

## **SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES**

### **FEBRUARY 11, 1997**

Regular meeting of the Waterboro Board of Selectmen.

Present: Bob Fay, Dennis Abbott, Dale Witman, Pat Sicard, Patti Berry, Millard Genthner, Bob Gobiell, Payson MacCormack, Ralph Stanley.

Guests: Jon Gale, Scott and Cynthia Hopkins, Debbie Downs, Dianne Holden, Nancy Brandt, Bertha MacAloon.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

7:00 The selectmen have an appointment with the three elected officials, Dianne Holden, Nancy Brandt and Bertha MacAloon for general discussion. The three would have liked to have been told ahead of time about the referendum questions submitted by Bob Fay. Dale Witman asks what are their position on the referendum that the treasurer and tax collector be appointed, not elected. Bertha wants to know the honest reason why. Bob Fay answers that the employees at the town hall should be under an umbrella of authority and the selectmen should be at the top of the umbrella. Bertha wonders why no one understands their system. Dennis says before anyone was elected over there, everyone did a little of everything, no matter who came in they could be served by any of the three women in that office. Dennis feels at some point there will be problems with this situation of the separation of that office. Dennis knows there is a strong desire from the elected officials to be treated like town employees, falling under the personnel policy. He would like to somehow jointly go into town meeting understanding where we're all coming from. Bertha says she feels highly insulted when Bob Fay refers to her as a clerk. Bertha feels he is trying to divide. Bob says he doesn't feel the board has done anything to offend the three positions. Bertha says the selectmen don't know what they do in that office. Bertha says if one has to up and leave the job for whatever reason, there is no one to fill that job. Dianne says that people who come in seem to like the separation of jobs because they are getting serviced quicker. Dennis agrees that the system is running quite well right now. Bob asks what else is bothering people. Nancy is not happy with the way the budget is going. Dennis says we need to get together with the Finance Committee. Dianne feels the selectmen should meet with the three positions before they make their recommendations. Dennis agrees that we all should know where we are coming from before town meeting. Dale wonders whether they want to be appointed or elected. Dennis has no problem with an elected Town Clerk, but feels treasurer and tax collector should be appointed. Bertha says she never wanted to run for election in the first place. Dennis says it is obvious that office gets along very well. His frustration with it is, what if someone new gets elected or one quits, there are no requirements that the new person has to back up anyone like the system that is in place now. Dale still wants to know what the girls prefer, to be appointed or elected. Dianne says she hasn't gotten an answer on what the selectmen mean by control. Dennis gives example of selectmen control. The Board controls the Code Enforcement Officer, although he has requirements he must fulfill to the

State also. Dale adds, there are specific job duties that one is expected to perform, the selectmen control the hours and the pay. Bob Fay suggest the selectmen meet with them again to discuss salaries for budget requests. Dennis would like input from them on what control means to them. His concern for this town is to have qualified people in these positions. Dianne says she gets upset when there are comments made, like the Treasurer doesn't need 35 hours a week, how can they say that when they don't know what she is doing. There are other job involved in what they are doing. Bob Fay says the problem with the system is the future of it. If one decides not to run, there is no guarantee that the new person would cover the other jobs. Dianne asks what the selectmen would do for deputy town clerk. Bob asks Jon Gale if he plans on meeting with the 3 elected positions before making recommendations. Dianne requests a copy of the draft of the Warrant.

8:00 Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins enter meeting to sign agreement for penalty in lieu of legal action along with an agreement with the Board of Selectmen and the Hopkins to waive liability from the Town of Waterboro.

## **DISCUSSION**

Jon Gale enters meeting to discuss the Finance Committee. Jon is upset that he has very recently received the draft of the warrant and doesn't feel he's had adequate time to make recommendations. Dennis says it is a problem that town meeting is in March when the fiscal year ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. There isn't much that can be done about this, this year. Jon says the finance committee is going into town meeting recommending zero new taxes. Dennis asks if it would help the committee if the selectmen met with them again. Jon would like to do that. A meeting for the 17<sup>th</sup> is set up for the finance committee to meet with the selectmen. Jon says there is a problem in that the committee has already voted on the first 30 articles and if everyone isn't at the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> the votes cannot be overturned. Dennis says he doesn't agree with that because subtle changes are made to the Warrant right up to the time of printing. He feels they should have waited until the last possible minute to hold final votes. Jon said the finance committee met with the road review committee. Bob Fay says they should have met with the selectmen on the roads because they control those moneys, the road review committee is an advisory board. Jon Gale said that the selectmen should have made that clear to him. Pat Sicard adds at this time that the committee made a statement to the three elected officials, town clerk, treasurer, and tax collector that the committee would call them back after meeting with the Library. Jon Gale said the finance committee is not interested in hearing what other town's pay their employees. The selectmen will meet with the finance committee on Monday at 7.

8:30 Ralph Stanley, Bob Fay would like to set up Ralph Stanley evaluation on 2/25 at 6:00 p.m.

8:35 Debbie Downs enters meeting at her request to discuss the library personnel policy. There has been a draft personnel policy that has never been voted in. She was under the impression she would have a vacation this year. The library employees met with the

selectmen in October of 95. The selectmen told Dwayne Morin to asterisk the library but it was never voted in. Debbie was under the impression that the policies would become effective in March of 96. The town raises money for the library and the board expects the library employees to follow the town's personnel policy. Because Dwayne left, Dianne left, they just didn't get to it. Dale says the personnel policy will be reviewed in the very near future. The board will be making this the #1 priority after town meeting. Bob wants this put on the agenda for a vote on 2/25.

Pat Sicard asks about the roof and why we are contacting Russell Wright to look at it. There were some leaks where the "old roof meets the new roof." We would like Russell to tell the town what the roof needs and possibly get a price.

On the public hearing on fee structures, the selectmen agree they should attend. The issue of fees has not been revised in 8 or 9 years.

The job description of the Parks and Rec director was brought up by Dale Witman. He would like a request stated in it that Dave reports at council meetings. Bob Gobeil asks why is the director writing his own job description. Pat Sicard states that it is a new position and Dave is having a say in what his job is. Dave and Pat have done the job description together, in conjunction with the selectmen. The director answers to the Selectmen. Bob Gobeil asks, why does the town need a parks and rec committee then. Dale Witman brings up the fact that before this went to town meeting vote, the selectmen met with the committee and having a director is clearly what they wanted. Dennis says the job description is a participatory thing between the Dave, Pat and the selectmen. Bob Fay asks exactly what the problem is. Bob Gobeil says it is just that the committee is not being involved in any of this. Bob Fay is concerned that the committee is pulling away from the director that they asked for over the most pettiest of issues. Bob invites the committee to meet with selectmen next Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 before council meeting. Pat Sicard adds that the Parks and Rec program has had much more activity since Dave started, the skating rink, the Halloween party and that with the combination of the director and the committee they could do great things for the town.

Discussion of Warrant articles began.

Dale motions to keep incidentals account in Gen. Government at 4,500.00 and request 2,000.00 for advertising. Bob and Dennis both agree. Motion is passed.

Dale motions to withdraw Parks and Rec director from General government and move it back to being above the parks and Rec committee article. Bob Fay votes no. Dennis votes no. Motion fails.

Dale motions to ask for 1,000.00 for printing of a business directory instead of \$500.00. Bob doesn't want us to pay for the cost of the whole printing, just to get it started. Dennis thinks it should be seed money to get it going. Bob feels it is not up to us to start

a chamber of commerce, the businesses should pitch in . Dennis agrees that all we should be doing is facilitating it. Bob and Dennis agree with the motion. The motion is passed.

Articles 23,24, 25, 26, 27 are discussed. Dennis suggests that these road articles appear as they always have, the request being from the road commissioner. It is decided to submit the request by the road commissioner with wording Board of selectmen request \$\_\_\_ to be spent with approval of selectmen.

Bob motions at add wording to articles 33, 34, 35, 36 to be spent under the direction of road commissioner with approval of selectmen. It was agreed, motion is passed.

The Saco River corridor commission article is discussed. Dale asks if the board is making a recommendation. Dennis recommends to fund. Bob would like to see changes made in the commission, but will support. All agreed.

Pat Sicard reports that So. Maine Regional planning has put in a request for town's to pay a fee this year because of some funding problems they are having. They are asking for \$498.00 this year. Bob votes no, Dennis and Dale vote yes. Motion is passed. It is to be put under the planning dept. article.

An article needs to be added to accept a free gift of two lots in Lake Arrowhead.

A request from Dianne Holden for an article to waive foreclosure on two tax lien properties was decided to add to the Warrant.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

A request about where to put the interest from cemetery trust funds. The decision was to take it out of the Parks and Rec account and give it a new account number.

A request was made by a citizen to drop our fax fees for incoming faxes. Bob moves to keep the rates the same. All agree. So moved.

A request from the tax collector was submitted about the proposal from Paul Pelletier. Dennis suggest to wait until Paul makes a formal request and comes forward with money. When he comes to the selectmen with the money and if it is agreed to accept it, the money will be forwarded to the tax collector with a letter from the selectmen.

Bob Fay received a letter from Mr. Thornton, which Bob requests to be forwarded to our attorney for her to answer. All agreed.

Bob motions to close the dump for town meeting on March 8. Dales votes yes. Dennis agrees. Motion passed. We are to put an add in the smart shopper.

Dale motions to close town hall on the afternoon before town meeting. Bob and Dennis both vote no. Motion fails.

Pat Sicard gives update on the Simanonok suit. Because Mr. Simanonok filed a counter suit on the dismissal case, she suggest we do not file for a dismissal at this time. Coregis is our personal liability coverage company.

**SIGNED**

The Board of Selectmen signed the Warrant for Bills and Payroll.

They also signed: 1. 8 tax abatements

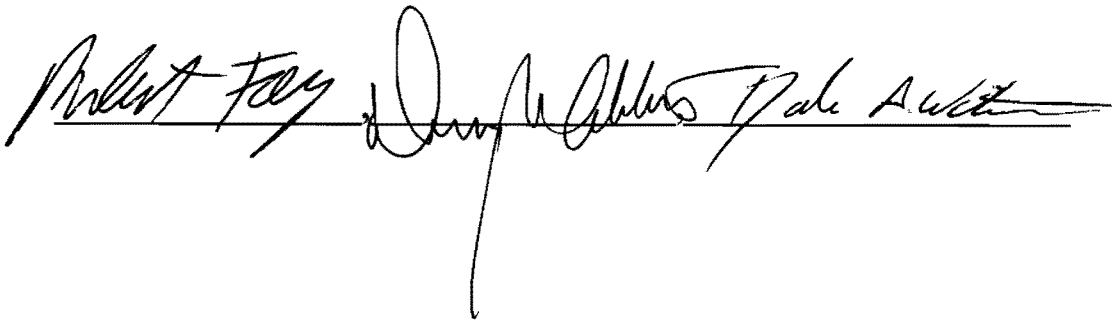
2. letters to Sheriff Dept, State Police RE: speed limits

3. minutes of 2/4/ meeting.

4. appointment papers for Nancy Bean to Conservation Commission.

5. municipal quitclaim deed for Margaret Pinkham.

**APPROVED** Date: 2/18/97

Handwritten signatures of Robert Fay and Joseph A. White over a horizontal line.