

ST. GEORGE SELECT BOARD & ASSESSORS
MEETING MINUTES
St. George Town Office
Monday, March 26, 2018

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. at the St. George Town Office, downstairs meeting room. Members present were: Richard Bates, Chairman; Randy Elwell, Jerry Hall, Wayne Sawyer, and Tammy Willey. Also present: Tim Polky, and Elizabeth Curtis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

REGULAR SESSION:

- Adjustments to Agenda: None.

- Minutes: The Select Board minutes of March 19, 2018, were amended as follows:

Page 1, under Articles 1-7, line 6 & 7. Delete sentence in its entirety, starting with **Chairperson Bates...**

Page 4, second full paragraph, line 1, correct Wiley to **Willey**

Page 5, under Solid Waste & Recycling Committee, paragraph 2, line 1, change to read: Selectperson Hall **asked**: . . .

Page 5, under Solid Waste & Recycling Committee, paragraph 2, line 4, remove capitalization: change to **electric generation**

Page 6, under Solar Project, #2, lines 4 & 5, delete wording **people that the**; change to read: The answer is they had a list of systems **that** were not...

Page 6, under #3, line 4, change to read: Looking at the **last Select Board** minutes, I am not sure that's totally up to date, but I **mentioned the event on April 9th**.

Page 6, under #3, line 6, delete **it would be good and**; change to read, I said the contact person

Page 6, under #3, line 14, change to read I said I would speak to **the Town Manager** about that.

On a motion by Selectperson Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, it was voted 5-0 to approve the March 19, 2018, Select Board minutes, as amended.

- Communications: There were no communications.

- Warrant: The warrant for the week of March 26, 2018 was reviewed and signed. The total expenses were \$50,870.84 and included two week's payroll, health insurance and retirement benefits.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Planning Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 27 at 7 p.m.
- A Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, March 29 at 7 p.m. on 10 Cold Storage Road. Mr. Polky said this was an important meeting to attend.
- J.K. Kalloch had been working to remove debris from a blocked drain culvert at Drift Inn Beach.
- The FY'2018-2019 town warrant needed to be completed and sent to Cherie Yattaw; she will be sending the final warrant to the printers by the end of March.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Solid Waste & Recycling Committee: The Select Board received a copy of the SW&RC minutes from Selectperson Willey as was unable to attend the March 21 meeting. The minutes reflected that the group is working on the following:

A Spring Cleanup Day is scheduled for May 12. Jane Bracy will speak to the Monhegan Boat Line staff about getting donated tickets, as they have in the past. Wendy Carr will call the Bolduc Correction Facility to see if prisoners would be able to pick up roadside litter. "Spring Cleanup Day" signs will be posted throughout St. George.

MRRA Conference is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, April 23 and 24 at the Samoset Resort. It is the Maine Resource Recovery Association's annual conference. Wendy Carr and Eva Murray from Matinicus will do a presentation on recycling in rural towns.

Recycling Rate: The town's rate is approximately 25.9%. There was a discussion on how to encourage citizens to recycle more trash - cost avoidance being a priority.

Spring Issues at the Transfer Station: The rigid plastics pile is quite large and appears messy. The staff needs extra time to compress rigid plastic.

Miscellaneous: Dump stickers. The committee discussed the importance of having an up-to-date, legitimate dump sticker by everyone who discards trash at the St. George Transfer Station. A suggestion was made to change the color of the sticker more often. The SW&RC will be giving away free 'St. George Recycles' bags on election day, June 12.

The Select Board discussed the recycling rate. Mr. Polky said the town can no longer count the brush or the bulky waste in the recycling rate. He said before recycling the brush and bulky waste, the rate was about 30-35%. He noted there are a lot of households that do not recycle, at all. Mr. Polky was told by Eben Polky that the transfer station was taking in more volume. Selectperson Hall wondered if the 25.9 rate was really that much lower than it was historically, if the brush and bulky waste was not counted. Hall thought 25.9 was a reasonable rate. Selectperson Elwell said education was needed about recycling.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

-Budget Committee: Chairperson Bates said the Budget Committee was working on warrant articles which they had not yet made a decision on.

-Warrant Articles: Finance Director Curtis handed out copies of the draft ballot Question and Financial Statement regarding 10 Cold Storage Road for the Select Board to review. Curtis explained that the budget request for the amount of bonds to be issued would be \$2,640,000. The outstanding balance of the town's general obligation bonds on the purchase of 10 Cold Storage was \$549,000. She said the total (of the two sums) was \$3,189,000, but the town was only asking to borrow \$2,640,000. Curtis noted that the interest rate was higher in the first year and then would get reduced. She said the first year's payment would be approximately \$210,000. Selectperson Sawyer said he supported the project. He cited the example of proposed renovations to the Lura Libby school which would cost \$2.1 million to an

existing building. He said this town was only looking at \$2,640,000 to build a huge dock, a recreation and commercial facility. He thought the amount was pretty reasonable.

Chairperson Bates said the written ballot would have all the information, as noted on the handout. He said state law required the question be phrased, as written.

Curtis said she had sent the article question to Attorney Lee Bragg for review and believed her phrasing of the question was similar to what he sent back. She said Attorney Bragg estimated the interest rate to be 3.5% which is the current rate, but the future interest rate could not definitively, be stated.

Selectperson Hall noticed that the Question only mentioned public recreational use. The Select Board discussed this and felt the word commercial should be included. Mr. Polky recommended calling Attorney Bragg to ask him how to include commercial use in the question. Polky said the question needed to fit the criteria for getting bonds. Curtis said she would contact the attorney regarding this on Tuesday. Selectperson Hall asked if this would need to be deferred to June 12, but Mr. Polky said it did not need to be deferred.

Selectperson Elwell asked if a motion could be made to approve it, subject to the guidelines for the change in wording proposed by the Select Board. He felt they could approve it based on Attorney Bragg's recommended changes. Selectperson Willey noted the change would be the insertion of the word commercial, and Chairperson Bates said the wording would not be a substantive change.

A motion was made by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Willey, to contact Attorney Lee Bragg for his recommendation on the wording of Question 5, to include the words commercial or commercial use in Article 5. The Select Board voted to approve Question 5 based on Attorney Bragg's proposed and recommended changes. The vote was 5-0; motion carried.

Liquor License Renewal: The Select Board reviewed the liquor license renewal for the Craginair Inn. On a motion by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Hall, it was voted 5-0 to approve the liquor license for Michael and Joanne O'Shea d/b/a Craginair Inn.

The Select Board discussed liquor license renewals for "On Premise Consumption." Curtis said liquor license requests had to be done yearly. Mr. Polky said these establishments had to ask for a waiver if they did not want a Public Hearing; but if it was new or had been opened for less than five years, a public hearing had to be done. Polky said if the Select Board felt there was a reason to hold a Public Hearing, they had the right to ask for one, even if the establishment has been opened for 10 years. Mr. Polky said stores selling alcohol are looked at differently, since the consumption of alcohol is prohibited in the store.

-Trust Fund Proposals: Finance Director Curtis prepared a handout which showed the names of the organizations, who the contact was, and the proposal type they were offering. She had spoken with Camden Financial Consultants, Machias Saving Bank, TD Bank, Bangor Savings, Allen Financial Group and The Frist regarding trust funds.

She said TD Bank did not have anything that would meet the town's needs. The First offered what the town was looking for. She said they would make it very simple to transfer money between the trust

funds and the town's account. They would offer reporting by trust fund. They would lump all the money together, but they would do the reporting by trust fund. Machias Savings bank offered money markets and CD's, so the town would have enough cash available in any given year that they might take out of a trust fund. Bangor Savings Bank worked with Charles Schwab and SEI. Allen Financial Group worked with Commonwealth Financial Network and Mutual Funds. Camden Financial Consultants offered a fixed income proposal that was in the stock market.

Chairperson Bates said he called the references given to him by The First, and said everyone had spoken very highly of First Advisors. He spoke with the Financial Directors at Lincolnville and Boothbay Harbor, and the town manager in Vassalboro. All of them said they had been with First Advisors for several years, the group was very timely, and once a year would discuss recommendations for asset allocations with their clients. Chairperson Bates said one difference was that none of the three references had trust funds. They used the service for their cash sweep as well as some of their funds for fire trucks, and such.

Chairperson Bates said the Select Board would meet with First Advisors yearly to discuss the asset allocation and the limits. The group would not be coming back to Curtis every month to discuss the change in interest rates and moving asset allocations. First Advisors would do this automatically based on their experience. Curtis said at a training session she attended on cash management, quite a few of the participants talked about how easy it was to work with First Advisors for their trust funds or their sweep accounts. Curtis said they had already looked into sweep accounts but said First Advisors "are giving the town a great interest rate".

Selectperson Elwell recommended the town pick a financial advisor. Selectperson Hall felt they should make a decision. Selectperson Willey asked if the town would have a one-year or three-year contract, if they went with First Advisors. Mr. Polky said in the past, because the town had a tax anticipation note, there was a bidding process for banks. He said because they no longer needed to do that, they had not been putting those out to bid. He said they have used the First National Bank (FNB) for a number of years. Curtis reported that the general fund, the payroll fund, and the reserve fund are with the FNB. Selectperson Willey asked if they could review First Advisors, if it was not working out, and go with another institution. Curtis said she would contact them to discuss their financial investment agreement. First Advisors is the Trust & Investment Services division of First National Bank.

On a motion by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, the Select Board voted to approve First Advisors as the agent to manage the Town's trust funds, subject to review of the First Advisors' Discretionary Investment Agency Agreement. The vote was 5-0. Motion carried.

At 7:45 p.m., on a motion by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marguerite R. Wilson
Select Board Recording Secretary