

Submitted by:

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved by Selectmen:

John M. Young
Administrator

MINUTES
September 13, 2006

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. with Selectman Douglass (Chair), Selectman Perkins and Selectman Pye in attendance.

I. Review and Sign:

1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants.
2. Minutes from July 26th and August 30th.
3. ID card for the Health Officer.

All items reviewed and signed.

II. Meetings and Hearings:

1. Meet with the Historic Preservation Commission concerning the relocation of the Murphy House

Meeting held with Orman Hines, Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission. Sue Verrier and Kai Jacob have offered to place the Murphy house on their property. Selectman Douglass advised Mr. Hines that the town would have to vote to accept and dispose of the building at the upcoming Special Town meeting. He also recommended that Mr. Hines obtain a letter from Rink Varian authorizing the gift to the town.

2. Meet with David Etnier and Amy Fitzpatrick from DMR for an update on shellfish issues.

Meeting was held with David Etnier, Deputy Commissioner of DMR and Amy Fitzpatrick, Supervisor for water quality control.

Mr. Etnier and Ms. Fitzpatrick informed the Selectmen that: (1) Brightwater has been opened for shellfish harvesting but North Creek has been closed due to bad water samples; (2) DMR cannot do much for Dromore Bay because the remediation efforts have not improved the water tests; (3) John Glowe from DEP will be assisting in conducting Shoreline Surveys; (4) Water samples can continue to be taken by boat, however, because of the random sampling requirements if a boat breaks down it will have to be done by land; (5) The town can contract for sampling and shoreline surveys and there is no conflict of interest as long as a person does not survey their own house or a relatives house; (6) Ms. Fitzpatrick will forward site collection justification to Dick Lemont; (7) Conservation Aides are getting up to speed faster then anticipated and at this time 50% are qualified for water quality runs and the rest should be all set for next year. Also, 100% are qualified for independent biotoxin sampling.

Dick Lemont, Chair of the Shellfish Commission, questioned why Atkins Bay was now on a rainfall closure year round. He also thanked DMR for

opening Brightwater but wanted to know why North Creek was closed. Ms. Fitzpatrick replied that Totman Preserve, upper New Meadows and Mill Cove in West Bath did not pass recent water quality tests. She does not know what is causing the problems and will check on the last shoreline survey.

Selectman Douglass asked if anything had been done concerning personal and morale problems within the department. Mr. Etnier replied that he had contacted Human Resources and that if anyone has problems with DMR staff they need to contact him and give him specifics so that he can take action.

Selectman Pye asked Amy Fitzpatrick to go over the history of Dromore Bay. Ms. Fitzpatrick explained that DEP had conducted a shoreline survey and noted eight pollution problems that needed to be corrected. Through the efforts of the Code Enforcement Officer these issues were taken care of within several months but the water quality still did not meet the standards. She stated that she would check with Jan Barthers on the last report and see if the area could be made conditional. Dick Lemont mentioned that the clams in Dromore Bay were dying off because they were not being dug.

Selectman Douglass thanked Dave Etnier and Amy Fitzpatrick for the update and was glad to see the positive changes.

3. Meet with the Health Officer, Code Enforcement Officer and Police Chief to discuss procedures for the abeyance of health and safety nuisances at 75 and 91 Fiddlers Reach Road.

Lee Rainey, Code Enforcement Officer, explained that a DHS caseworker from Elder Affairs had contacted Chief Skroski concerning the condition of the residence at 91 Fiddlers Reach Road. The building was inspected by Mr. Rainey and Dave Barnes, Health Officer, and found to be structurally unsafe, unsanitary, and unsuitable for housing. Mr. Rainey stated that condemnation of the building could happen either by sending two separate letters and then holding a public hearing or by consensual agreement. He also explained that the property at 75 Fiddlers Reach Road was currently uninhabited and in the same poor shape. He explained that occupancy of the building would be restricted until it is brought up to standards.

Selectmen voted (3-0) to authorize Mr. Rainey to mediate a consensual agreement with the property owners of 75 and 91 Fiddlers Reach Road and also voted (3-0) to authorize one Selectman to sign the agreement in representation of the entire Board in order to streamline the process.

Mr. Rainey stated that he would do everything he could to assist the occupants in dealing with other agencies.

III. Unfinished Business

1. Discuss specifications for Totman Preserve Road.

Les Smith, Chair of the Road Committee, presented a new plan for the rebuild of the entire Totman Preserve Road (as requested from the last

meeting). After the plan was discussed by the Board of Selectmen they asked that a complete bid package be drafted for review at the next meeting.

Gary Morong asked if the road would be plowed and sanded and Selectman Douglass replied "no".

IV. New Business

1. Attendance at the MMA TABOR presentation on Wednesday, October 4th.
The Selectmen voted (3-0) to attend the MMA TABOR presentation in Augusta on October 4th and have a one-hour Selectmens meeting on October 5th at 5:00 p.m.
2. Survey of Maple Street.
The Selectmen voted (3-0) to hire Ron Beal to survey Maple Street for the Road Commissioner for a cost of \$2,800.00.
3. Approval of school capital expenditure for roofing and electrical work at the school.
The Selectmen voted (3-0) to approve expenditures from the School Capital Improvement Account as follows: \$48,687.50 to Gladu Roofing Company for roof repairs and \$3,400.00 to B&V Electric for electrical repairs in wing 2.
4. Transfer Station report
Reviewed and read to public.
5. Other new business.
 - a. Use of the Acre Lot Landing by Maine Coast Heritage Trust
The Maine Coast Heritage Trust is sponsoring a one day clean up of Malaga Island. Selectmen voted (3-0) to allow boats to tie up at the Acre Lot and offload garbage into a waste container which will be hauled out of town.
 - b. Enhanced 911 Addressing Officer
Mike Young, Town Administrator, stated that Doug Stewart, who has volunteered as the Addressing Officer for the last 11 years, will be moving to Brunswick in April 2006. Anyone interested in filing the position should contact the Town Office. The position entails naming and measuring roads, addressing buildings, putting up road signs, trimming around signs, and all correspondence that is involved. The Town provides office space, computer, and reimburse for mileage. Mr. Stewart's dedication to the Town and many hours of volunteer service has been appreciated.

V. Correspondence

1. Notification of 2007 Right-of-Way Grant program.
Reviewed. Copies will be sent to the Town Lands Management Committee, Town Landings Committee and Land Trust.
2. Letter from MMA announcing a Workers Compensation Fund dividend.
The Town received a \$1,009.00 dividend.
3. Maine State Housing Authority Annual Report.

Reviewed. No action taken

VI. Courses and seminars

1. Governors Conference on Affordable Housing
A copy will be sent to Merry Chapin.

VII. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements

1. Comments from Selectman Perkins

Selectmen Perkins stated that Russ Alexander has been mowing the old landfill cap with the Transfer Station tractor and wanted to thank Bill Totman for instructing Mr. Alexander on use of the equipment. Mike Young also thanked Bill Totman for transporting the tractor on several occasions.

Selectman Perkins gave a report on a Pandemic Meeting he attended and will pass the information onto the Health Officer.

VIII. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 7:24 p.m.