

Submitted by:

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved by Selectmen:

John M. Young  
Administrator

MINUTES  
December 6, 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 November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**All items reviewed and signed except for the November 15<sup>th</sup> minutes.**

**II. Unfinished Business**

1. Discuss lighting and security cameras at the Transfer Station.

**The issue of security at the Transfer Station and extending the hours of operation until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays was tabled from a prior meeting. Mike Young, Town Administrator, provided estimates from CMP for increased lighting as well as estimates if the lights were purchased by the Town. He explained that if the Town purchases the equipment they would have to set poles because the equipment could not be installed on CMP Poles. Also, if CMP installs lighting it will be on a sensor and energized all night.**

**Selectman Perkins asked if it was necessary to change the hours of operation and Selectman Douglass stated that he had a concern with people making a mess at the Transfer Station when it is closed and stripping copper out of refrigeration units and air conditioners, therefore releasing Freon.**

**A security camera system was discussed and Selectman Perkins reminded the Board that there is more involved then just the cameras. It would also require a recorder and monitor.**

**Selectman Douglass asked if there had been any complaints on hours of operation with the exception of Gary Wallace several meetings ago. Russ Alexander, Assistant Transfer Station Attendant, replied "no". He added that there is no sense in being open until 6:00 p.m. because they only get three or four customers after 3:30 p.m. He further stated that the summer hours are fine also. Martha Smith, Transfer Station Attendant, also stated that Gary Wallace has been the only one to complain. Mike Young added that many people drop off their trash on the way to work in the mornings and if the Transfer Station is open until 6:00 p.m. it would require a later opening or having the Transfer Station Attendants work a ten hour day. Mr. Alexander stated that many people are waiting for them at the gate when they open in the morning.**

**Selectman Douglass asked if security is a problem at night. Mr. Alexander replied that some nights people come in and tear the air**

conditioners apart and let the Freon go or take them from the Transfer Station. He added that just about every day that they open there is evidence that someone has entered the Transfer Station either by foot or ATV and people just ignore the signs.

Selectman Douglass asked who had given the attendants a hard time when asked to leave when the Transfer Station was closed and he was informed by Mr. Alexander that it was Ken Hodgkins.

Selectman Douglass asked if the attendants still need lighting when closing at four to which Ms. Smith replied "yes, it's getting dark at 3:30."

Selectman Pye questioned whether the Town needs security cameras or just more checks by law enforcement. Mr. Alexander replied that the problem is that people hide behind the refrigerators.

Selectmen Douglass stated that since there have been no other complaints on the hours of operation he would not support longer openings to which Selectman Perkins agreed. However it was agreed that there should be a motion activated light at the metal pile. The question of becoming certified for Freon removal was discussed and Russ Alexander explained that it would take training, certification and equipment.

Russ Alexander also stated that another concern is people bringing in stuff that is not allowed (drums of unknown liquids, etc.) and thinks a camera will help as long as we prosecute for trespassing. Selectman Douglass mentioned that the Town can take most materials at different times, and we have a day in July for Hazardous Waste disposal.

Martha Smith stated that we need a way of stopping people from entering the Transfer Station when it is closed. Selectman Douglass asked if there was anyway to block off ATV's from coming into the Transfer Station from different directions and if it would help if the Road Commissioner puts up a gate by the Salt Shed and blocks off access. He further stated that it is coming to the point for surveillance cameras.

Selectman Pye asked if the Police Chief could go down at night and hide. Selectman Douglass replied that the Selectmen should talk to the Chief. Mr. Alexander added that the problem is that it is almost impossible to catch someone because if seen - they run. Selectman Perkins stated that he sees people at the Transfer Station when it is closed all the time when he is mowing.

Selectman Douglass stated that those in attendance need to stop talking in abstracts. If they have the names of people who are trespassing when the Transfer Station is closed they need to get that information to the Police Chief and maybe that will put an end to it. The bottom line is that if someone is in the Transfer Station when it is closed they are trespassing – no matter what they are doing. People need to know this. It is a dangerous place, especially at night and releasing Freon can cause problems with DEP.

Selectman Douglass stated that it sounds like the only reason that lighting needs to be increased at the Transfer Station is for the safety of personnel and that the Town could have a company set up a surveillance camera for a while. He would like to get an estimate from an electrician for

**running electricity to the bathroom and see what recommendations the electrician would make for lighting off the existing building.**

**The Town Administrator will contact Andy Hart to discuss the installation of electricity to the bathroom and a light on top of the office building and request that the current CMP light over the entrance area be replaced with a light facing the metal pile. He will also contact a security company to get estimates for security camera installation. The Transfer Station attendants will contact the Road Commissioner and discuss the blocking of access to the Transfer Station.**

2. Discuss Single Stream Recycling flyer.

**The Selectman approved a flyer that will be sent to each household. Selectman Douglass stated that this is one of the most exciting things that has happened in a long time.**

**The Selectmen reviewed the monthly recycling report.**

### **III. New Business**

1. Historic Preservation Commission fundraiser.

**Selectman Douglass read a letter from the Historic Preservation Commission describing a calendar fundraiser that they wish to do. Selectmen voted (3-0) to support the fundraiser.**

### **IV. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements**

1. Holiday Open house

**The Town Administrator announced the Holiday Open House to be held at the Town Hall on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Santa comes at 7:00 p.m.**

**Selectman Douglass announced that the Rescue Department will be administering flu shots from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 16th at the Fire Station. They are for Phippsburg Residents and Seasonal Taxpayers. If anyone has questions they can contact Sue Jones, Rescue Chief, on Saturday morning.**

**V. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 6:47 p.m.**