Town - \$5.00  
Additional Marriage Licenses: Clerk - \$8.00, Town - \$7.00  
Birth and Death Certificates: Clerk - \$7.00, Town - \$3.00  
Additional Birth and Death Certificates: Clerk - \$4.00, Town - \$1.00  
Burial Permit Fee: Clerk - \$3.00, Town - \$2.00**
- Comp Plan Public Hearing  
**The Selectmen voted (3-0) to use funds from the Selectmen's Contingency Fund to pay for free public copies of the Comprehensive Plan. They will be available in both book format and large print. The T/A will be updating the Comprehensive Plan at home on November 18<sup>th</sup>.**

4. Review the following items:

- Notification of Pitch Pine Subdivision Hearing  
**The notification was reviewed and read aloud for the public. Selectman Rice also mentioned that a letter, signed by 21 citizens, requesting consideration of a building moratorium was presented to the Comprehensive Planning Committee. It was evident that some citizens are concerned with growth.  
Fire Chief Totman stated that the Planning Board and Selectmen need to consider a moratorium.  
Curtis Doughty, Road Commissioner, stated that the Town should discuss the Clifford Road entrance to Route 209 with State DOT if more subdivisions are going to be on that road.  
Les Smith, Road Committee, also mentioned the same situation on Fiddlers Reach Road. He further said that when State DOT does their Route 209 overlay in the fall of 2006 or in 2007, they should construct escape routes on these two intersections – with or without subdivisions.  
Marie Varian, Planning Board Chair, stated that the letter received by the Selectmen concerning the Pitch pine Subdivision was also sent to Town Department Heads for input.  
Lee Rainey, CEO, mentioned that the subdivision on Clifford Road is in keeping with the growth areas designated in the Comprehensive Plan.  
Andy Hart, Assistant Fire Chief, asked if the Planning Board could look into requiring fire ponds in large subdivisions. Marie Varian responded that this had been talked about in the past but it never made it into the Ordinances. Fire Chief Totman asked if the Fire Department could write up an article for Town Meeting concerning this issue to which Ms. Varian replied “yes.”**

**Ms. Varian also mentioned an article in the Maine Townsman about sprinkler systems.**

5. Discuss attendance at the following meetings, courses, and seminars:
  - **None**
  
6. Miscellaneous
  - **The Selectmen approved a vacation day for the T/A on Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**
  
  - **The Road Commissioner stated that some of the trees that have been scheduled for removal would be cut before Thanksgiving.**
  
  - **The Selectmen reviewed a letter from the Selectmen in Harpswell asking if the Town would like to attend some regional meetings to review correspondence from Suscom concerning their sale to Comcast. The Selectmen decided to participate in this group.**

*Adjourned: 7:22 p.m.*