

Submitted by:

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved by Selectmen:

John M. Young
Administrator

MINUTES
November 15, 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 October 18 and November 1st.
3. Appointment certificate for Ellen Winchester to the Conservation Commission and Jean Scott to the Historic Preservation Commission.

All items reviewed and signed.

II. Meetings and Hearings:

1. Conduct Public Hearing for General Assistance Maximums.

Hearing was opened at 6:00 p.m. and closed at 6:03 p.m. No public comment. Selectmen voted (3-0) to accept the amended maximums as recommended by DHS.

2. Meet with Professor Peter Lea (Geology Department of Bowdoin College) to discuss his assistance with the Comprehensive Plan (Water Resources Section and Future land Use).

Professor Lea explained the ways that he and his students could participate in a service-learning project with Phippsburg. The areas that he was interested in included further analysis of existing data, creating a water-table contour map, exploring trends in ground water chemistry, analyzing seasonal home locations vs. groundwater basin, refining recharge estimates, refining locations of potential future water supplies, conducting watershed and water quality assessments of ponds and streams, and a long term project of watershed collaboration. He stated that in order to accomplish this he would need access to properties and other assistance from the Town. His intent is to refine the Woodward and Curran report.

Selectman Douglass stated that the depth of the Woodward and Curran survey was restricted by available funding. He would like to see more information but not pay a lot of money for it.

Liz Smith, Chair of the Water Resource Committee, said that she had checked with Jason House (Woodward and Curran) and he suggested that they complete a detailed structured mapping in areas of enhanced groundwater, study uplands vs. low lands water balance, focus on a salt water intrusion study, conduct an inventory of streams, and conduct a study of low volume water watersheds to confirm or remove areas from the list.

Professor Lea stated that the Low Volume Watersheds were defined crudely in the Hydro report.

Selectman Douglass recommended that Professor Lea work directly with Liz and Les Smith and that the current Ordinance Rewrite and Implementation Committees can become involved if needed. He also mentioned that although we have an idea of what size rainstorms will affect our roads, a good survey of watersheds may help us determine impact.

Professor Lea discussed a timeframe. He said that they can complete some projects by May 2007 but other items, such as sampling, would have to be done during the summer. He needs to know what specific issues the State wants resolved in order to declare the Comprehensive Plan consistent and which issues can be worked on later. Selectman Douglass replied that this was Phippsburg's Comprehensive Plan, not the State's, and we have people working on the inconsistencies and may get it approved by the State without needing a great amount of additional information. He further stated that 10 years down the road we will need to revisit the Comprehensive Plan because the town does not stay static. The information that is provided through this partnership will help plan growth in the town.

Selectman Perkins stated that it is great anytime that we can add to an information base.

3. Meet with Judy Marden to renew tax agreement with Bates-Morse Mountain.

The meeting was held with Judy Marden and David Scobey. Copies of the agreement were provided for review and signature. The agreement was the same as the previous 5-year agreements with the exception of an increase in payment-in-lieu of taxes and a clause which allows the agreement to be automatically renewed unless one of the parties chooses not to.

Ms. Marden gave highlights of events since the Spring 2006 report, which included an explanation of presentations and other educational highlights. She mentioned that the Phippsburg teachers bring students down to the Preserve and many times she accompanies them if given advance notice. She also added that she appreciated the help that Chief Skroski has given.

Mr. Scobey mentioned that this is a real community partnership for both educational and cultural reasons and added that they had a history class researching Phippsburg History.

Selectman Douglass discussed the ditch plugging program. He added that the Parking Enforcement Officer also did some parking checks at Morse Mountain.

4. Meet with Gary Wallace to discuss his recommendations for the Transfer Station. Martha, Russ and Karen McNaughten from Pine Tree waste.

Meeting was held. Mr. Wallace provided a handout to the Selectmen which listed his recommendations for improvements to the Transfer Station. These included switching locations of the building debris pile and metal pile, having bulk waste (wood, metal and tires) containerized instead of loose piled, having the transfer Station open until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, charging fees for disposal, and prohibiting all businesses (ie. Sebasco Resort) from using the Transfer Station because he feels that they fall under the prohibition against contractor dumping.

The Town Administrator, Mike Young, explained that, as per the Ordinance, the prohibition against contractor dumping concerns building debris created by contractors – not trash. Also the Town is required by State Statute to provide a means for the disposal of trash. He added that in order for the Transfer Station to be open at night it would require extensive lighting for the safety of employees and citizens. Also, any changes in operation would have to be approved by DEP.

Selectman Douglass stated that the Town has already tried to impose a fee for dumping of building debris and it was voted down at Town Meeting because the citizens were afraid that solid waste would end up in the Basin. He also informed Mr. Wallace that Sebasco Resort is the largest taxpayer in Town and that if the Town does not accept trash from Commercial businesses that would also include those businesses such as Bissons Center Store, the Post Offices, and Maggies Bygones.

Karen McNaughton from Pine Tree Waste stated that she has been in the trash business for about 20 years and understands it thoroughly. Pine Tree serves 44 municipalities and the smaller business sectors are usually allowed to use the local transfer stations whereas some of the larger business based communities have ordinances which require that services be hired. In both cases either all businesses can or can't use the Transfer Stations. She added that there would be a substantial increase in cost to use the containerized method for metal, tires, and building debris because of the additional number of hauls it would require. From a cost prospective it is much cheaper to use a stockpile system and have the materials removed in bulk. She stated that the only metal roll off system she is aware of is in Topsham, but that is because Grimmels is a short distance down the road.

Mr. Wallace asked if the Town could charge for the disposal of TV's etc. Selectman Douglass recommended that Mr. Wallace propose it at Town Meeting.

Russ Alexander, Transfer Station Attendant, stated that he has not heard any complaints about the wintertime hours and if they are open until 6:00 during the winter it would be hard to restrict the dumping to "trash only" after dark. He added that the biggest problem the Attendants have is people not reading the signs. He asked Ms. McNaughton if the Transfer Station was being run as economically as possible to which she replied "yes."

Ms. McNaughton informed that Selectmen that Pine Tree Waste was going to offer "single stream recycling" which would allow all recyclables to be dumped into one container and they then would be sorted by machine at a facility. She further explained that the types of recyclables would increase and it would cost less because the containers would be removed when completely full rather than the current containers which are removed when the plastics get full, but glass and can sections are only partially full. Also there would be no tipping fees at this time.

Selectman Douglass asked if compactable containers could be used to which Ms. Mcnaughton replied "yes" and referred to Brunswick using a railroad car. She further stated that Brunswick would be the first

Municipality to use "one stream recycling" and they would start on January 15th. Selectman Douglass asked that Phippsburg be signed up for the program as soon as possible. Ms. McNaughton replied that she would follow up with the Administrator and Transfer Station Attendants and will also provide a seven minute DVD on recycling and universal waste.

Mr. Wallace stated that his concerns were in no way an attack on the Transfer Station Attendants and that his main concern was the way the metal pile looks.

Selectman Douglass requested that the Administrator obtain a price on the installation of lighting for the Transfer Station.

III. Unfinished Business

1. Letter to Michael Knight concerning setback non-enforcement for existing dwelling.

Selectman Pye reviewed the prior Selectmen's Meeting minutes where this was discussed. The issue concerned the collapse of a stone wall, which obliterated the exact center where the setback would be measured from. Selectmen signed a non-enforcement letter.

2. Road crew contracts.

At 7:25 p.m. the Selectmen voted (3-0) to go into executive session under 1 MRSA 405 (6) (D) to discuss Road Crew Contracts. The Selectman came out of executive session at 7:35 p.m.

The Selectmen voted (3-0) to hire Warren Doughty Jr., Ted Gerow and Eddie Grey as employees as per the recommendation of the Town Attorney. They were previously treated as contractors. Lease agreements for road equipment will be forthcoming.

Harry Doughty stated that he did not feel that an equipment contract was necessary. Selectman Douglass explained that the contract was recommended by the Town Attorney and that it was to protect both the Town and the lessor.

IV. New Business

1. Appointment of Gloria Barnes to the Conservation Commission and switch of positions on the Planning Board for Mark Hawes and Marion Hebert.

Selectman Pye asked Marie Varian, Planning Board Chair, if the Planning Board appointees agreed to switch which Ms. Varian replied "yes". Selectmen voted (3-0) to approve the Planning Board appointments and also voted (3-0) to approve the appointment of Gloria Barnes to the Conservation Commission.

2. Discuss repairs to Sam Day Hill Road washout and pavement crushing.

Curtis Doughty (Road Commissioner) and Les Smith (Road Committee) presented their recommendations for repairs to Sam Day Hill Road, which was washed out due to the heavy rains. The Road Committee had voted (4-0) to support the Road Commissioners recommendation for the installation of a used 6-foot culvert on the Bailey Brook crossing which currently has a 4 foot culvert which has failed four times in four years and caused the road to wash out. The used 6-foot is one half the price of a new one. The current

culvert is also cracked, which adds to the problem.

Mr. Doughty also asked permission to have the stockpile of ledge and used pavement at the Sand/Salt Shed crushed to 1 ½ inch material and stockpiled for future use. It would cost \$5.50 per cubic yard vs. paying \$25.00 to \$30.00 per yard for delivered material. Mr. Doughty estimated that he had collected between 5,000 to 7,000 yards of material and the company would want \$8,750.00 up front. The Road Committee had also voted (4-0) to support the crushing project. Selectman Douglass replied that it sounded like a good idea to make the material usable and that a local company (Superior Crushing) would be used.

Selectmen voted (3-0) to use funds from the Road Capital Improvement Account to pay for the crushing of material and also voted (3-0) to expend funds out of the Road Capital Improvement Account to fund the proposed repairs to Sam Day Hill Road.

3. Opening of the Shellfish Flats south of the Mill Dam in the Basin

Dick Lemont, Chair of the Shellfish Committee, informed the Selectmen that the Committee had voted at their last meeting to open this area on December 15th. This decision was based on survey results and has been approved by Don Card, area biologist, and DMR.

V. Correspondence

1. Letter from Comcast concerning changes in the digital cable programming.
Selectman Douglass gave an overview and recommended that subscribers read their notice that arrived in the mail.
2. Letter from Sagadahoc County concerning merging of departments.
The offices of the Treasurer and Clerk have been combined and a Finance Director has been hired.
3. Notification of Appeals Hearings for Wyman/Popham Beach Club lesser buffer and Larochelle/Sebasco Harbor Resorts Expansion of Business.
The Wyman/Popham Beach Club lesser buffer appeal will be heard at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28th and the Larochelle/Sebasco Harbor Resorts Expansion of Business appeal will be heard at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5th.
4. Letter from the Town of Wiscasset to the District Attorney requesting that the local judiciary and prosecutors consider imposing the maximum reimbursement during the sentencing of defendants.
Selectman Douglass asked the Administrator to get some clarification on the letter.
5. Thank you letter for VOA program
Selectman Douglass read a thank you letter from Eddie Burgess, Sebasco Nazarene Church, thanking the Town for including them in the VOA work program.

VI. Courses and seminars

1. Transportation Conference on December 7th.
Reviewed. No action taken.

VII. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements

1. Woolwich Public School Hearing

The Administrator reminded the public of the Woolwich Public School Hearing at 6:30 p.m. on December 12th at the Phippsburg School to discuss the possibility of Phippsburg middle school children attending the new school being built in Woolwich. Selectmen Douglass commented that when the new school was built in Brunswick it was built for 300 more than the student population at that time and was full within one year.

VIII. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.