

**Waterboro Board of Selectmen
March 25, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

PRESENT: Chairman Girard, Selectmen Abbott, Gale, Littlefield & Woodsome, Town Administrator Gary Lamb, Sharon Abbott, Dwayne Prescott, Tammy Wells, Administrative Assistant Christina Silberman and I.T. Manager David Lowe. Assessors' Agent Jerry Daigle and Fire Chief Matt Bors were present for reports.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Girard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:02 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS: New Business item 8a to appoint a Town Assessor was removed from the agenda to allow time to get answers to questions about the Town Charter. An item was added under Reports and Staff Initiatives for Fire Chief Matt Bors to discuss the dispatch proposal.

APPOINTMENTS: None

HEARING OF DELEGATION: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman Girard reviewed the following correspondence;

- a. Treasurer's reports
- b. Rep Libby's newsletter
- c. Senator Tuttle's newsletter
- d. EcoMaine recycling reports
- e. Copy of Assessor's letter re: assessment/billing error

REPORTS & STAFF INITIATIVES

a. Assessors' Agent Jerry Daigle Discuss/vote on abatement #14-91: Selectman Gale moved to go with Mr. Daigle's recommendation and approve abatement #14-91, seconded by Selectman Littlefield, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

b. Fire Chief Bors to discuss dispatch proposal: Mr. Lamb explained that the town's current dispatch contract runs out in June. Mr. Lamb and Chief Bors have been attending meetings with Sanford Regional Communications regarding proposed changes to their fees. An Advisory Group has been formed. Chief Bors explained that the dispatcher is proposing that the costs of operation be shared amongst the communities that are being served. The funding formula is unclear. The Board discussed the proposal and raised some questions. Mr. Lamb said there is more work to do on this.

c. Selectmen's reports: Selectman Woodsome said there is a dead pine tree by Gobeil Park and he would like someone to take a look at it.

Selectman Abbott reported that the Economic Development Committee is meeting tomorrow night. They are working with the 20/20 Committee to draft an Economic Development Chapter for the Comprehensive Plan.

Selectman Gale said that the Library Board of Trustees is doing a community survey that is available on their website, the response period closes on Monday. The Library is currently conducting a silent auction. Selectman Gale said he and his wife viewed a photo display at the Philadelphia airport that was "A Day in Philadelphia" and he thinks it would be nice to do something similar in Waterboro. Selectman Gale invited interested people to contact him to discuss this idea.

Selectman Littlefield said that the Public Safety Committee met and they are working on their mission statement and bylaws. Major Tom Baran from the York County Sheriff's office attended and they will meet with him again along with Deputy Sanborn. They are looking for additional volunteers for the Committee.

Chairman Girard said that she attended the 12 Town Group's event with gubernatorial candidate Mike Michaud. There was a disappointingly low turnout but this allowed more time to have some good discussion. Candidate Eliot Cutler will attend a similar event in April and Governor LePage has been invited but has not responded. Chairman Girard said that the York County Budget Committee will caucus at the Alfred Town Hall tomorrow at 6:30 pm. Her term on the Budget Committee is up this year and she is interested in being nominated to serve another term. The York County Commissioner's redistricting will not affect the Budget Committee this year.

d. Town Administrator Gary Lamb provided the following report:

- We are interviewing for the Recreation Dept. Administrative Assistant tomorrow and will interview for the CEO Secretary's position in early April.
- Nineteen Town Hall, Library and Transfer Station employees attended a half day customer service workshop here yesterday. It was a productive and informative session that will help us create better customer service communications. Several other MMA workshops are coming up and nearly all front office staff will be out occasionally for training. He attended an all-day lien workshop in Old Orchard Beach recently with Julie and Sharon. Mr. Lamb will attend the Annual Town Manager's workshop this Friday in Bangor.
- He met with the lone Budget Committee member, Donna Berardi, last week to discuss the draft budget. She will get back to him by the end of this week if she has any questions. He is ready to schedule budget workshops in April.
- We took in nearly one million dollars last week just before the foreclosure deadline. Thanks to all who paid to get their accounts up to date. The town still owns 81 properties that were foreclosed because taxes were not paid for at least three years. 128 notices went out in January and only about a third of recipients paid to retain or regain their property. He will prepare a detailed list for review at the April 8th meeting. We should now pursue auctions or listings with real estate agents. The public should know when the Town sells a tax acquired property the town keeps all the sale proceeds. Nothing goes to the former owners. If your property has been foreclosed and is occupied, you can prevent being evicted and regain ownership by paying 100% of all taxes through April 2014, along with lien charges, interest, etc. Please call Sharon Reed at Town Hall to pay your tax bill if you want to keep your property.

- There is a new face at the Transfer Station. He recently hired Pat Chevalier as a probationary employee to replace Don Scouler who indicated to Clint that he wanted more time off to do other things. Pat is a Waterboro resident and retired welder. He has worked out well filling in on short notice.
- There has been zero response from the 11 letters to property owners that were sent about dangerous buildings.
- The waste hauling contract extension with D & E Rubbish is ready for the Board to review at their next meeting.
- The Town prevailed in the Bouffard case. The court determined that the Town does have the right to use the old road. Mr. Lamb will meet with Mr. Bouffard after the appeal period has passed to set some ground rules.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Discuss/vote to appoint the Town Assessor:** This item was postponed.
- b. Discuss York County Commissioners redistricting:** Chairman Girard said that the redistricting takes effect on January 1, 2015. Dan Cabral is our current Commissioner and Mike Cote will take over on January 1, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS: None

OTHER:

- a. Minutes of the March 11, 2014 regular meeting:** Selectman Littlefield moved to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2014 regular meeting, seconded by Selectman Gale, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

PENDING DECISIONS:

- a. Town Charter revision to add a Public Works Department:** This is being worked on.

WEEK'S ACTION LIST:

- Work on public safety dispatch answering points.
- Schedule a workshop on goals and committee consolidation for April 1, 2014.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

- Discuss the Town Report dedication.
- Discuss appointing the Town Assessor.
- Discuss extending the D & E Waste Hauling Contract.
- Discuss a budget workshop schedule.
- Consider an appointment to the Economic Development Committee.

Chairman Girard read the reminders.

Executive Session: At 7:02 pm Selectman Gale moved to go into executive session in 5 minutes per Title 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C) to discuss a real estate matter, seconded by Selectman Littlefield, voted and passed, **5 yeas**. Selectman Woodsome moved to come out of executive session at 7:23 pm, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 yeas**.

ADJOURN: Selectman Woodsome moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm, seconded by Selectman Abbott, voted and passed, **5 yeas.**

SIGNED:

- Minutes of the February 25, 2014 meeting
- Abatement

APPROVED: Date: _____
