

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 2011

PRESENT: Selectmen: Woodsome, Gale, Girard & Abbott, Town Administrator Nancy Brandt, Ruth Blake, Jack Seery, David Lowe & Christina Silberman. William Single & Gunnar Single were present for the bid opening and Assessor Jerry Daigle arrived during the Library Report.

Selectman Abbott opened the meeting at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance then asked for nominations for Chairman Pro Tempore due to Chairman Littlefield's absence. Selectman Girard moved to nominate Selectmen Abbott as Chairman Pro Tempore, seconded by Chairman Gale. There were no other nominations. The motion was voted and passed - **4 yeas**. Chairman Abbott reported that the executive session listed on tonight's agenda was not held.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Abbott stated that they received a routine notice from Time Warner Cable.

REPORTS: Selectmen's Report: Selectman Girard reported that the Board, with the exception of Selectman Woodsome, attended the Town Attorney's seminar last Thursday to cover law changes and it was very informative.

Town Administrator's Report: Ms. Brandt reported that the quarterly reports will be distributed. Revenues for September were posted today and everyone will receive a revenue report.

Ms. Brandt announced that absentee ballots are now available. There is a new law that has been partially suspended. The last day that anyone can vote by absentee ballot here will be Thursday, November 3rd at 5 pm. The State ballot has four questions, 1 peoples veto, 2 citizen initiatives, and 1 constitutional amendment. Selectman Woodsome asked if same day voter registration is a problem. Ms. Brandt replied that it can get very busy and the hardest thing is that voters need to show proof (ID & residency). If voters wait until Election Day and do not have proof, they have to vote a challenged ballot. Selectman Woodsome commented that he would not want to see people unable to vote because they did not register beforehand. Selectman Gale commented that a lot of people do wait to the last minute and it would be too bad if people could not vote because they procrastinated. Chairman Abbott said that the bigger the turnout the worse it becomes. Now that anyone can vote by absentee ballot up to 45 days early, there is less of a reason to say "Oh, I couldn't vote the day of the election". Selectman Girard commented that sometimes you miss out on information by voting early. Ms. Brandt said that in her past experience being a Town Clerk, it wasn't the same day registration that was a problem but it was the absentee voting in the few days before the election because that was all you were doing.

Librarian Report: Librarian Ruth Blake stated that Brigit McCallum of the Library Board of Trustees is not here tonight so there is no Trustees report. Ms. Blake reported on the following:

- New windows will be installed in a couple of weeks and this should help with heat. She is working with Pete Cote on putting in a vapor barrier, as recommended, but they are having trouble finding someone to do the work because of the small space.
- The Friends group held a silent auction in August that raised about \$400 for books on tape. They are planning another auction soon to raise money for e-books. The startup fee for the e-book program is \$500 and then the cost is \$300 per year.
- Summer reading went really well with 139 children participating.
- Passes are available from the Library for Willowbrook Village and they are open until Oct. 10th.
- Story time has started up again for fall and they have added a story time once a month on the 3rd Saturday with Karen Clark.

- Dave Cousineau will again host a game club for kids aged preschool-1st grade on Monday nights.
- They are trying a paper craft program on Wednesdays for teens and adults from 12:30 - 3:00.
- The Trustees put out a request in September to ask if anyone was interested in helping to plan programs for the year. They have 5 people involved with some special activities in the next few months. Pumpkin painting in October, a harvest basket program in November, and a wreath making program in December. Space is limited for these programs so please sign up in advance.
- They are planning to begin an adult book discussion group in January, please sign up with the Library if interested.
- The Library is averaging about 1,000 patrons, loaning out 2,200 items and have about 125 computer uses by about 75 different people (not including the WIFI users) each month.

Selectman Woodsome asked how the number of patrons compares with last year and Ms. Blake replied that patronage is up this year. Borders bookstore is closing and some people can't afford to buy books now. People are also using the internet because they have canceled their service at home.

Friends of the Waterboro Public Library (FOWPL) Report: Jack Seery, President of FOWPL, stated that the Friends are functioning at a minimal level and are basically filtering donations for the Library with their tax exempt status. Mr. Seery reported that donations are coming in. Bill Dunn of Hollis is still a major donor. He sells donated books on E-Bay and gives the money to the Library. JD's also accepts donations from bottle redemptions. The Library has Clink bags available for donations of returnable cans/bottles. They also collect change at the Library, which does accumulate. These funds go to the Treasurer and Ms. Blake can draw on the funds as needed. There is a Maggie Taylor fund. She was the wife of Bill Taylor of Laughing Loon Lane and she passed away last May. Donations to the Library have been made in her memory. Mr. Taylor will return to Florida soon and will have a memorial service there also asking that donations be made to the Waterboro Library. There is close to \$2,000 from these donations already. Ms. Blake will brainstorm with Mr. Taylor on the use of these funds at the Library in a way to honor Maggie. Mr. Seery stated that the Friends are willing to work with patrons interested in fundraising and asked that people contact him to talk about it.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Open/Discuss/Vote sidewalk snow removal bids: Chairman Abbott stated that the Town received 4 bids. The bids were opened and were as follows: Property Care & Preservation for \$4,700, Gun-Air, LLC for \$7,400, D&R Paving for \$8,300 and Leighton Excavating for \$8,400. Selectman Girard moved to accept the bids as opened, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed - **4 yeas**. Selectman Girard moved to conditionally award the bid to Property Care & Preservation of Hollis Center after confirming that they understand they are to do the salting & sanding as well and after checking references, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed - **4 yeas**.

2. Discuss/Vote York County Hazard Mitigation Plan & Promulgation Statement: Chairman Abbott said that York County EMA Director Kim White-Kaiser has offered to meet with the Board to review this. The Board was in agreement to ask Ms. White-Kaiser to come in to review the plan. Ms. Silberman will contact her to make the arrangements.

3. Discuss/Vote 20/20 Master Planning Committee appointment: Selectman Girard moved to appoint Dianne Holden to the 20/20 Master Planning Committee, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed - **4 yeas**.

4. Discuss/Vote Transfer Station boundary marking quote: Chairman Abbott explained the quote from Sebago Technics and stated that it seemed fairly steep. He asked if someone could come out and walk the line with Tommy and identify the pins and then we can do the flagging. Selectman Gale pointed out that Doug Foglio, Sr., Road Commissioner, has to determine the line so he can go in and take gravel and we do not need

to be within inches, 10-20 feet would be close enough. Ms. Brandt will contact Charlie at Sebago Technics to ask about the cost to find the pins.

5. Discuss/Vote property offered for sale, 36 Townhouse Rd., Map 28 lot 39: This property is on Moonpenny Ln. and abuts the Town Hall property. Selectman Girard asked if there is any benefit to the Town to own this property and said she does not have a particular interest in it. Ms. Brandt said that a land purchase would have to go to Town Meeting for approval. Selectman Gale agreed with Selectman Girard. Selectman Woodsome asked if the owner is interested in donating the land to the Town. Chairman Abbott said the owner is asking for a reasonable offer and the land is assessed at \$16,700. It would be interesting to look at the deed to see if the property allows for access down Moonpenny Lane to the lake. Assessor Jerry Daigle will check on the deed and report back to the Board.

Selectman Girard moved to take Old Business Item #1 out of order and hear it during New Business #6, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed – **4 yeas**.

6. Discuss/Vote Property Tax Abatement Requests: Assessor Jerry Daigle explained each abatement request in turn and answered the Board's questions. **#12-10** Selectman Girard moved to grant property tax abatement request #12-10, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed – **4 yeas**. **#12-11**

Selectman Girard moved to grant property tax abatement request #12-11, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed – **3 yeas, 1 nay (Woodsome)**. **#12-12** Selectman Girard moved to grant property tax abatement

#12-12, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and failed – **2 yeas, 2 nays (Woodsome & Gale)**. **#12-13** Selectman Girard moved to deny property tax abatement request #12-13, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed – **4 yeas**. **#12-14** Selectman Girard moved to deny property tax abatement request #12-14,

seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed – **4 yeas**. **#12-15** Selectman Woodsome moved to approve the portion of the property tax abatement request #12-15 dealing with the AT&T Mobility assets that will no longer be assessed to Mariner Tower and will be supplemented to AT&T Mobility and the balance of the request for the site valuation is denied, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed – **4 yeas**. Prior to this vote, Selectman Girard disclosed that she is an Officer of the Land Trust and explained that this vote does not benefit the Land Trust. **Old Business #1 (moved up) Discuss/Vote Property Tax Abatement Request #12-09:** Selectman Girard moved to deny property tax abatement request #12-09, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed – **4 yeas**.

7. Discuss/Vote to authorize Selectman Girard to seek appointment to the York County Budget

Advisory Committee: Selectman Woodsome moved to authorize Selectman Girard to seek appointment to the York County Budget Advisory Committee, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed – **3 yeas, 1 abstain (Girard)**. Prior to this vote Chairman Abbott pointed out that Selectman Girard will need two Board members to attend the caucus with her for the nominations.

8. Discuss Fireworks Ordinance: Chairman Abbott explained that this was reviewed at last Thursday's seminar with the Town Attorney and the Town may wish to put in place some form of a fireworks ordinance. The Board discussed some ideas such as a permitting process, holding the user responsible for any public safety costs & restricting hours and decided to hold a public hearing and ask for the Fire Department's input. A survey question will be placed on the Town website to obtain additional input.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discuss/Vote Property Tax Abatement Request #12-09: This item was taken out of order and heard during New Business #6.

OTHER:

1. Moved by Selectman Girard, seconded by Selectman Gale to sign warrants for bills and payroll, voted and passed – **4 yeas**.

2. Moved by Selectman Gale, seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the minutes of the 9/27/11 regular meeting as written, voted and passed - **4 yeas**.

ACTION LIST:

1. Follow up on Transfer Station boundary.
2. Obtain weekly reports from the Treasurer.
3. Add Trio access for Selectmen.
4. Coordinate meeting with York County EMA Director re: Hazard Mitigation Plan.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Follow up on snowplow bid.
2. Discuss Town Administrator's performance evaluation
3. Obtain an update on the status of the audit.

Chairman Abbott read the reminders.

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Woodsome moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed - **4 yeas**.

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Minutes of 9/27/11
3. Property tax abatements.

APPROVED: Date: _____
