

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

March 20, 2012

PRESENT: Chairman Littlefield, Selectmen: Woodsome & Gale, Nancy Brandt, Cindy Durney, Mike DeAngelis, Christina Silberman & David Lowe. Dianne Holden arrived during reports. Tom Ursia and Rep. Libby arrived during new business #1.

Chairman Littlefield opened the meeting at 6:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Littlefield reviewed information from the Department of Motor Vehicles advising people to renew their motorcycle registrations at the town office and not online this year. There is a glitch in the online registration program, Rapid Renewal, due to a change to a common March expiration date for all motorcycle registrations.

Chairman Littlefield extended sincere condolences on behalf of the Board to the family of Mark Messer who passed away unexpectedly.

HEARING OF DELEGATION: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Littlefield reviewed the following correspondence:

1. Letter from York County Manager Gregory Zinser regarding the change to a July-June fiscal year
2. Letter from York County Manager Gregory Zinser regarding orthoimagery project funding
3. Memo from Twelve Town Group regarding 3/19/12 meeting
4. Treasurer's Weekly Financial Reports
5. Letter from Lake Arrowhead Community, Inc. with quote requesting a warrant article to raise/appropriate funds for hydrants at the next Town Meeting
6. Rep. Libby's newsletter
7. Information from Maine Audubon Society on the Endangered Species Road Watch
8. **CONFIDENTIAL:** Information from the Town Attorney regarding a lawsuit
9. **CONFIDENTIAL:** Copies of two letters from the Assessors' Agent regarding abatement applications

REPORTS: Selectmen's Report: Selectman Gale reported that he attended the 12 Town Group Monday evening and 6 towns were represented. They discussed York County Management, revenue sharing discussions in Augusta and the different banks the towns use. Selectman Gale said that 7 or 8 years ago, York County had a fund balance of 2.8 million. Some people may think they are being overtaxed when there is this much money in the bank. On the other hand, if there is not money in the bank, then chances are you will have to borrow money during the year to make payroll then you are paying interest. Waterboro's auditors recommend having 3-4 months' worth of expenses in a fund balance. About 4 years ago the County had a \$700,000 deficit. This past year the fund balance was up to \$500,000 which is still not enough but is better than none. This year, the County Commissioners have decided to put all of the fund balance into the budget leaving a zero fund balance. The Group talked about some of the County Commissioners thinking that the County should take on more responsibility and can do things cheaper than the towns and the Group disagreed with

this thinking. Selectman Gale said that people generally have a higher trust level with town government than with county and state government.

Selectman Woodsome reported that he has been in touch with the Eagle Scout, Travis Walton, and he will come to the Selectmen's meeting next week to discuss the project.

Town Administrator's Report: Nancy Brandt reported that she is working to put the Finance Committee's budget books together and preparing updates for the Selectmen's books. The deadline for money articles for the annual town meeting has passed. Any money article requests going forward will need a unanimous vote of the Selectmen to be considered at town meeting. Ms. Brandt said that a public notice will appear in the Smart Shopper and is also on the website indicating that the Town of Waterboro is applying to become certified under the State of Maine's Business Friendly Community Program. Applications are accepted any time for this program and certifications are issued quarterly. Town Planner Tom Ursia and Fire Chief Matt Bors are working with her to meet an April 6th application deadline for this quarter. Ms. Brandt reminded everyone that a representative from Susan Collins' office will be here Thursday, March 29th from 11 am – 1 pm to meet with citizens to discuss issues and concerns. Ms. Brandt said that she has started reviewing the Internet and Electronic Mail Policy and will continue to work on this with Selectman Girard and IT Manager Dave Lowe. Ms. Brandt reported that the ice is out of the lake and the dam gates have been shut. There is not any snow melt runoff and there hasn't been any rain so the hope is that the lake will reach summer level within a month. Chairman Littlefield asked where we stand on the Code Enforcement Officer hiring process. Ms. Brandt said that she is waiting to hear from a member of the Hiring Committee to see if they are available. The Board asked that interviews be scheduled even if the 2nd Hiring Committee member is not available. Ms. Brandt said that she will try to schedule interviews for this Saturday.

Parks & Recreation Director: Director Mike DeAngelis stated that this is a very busy time of year and reported on the following:

- He has been working outside cleaning up and getting things ready for spring.
- There is an unclaimed ice fishing shack that the Road Commissioner removed from the outlet and he will see if he can find who it belongs to if it remains unclaimed.
- The beach is in good shape. The filtration system is working well and it was emptied this year.
- They just completed the basketball tournament and had a great year. Mr. DeAngelis thanked all the volunteers that helped to run the program. They reached \$10,000 in revenue for sports this year.
- He is considering a marginal increase for the summer program and is waiting to find out what the bus company is going to charge this year. He hopes to open registration on April 1st.
- The town will have to advertise for a boat launch attendant this year and we may need to hire two or three people in order to provide coverage because of the weekend hours. Lake Arrowhead Association will train the attendants to do milfoil inspections. He will work with Ms. Brandt on placing an ad and hopes to get someone soon.
- The summer program at the elementary school will begin July 9th and will go for six weeks. He will be meeting with Superintendent Davis this week to work out details.

- Senior Lunches will begin May 10th and there will be two each month going through November.
- The new 7th & 8th grade basketball program went very well and hopefully this will be offered again next year. The 8th grade travel basketball team won their tournament last weekend and will go to Orono this weekend for the State tournament. There was a girls' travel basketball team that also did well this year.
- They have put out the roster for next year's Funergy program and they expect most of the kids to return. The program has 30 slots and is open to kids entering kindergarten through 5th grade. This program averages \$2,100 per week in revenue.
- Revenues are \$110,000 year to date and they have expended \$160,000. He predicts to come in about \$5,000 below budget.
- Funtown/Splashtown tickets can be purchased from the Rec Department again this year. These are \$9.00 cheaper than purchasing a ticket at the park. The town gets 50 cents and the Maine Rec. Assoc. gets 50 cents for each ticket sold.
- There is a lot of work to do concerning signage at the boat launch and the parks and he is working on getting prices.
- Lion's Club volunteers are installing a batting cage at Lions Park. They wanted to run electricity to it but this proved problematic so they will run an extension cord to plug it in when being used. The Lions Club has offered to fix the well there also.

Chairman Littlefield asked about the netting at the park. (The netting used to prevent balls from being hit onto abutters properties needs repair.) Mr. DeAngelis said that he does plan to address this before the men's league begins playing in mid-June.

Chairman Littlefield asked Mr. DeAngelis to check with the Fire Chief about running an extension cord to the batting cage. The Board thanked Mr. DeAngelis for his report.

Old Home Days Committee: Cindy Durney reported that they are getting up to speed to make sure everything is in line for Old Home Days. They received a quote from a new company for the fireworks display but stayed with Atlas again this year because the price was better. The Committee will be selling raffle tickets for \$5.00 each. The winner will be allowed to bring 10 people with them to a special area to watch the fireworks and will be allowed to start the fireworks using a push button control that is programmed to start the display. A parking space will also be provided for the winner. There will be a Foxwoods bus trip fundraiser May 12th. Tickets are \$50.00 each. They need to sell 30 tickets to break even and have already sold 25. The school has been booked and entertainment has been lined up. The fireworks will be on Saturday at approximately 9:20 pm for a 20 minute show. They are working on obtaining 1,000 items for the children's tent. Everything is coming together really well and the Committee is excited about it. Officer Sweeney has brought prisoners to do clean-up on Sunday in the past but he is unable do it this year. They are looking for help with the field clean up on Sunday and have budgeted \$600.00 for this. Selectman Woodsome remarked that Dave Lowe had forwarded a suggestion from a resident about holding a town wide yard sale and thought it may be good to do something like this during Old Home Days. Ms. Durney said she would not want this to interfere with people attending the parade on Saturday at 10 am and suggested having yard sale tables at Old Home Days. Ms. Durney said the Committee is meeting on Thursday and will discuss this. Mr. Lowe said

he will provide Ms. Durney with the contact information to see if something can be worked out. The Board thanked Ms. Durney for her report.

Rep. Aaron Libby (Note: Rep. Libby provided his report after new business): Rep. Libby said that they are still working to get results from the meeting with himself, the Road Commissioner, Senator Courtney's office and MDOT. They are working on the supplemental budget and there has been a lot of discussion over the Maine Public Broadcasting Network (MPBN). The supplemental budget proposes eliminating state funding to MPBN which is approximately 16% of MPBN's budget. Rep. Libby recognized that there are more important things such as special needs and medical care with proposed cuts. The Appropriations Committee will review the proposed supplement budget and Rep. Libby anticipates a compromise. Selectman Woodsome commented on an article in today's Portland newspaper regarding other areas where the state allows abatements and write-offs and asked what the difference is between these and MPBN. Rep. Libby said he has not read this article and stated that he feels all subsidization needs to be cut back. Chairman Littlefield said that some of these subsidies could be from incentives for the companies to come to Maine. Rep. Libby said that a bill was passed to remove matching funds from the Maine Clean Elections Act and matching funds were found to be unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court. Rep. Libby said questionnaires were mailed to residents and he encouraged people to complete and return them. The Board thanked Rep. Libby for his report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss/vote to finalize the Town Planner's contract: Selectman Gale moved to approve the Town Planner's contract for 1 year as written to expire on June 30, 2013, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **3 yeas**.

2. Discuss/vote to approve a partial payment waiver: Selectman Woodsome moved to grant the partial payment waiver, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **3 yeas**.

OLD BUSINESS: None

OTHER:

1. Moved by Selectman Woodsome, seconded by Selectman Gale to sign warrants for bills and payroll, voted and passed, **3 yeas**.

2. Moved by Selectman Gale, seconded by Selectman Woodsome to accept the minutes of the 3/13/12 regular meeting as written, voted and passed, **3 yeas**.

PENDING DECISIONS

1. Public Service Announcements: Project #1 is currently being edited.

2. Review Driveway Opening Permit language: Pending

3. Board & Committee status: Vacancies exist on some boards and committees; please visit the town office for more information.

4. Water District survey: Steve Levy of Maine Rural Water Association will attend the Selectmen's meeting on April 24th to review the results.

5. Water District office space lease: Pending

6. Eagle Scout Project: Travis Walton will attend the next Selectmen's meeting to discuss the project.

7. Internet and Electronic Mail Policy revisions: Pending

WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

1. Sign approved employment contract for the Town Planner.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Discuss traffic and crosswalk signs and signals.
2. Provide an update on hiring a Code Enforcement Officer

ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Gale moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm and go into a budget workshop, seconded by Selectman Woodsome, voted and passed, **3 yeas.**

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Minutes of 3/13/12
3. Partial payment waiver authorization

APPROVED: Date: _____
