

Submitted by:

TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Approved by Selectmen:

John M. Young  
Administrator

MINUTES  
January 7, 2009

*Meeting convened at 6:10 p.m. with Selectmen Pye, Douglass and Perkins in attendance.*

**I. Review and Sign:**

1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants.
2. Meeting minutes.

**Selectmen voted (3-0) to approve warrants. Meeting minutes approved and signed.**

**II. Meetings and Hearings:**

1. Meet with Shellfish Chairman Dick Lemont to discuss various shellfish issues.

**The meeting was held with Chairman Lemont and other members of the Shellfish Commission, various shellfish harvesters, Shellfish Warden Doug Alexander, Police Chief Skroski, State Representative Leila Percy, and Brian Murray, Popham State Park Manager.**

**Chairman Lemont stated that the Morse River at Popham State Park had changed its course and uncovered an abundance of clams. The word had traveled fast and commercial shellfish harvesters from the surrounding towns were trying to dig in the Park, which is not allowed. He added that Warden Alexander, Chief Skroski, and the Marine Patrol Warden had asked the commercial harvesters to leave this morning – which they did.**

**The pursuing conversation from those in attendance revealed that: (1) only recreational shellfish harvesting is allowed in the State Park (no license required and a one peck per day limit); (2) if approved by the Dept. of Conservation and DMR the Town's shellfish ordinance could be amended to allow some commercial harvesting, similar to that allowed in Wolf's Neck State Park; and (3) there is confusion concerning the State Park boundary line north of Cambells Island.**

**Action was taken is as follows: (1) Chairman Lemont will obtain a copy of the Freeport Shellfish Ordinance and review the section concerning commercial harvesting at Wolfe's Neck State park. He will then discuss ordinance changes at the next Shellfish Commission meeting. (2) The Shellfish Commission members will meet with Brian Murray at the State Park to review the park boundary lines; (3) Administrator Young will prepare some notices to be posted at the Park which will explain the current harvesting restrictions (recreational harvesting only, one peck a day, 2" minimum size); and (4) Representative Percy will check to see if any legislative action needs to be taken to allow commercial harvesting in the Park.**

**John Libby recommended that people be allowed to park along the “No Parking” zone on Popham Rd. during the winter so that access to the flats would be easier. Administrator Young replied that the State does not allow a “seasonal parking ban”. Chief Skroski added that he uses his discretion when enforcing the parking ban during the off season.**

**Chief Skroski thanked Warden Alexander for his role in keeping peace among the resident and non-resident harvesters.**

### **III. New Business**

1. Review abatements.

**Tabled until next meeting.**

2. Discuss the appointment of Josh Bate to the Road Committee.

**Based on the recommendation of the Road Committee the Selectmen voted (3-0) not to appoint Mr. Bate to the Committee. Selectman Douglass did give Mr. Bate credit for his performance on the Planning Board. The position will remain vacant until another application is received.**

3. Accept a \$10,870.00 grant from the Maine Initiatives Gemini Fund for the restoration of the Murphy House.

**Merry Chapin, Historic Preservation Commission, thanked the Selectmen for supporting the grant application. She stated that the Murphy House will become a tribute to the fishermen and their families. The Commission will send a thank you letter the Gemini Fund. Selectmen voted (3-0) to accept the grant.**

4. Accept the following donations to the Goodwill Account:

- A. An anonymous donation of \$500.00.
- B. A donation of \$100.00 from Liz and Les Smith.
- C. A donation of \$10.00 from Dave and Gloria Barnes.
- D. A donation of \$50.00 from Margo and Harald Zinke.

**The Selectmen voted (3-0) to accept all donations. It was mentioned that the balance in the Goodwill Account was \$4,225.00 (all donated funds).**

5. Accept a \$100.00 donation from William Murray to the Phippsburg Fire Dept.

**The Selectmen voted (3-0) to accept the donation.**

6. Review the Selectmen's policy on “Meeting Agendas and Minutes”.

**Selectman Douglass made a motion to postpone the discussion until a later meeting. He stated that although the policy basically reflects what the Selectmen currently do, he wanted more time to review it. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to table the discussion until a future meeting.**

### **IV. Correspondence**

1. Comcast Notices.

**Selectman Pye read 2 notices from Comcast. One notice stated that the Channel 6 (WCSH) contract had been renewed and the other described a programming change.**

**V. Courses and seminars**

1. Attendance at the County Budget Advisory Committee Caucus on Weds, Jan 21<sup>st</sup>.  
**The Selectmen will table a decision until the next meeting.**
2. Board of Assessment Review course.  
**The Selectmen will not attend.**

**VI. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements**

1. Administrator Mike Young  
**Administrator Young announced upcoming meetings and events.**

**VII. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 7:12 p.m.**