

Submitted By:
JMY

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES

Approved By:

November 30, 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
- FEMA National Flood Insurance Recertification

All items reviewed and signed.

2. Meetings and Hearings:

- Meet with the Town Landing Committee to discuss the funding status of the Acre Lot Expansion

Meeting held. Arthur Pierce, Town Landing Chair, stated that the original cost estimate from Proc Marine for the Acre Lot expansion was \$176,000, which was the amount borrowed through the Maine Bond Bank. The new estimate from Proc Marine is \$189,800 (increase is mainly due to fuel costs). The Town Landing account currently has a balance of \$192,428.00 (including the \$176,000 bond.) The Selectmen voted (3-0) to authorize the increased contract amount of \$189,800 and Selectman Rice signed a letter from Proc Marine to lock in the price. The constructions will begin in the spring.

- Meet with the Assessing Agent for an update on a contested Tree Growth penalty

The Assessing Agent did not attend the meeting. A packet containing Tree Growth Penalty information for the Gillett case was given to the Selectmen for review. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to table the issue until they individually review the material. The T/A will send a copy of the packet to the Town Attorney.

3. Discuss the following issues:

None

4. Review the following items:

- Letter from Suscom concerning local Broadcast programming

The Selectmen reviewed a letter which notified them that Suscom was negotiating with the local TV stations to continue local broadcast. No further action taken.

- Information letter from Jail Authority

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from the Jail Authority which outlined their means of communications with the public concerning the jail construction. Selectman Rice stated that the Lincoln County budget might increase by 42% primarily due to jail costs. The T/A was directed to find out when the Sagadahoc County Budget process will begin.

- Comment letter from the Planning Board to DEP concerning the State's proposed amendments to Shoreland Zoning regulations
Reviewed. No further action taken.
 - Maine Audubon "Partners" letter
Reviewed. The T/A was asked to forward it to the Land Trust.
5. Discuss attendance at the following meetings, courses, and seminars:
None
6. Miscellaneous
- **Les Smith, Road Committee, reviewed notes from his meeting with DOT concerning the Popham Road rebuild project. He and the Road Commissioner, Curtis Doughty, have been reviewing the drawings, which are in metric. They will continue to go through the drawings and list questions for the next meeting with DOT, at which time the drawings will be in feet and inches.**
 - **Mr. Smith reported that he and the T/A attended a Hazardous Mitigation Grant seminar. It was a consensus that the Sam Day Hill Road project will not meet the Benefit/Cost Analysis standards for FEMA grant funding. However, it was recommended that the Town identify projects for emergency funding should a Presidential Declaration of Disaster occur. Mr. Smith recommended that the Sam Day Hill project be considered for Town funding in 2007.**
 - **Peter Roberts requested that the Selectmen consider becoming a member of the BNAS Closure Commission. Selectman Rice agreed that the Town should have a seat at the table. The T/A will send a request to the Commission.**
 - **The T/A advised the Selectmen that he would arrange a meeting for Selectman Rice, Lee Rainey (Codes Enforcement Officer), Marie Varian (Planning Board Chair) and Les Smith (Chair, Comp Plan Land Use Committee) with the Town Attorney to discuss a Subdivision Moratorium petition.**
 - **Selectmen approved the T/A working at home on November 28th on the Comp Plan powerpoint presentation.**
 - **Selectman Perkins reported that he had talked to Harpswell concerning the establishment of a group to review the correspondence concerning the sale of Suscom to Comcast.**
 - **Selectman Douglass stated that he had concerns with cost increases such as the Town Clerk fees, mileage reimbursement, Road Crew salaries and equipment payments not going through the regular budget process for Town Meeting. He further stated that departments need to plan ahead and that unless it is an emergency the funding requests should go through the regular budget process to Town Meeting. The T/A explained that the Town Clerk fee increase was required set by the State and the Selectmen only had to determine what the share split would be. The T/A also explained that the Town does not vote on the Road Crew salaries and equipment payments, but on an overall lump sum for the Road Accounts. The salaries and payments are set by the Selectmen.**

- **Selectman Douglass brought forth a request from Mickey Varian that he be given a key and be allowed access to the Transfer Station during closed periods so that he can remove wood at the request of Harry Doughty. The T/A explained that access to the Transfer Station is prohibited by DEP unless a Town Employee (i.e. Transfer Station Attendant) is present. No further action taken.**
- **Peter Roberts stated that he had received a copy of the Comp Plan and found it to be very verbose. Because of it's size he didn't know if he would be able finish reviewing it before the hearings. He stated that he had already marked up the first few pages. He also had an issue with the Non-Residents being allowed to have input into the plan through surveys because they do not have the authority to vote on the plan. Mr. Roberts was informed that the place to air his concerns would be at the Comp Plan Hearings.**
- **Police Chief Skroski reported that the speed limit on Route 209 in the vicinity of the Bisson Center Store has been reduced to 45 mph. Peter Roberts stated that he tried to have something done about the speed limit there when he was a Selectmen but got nowhere with DOT.**

Adjourned: 6:38 p.m.