

Submitted by: TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG Approved by Selectmen:  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
John M. Young MINUTES  
Administrator November 18, 2009

*Meeting convened at 6:05 p.m. at the Town Hall with Selectmen Douglass, Perkins and Pye in attendance. Note: CATV Live Broadcast not working.*

## **I. Meetings and Hearings:**

1. Meet with Les Smith, Road Committee Chair, for a briefing on the new DEP culvert rules.

**Mr. Smith reported that DEP was considering a change in their culvert rules which would require larger and more expensive culverts on streams that have "aquatic organisms" and are new installations or replacements. He recommended that the Selectmen write a letter to MMA and DEP with a list of questions and concerns and also to take the position that this is another one of the State's unfunded mandates. The Selectmen directed Mr. Smith and Administrator Young to draft a letter of concerns and e-mail it to MMA, DEP, State Senator Goodall and State Representative Percy, with a copy to them.**

**Mr. Smith also reported that: (1) the paving of Clifford Road and Herron Cove Road has been completed; (2) the Road Committee's culvert survey is half completed; and (3) the Brightwater guardrails have been installed.**

**Mr. Smith also reported that the Road Committee had investigated the complaint of trucks going the wrong way on Wallace Circle. They found that it didn't matter which direction the one-way went – trucks would still have to back the wrong way to get into Live Lobster due to the curve. Selectman Douglass added that the person who was concerned with this has stated that Purse Line Bait is no longer a problem so the Selectmen are not going to spend any more time on this issue.**

**Selectman Douglass read a letter from Ed Skillin which gives the Town permission to use his private property at the end of Clifford Road as a turn around for plow trucks (as long as snow piles are not left), sanders and school buses. This was required in return for the Town continuing to maintain that section of private way.**

## **II. Unfinished Business**

1. Re-consider assessing a penalty to Bonnie Guthro for a violation of the Phippsburg Animal Control Ordinance violation (one dog running at large).

**The Selectmen had originally assessed a fine of \$50.00 at their November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Guthro had made a mistake on dates and failed to appear that night. She later requested that her fine be reconsidered.**

**The Selectmen voted (3-0) to "file" the \$50.00 penalty for one year. They**

further explained that if she had any other violations of the Animal Control Ordinance within the next year the \$50.00 penalty would automatically take effect along with any newly assessed penalty. She is also required to license her dog by December 1<sup>st</sup> or the \$50.00 fine will automatically be imposed.

ACO Pelletier stated that he would pass this information on to her.

2. Consider an appointment to the Budget Committee.

The Selectmen considered applications from David Percy, Richard Wenzel, Aileen Wenzel, Michael Rice, and Paul Gamache and voted (3-0) to appoint Paul Gamache for a one year term. Mr. Gamache is a retired accountant who does part time work for six non-profit organizations and was employed as a bookkeeper for the Town of Harpswell for several years. He has been a seasonal taxpayer in Phippsburg for 22 years and just recently moved here full time.

### III. New Business

1. Consider participation in the Midcoast Regional Weatherization and Energy Efficiency Initiative.

Administrator Young reported that the Town of Phippsburg had been invited to join this initiative which is designed to provide grant funds for weatherization of public buildings (there would be a cost share involved). The only commitment from the Town would be for Administrator Young to volunteer as a member of the Initiative Board. The Selectmen voted (3-0) to join.

2. Brief from Town Administrator concerning erosion issue at Popham Beach State Park.

Administrator Young reported that the erosion at Popham was encroaching onto the new bathrooms that were built at the Park this year. The State Department of Conservation has taken temporary steps to slow down the erosion by placing trees bound together in front of the bathrooms. Their long term solution is to request the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge a section of Morse River that has built up in order to change the flow of the channel. He added that one issue with changing the flow is the possibility of covering up the clam flats that just opened this year.

Selectman Douglass voiced concerns over the State trying to "beat nature" and perhaps moving the erosion problem onto other properties. He also had concerns that the State is taking a course of action that they would never allow private citizens in Popham to take.

### IV. Department and Committee Reports

1. Philip Pelletier, Animal Control Officer

ACO Pelletier reported that the feral cat situation is still about the same. He has been taking each complaint one at a time and has not conducted any mass pickups. Selectman Douglass added that until citizens are willing to help out there probably will not be any reduction in the feral cat population.

**V. Correspondence**

1. Review a letter from COMCAST concerning ShopNBC.

**Selectman Douglass read excerpts of the letter to the public. No further action taken.**

**VI. Review and Sign:**

1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants.
2. Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
3. Appointment certificate for Buell Heminway (Historic Preservation Commission).

4. CMP Pole Permit for Meadowbrook Road

**Selectmen voted (3-0) to approve and sign all the above.**

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

1. Administrator Young

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

2. Selectman Douglass

**Selectman Douglass has noticed that some towns have been conducting a food source survey to inventory small farms and see what they raise or grow. He has mentioned creating this sort of survey before because he feels that this is one area which was missed in the Comprehensive Plan.**

**Selectman Douglass discussed the Vinylhaven windmill that has just gone on line which generates all the power needed on the island for the wintertime population. They are also selling the remainder back to CMP. Although a few people were opposed, the Town as a whole embraced the project. He had also read an article in the MMA Townsman which mentioned another town's project in the northern part of Maine which also had no real opposition. He recommends that Phippsburg consider a windmill project at some point.**

**Selectmen Douglass mentioned another article in the MMA Townsman that discussed a general decline in good feelings in some towns. Some towns are scheduling different celebrations and events to bring the citizens together. He recommended that the Selectmen meet with the Recreation Department to discuss this. Administrator Young mentioned that the Town's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary would be celebrated in 2014.**

**VIII. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.**