

Submitted by: TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG Approved by Selectmen:
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
John M. Young MINUTES
Administrator March 14, 2007

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. with Selectmen Douglass, Perkins and Pye in attendance.

I. Review and Sign:

1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants.

Reviewed and signed.

2. Minutes from 2/21, 2/28, 3/9

Minutes from 3/9 reviewed and signed. Others tabled pending further review.

3. Posted Road exemption for Jim Little (<23,000 Lbs)

The Selectmen reviewed a posted roads exemption request from Jim Little. Mr. Little's vehicle actual GVW will be less then the 23,000 pound limit – however the registered GVW is greater then the 23,000 pounds.

The Selectmen discussed changing the ordinance next year to allow this type of activity without having to obtain an exemption. Selectman Douglass recommended that the wording of the ordinance be changed to reflect the State's regulation (which says that proof of an actual GVW being less then the posted limit would be a viable defense to the ordinance) rather then allowing the vehicle to travel without an exemption.

The Selectmen voted (3-0) to grant an exemption to Mr. Little allowing him to operate his vehicle with a GVW less then 23,000 pounds with the requirement that he have weight slips available in the vehicle for each run and that he supply a copy of these slips to the Town Office on a weekly basis.

Police Chief Skroski added that he has made an effort to contact contractors working in Town and has been communicating with the Road Commissioner on a regular basis. He explained that he has spent time patrolling for violators, but has not found any yet.

II. Meetings and Hearings:

1. Meet with Assessing Agent to review Revaluation bid packages and make selection.

Tabled until next week.

2. Meet with Police Chief Skroski concerning purchase of used replacement cruiser from capital account.

Chief Skroski explained that the current 1997 Crown Victoria, which is used by his assistant as well as being the back up cruiser, has 160,000 miles on it and is in poor condition. He has found a used 2003 Crown Victoria with only 54,600 miles and in great condition. He currently has \$14,500 in his Capital Reserve Fund and would like authorization to spend \$7,700 on the vehicle plus cost for transferring equipment from the old vehicle,

repainting and striping, and installation of a new light bar (the one on the current vehicle is malfunctioning). He added that the average purchase price on the replacement vehicle is \$9,275.00 and it comes with a 30 day or 1,000 mile warranty. He has already brought this proposition before the Budget Committee who approved the purchase.

Mike Young stated that a Town Meeting Warrant article would be drafted to authorize the sale of the old cruiser with the funds going back into the Police Capital Reserve Account.

Selectman Douglass recommended that Chief Skroski obtain maintenance sheets on the vehicle.

Selectmen voted (3-0) to authorize the expenditure from the Police Vehicle Capital Account. Chief Skroski added that he would only be asking for \$5,000 at Town Meeting for his Capital Account vs. the \$9,000 he asked for last year. He further stated that it would be 4 or 5 years before needing another replacement vehicle.

Chief Skroski also briefed the selectmen on the Public Safety meeting held earlier that day concerning the Popham 400th celebration.

3. Meet with Shellfish Chairman Lemont concerning DEP Public Comment on BIW oil spill reporting.

Selectman Douglass read the legal notice which implied that Maine DEP would have a memo of agreement with BIW for an alternative procedure for reporting oil spills of 10 gallons or less. BIW would retain a log of spills (10 gallons or less) and make it available to DEP upon demand and send it to DEP for review on an annual basis. This agreement would expire after one year and be considered for renewal at that time.

Dick Lemont, Chair of the Shellfish Commission, stated that Arrowsic, Georgetown and Phippsburg have worked to hard on the shellfish flats to have an oil spill shut them down. This year BIW may be asking for a 10 gallon exemption and next year they may be asking for 100 gallons. He requested that the Town write a letter of opposition for this proposal during the comment period.

Doug Alexander, Harbormaster, asked why DEP should have a zero tolerance policy for oil spills with the fishermen, but not with big businesses.

The Selectmen asked the Shellfish Commission to discuss this issue at their next meeting and prepare a letter in opposition. They also requested that the Harbor Commission poll their members and also draft a letter. Once these letters are provided the Selectmen will draft a cover letter to be sent in.

The Town Administrator will contact Representative Percy, Senator Benoit and Representative Watson and request that they join the Town in opposition.

Selectmen voted (3-0) to oppose the proposal.

III. Unfinished Business

1. Finalize payment for Tree Growth Penalty Case (Keybank vs. Town)
Selectmen voted (3-0) to authorize the Tax Collector to accept \$111,222.80 as full payment for the Tree Growth penalty on Map 005, Lot 025 owned by Mary E. Gillette – Trustee and Keybank N.A. – Trustee.
Selectmen voted (3-0) to abate the interest amount of \$109.36 which has accrued during the time period from March 2nd to March 14th.
Selectmen voted (3-0) to ratify the “Stipulation of Dismissal” signed by the Town Attorney.

IV. New Business

1. Request from Betsy Varian allowing the PTO to sell sandwiches, drinks and snacks at Town Meeting (in hallway).
Selectmen voted approval (3-0).
2. Permission for the Historic Preservation Commission to present its annual award at Town Meeting.
Selectmen voted approval (3-0).
3. Appointment of a Selectman to the Board of Directors for the McClanathan-Phippsburg Fire and Rescue Fund, Inc.
Selectmen voted (2-0) to appoint Lawrence Pye to the Board of Directors. He will also be the contact point for the Town Attorney.
4. Warrant Article to remove the term limits for Budget Committee and Board of Assessment Review.
Selectmen voted approval (3-0) to have warrant articles for the upcoming Town Meeting to remove term limits for the Budget Committee and Board of Assessment Review.
5. Discuss who should have Town sponsored cell phones and method of payment.
Currently the Town pays for two Ambulance phones, one Fire Department phone, and one Police Department phone. The Shellfish Warden/Harbormaster and ACO are reimbursed for their phones.
Selectman Douglass stated that the Fire Chief, Rescue Chief, Police Chief, Harbormaster, ACO, EMA, and CEO should have cell phones.
The Administrator should talk to the Department Supervisors and see if anyone else should be added to the list and discuss reimbursement.
6. Recycling figures.
Transfer Station recycling figures were reviewed. No further action taken.
7. Application from Michael Rice for an appointment to the Board of Assessment Review.
Selectmen tabled until the next meeting.

V. Courses and seminars

1. Taxes in Maine Forum (3/21)
No one will attend.
2. Dept of Labor “Town Meeting” (4/5)
Department Heads will be attending.

3. Board of Assessment Review Workshop (4/11)
All members of the Assessment review Board will attend except for Tom Totman who has another training conflict for that date.
4. ArcGIS Course (4/20)
Mike Young will attend.

VI. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements

1. The Town Administrator announced that:
The Selectmen will be meeting with Pine Tree Engineering at 4:00 p.m. on March 28th at the Transfer Station
There would be a Site Visit/New Business Hearing for Kai Jacob at 5:00 pm on April 3rd.
The Selectmen and other officials will conduct a site visit at the 4:30 p.m. on April 4th at the Navy Tower on Perkins Farm Lane in Popham.
The Budget Committee will be meeting with the School Board on March 15th and Selectmen on March 20th at 6:00 p.m.
2. Selectman Perkins announced that:
Nomination papers are still available and the Selectmen encourage young people to get involved.

VII. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 7:08 p.m.