

ST. GEORGE SELECT BOARD & ASSESSORS
St. George Town Office
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, April 30, 2018

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. Members present were: Richard Bates, Chairman; Randy Elwell, Jerry Hall, and Wayne Sawyer. Also present: Tim Polky, Elizabeth Curtis, Scott Vaitones, Susan Ellis, Richard Cohen, Earl Ludman, Elizabeth May, Evy Blum, and Wendy Carr. Absent: Tammy Willey and Marguerite Wilson

PUBLIC HEARING:

- Drift Inn Canteen – Application for a Liquor License. This establishment was previously known as the Yard Bird Canteen. Chairperson Bates declared the Public Hearing open at 7:00 p.m. A member of the public asked if the business would be selling beer and wine or full liquor. Town Manager Polky believed it was for beer and wine. Selectperson Hall asked if one license covered both. Mr. Polky said no, two separate licenses would be required. Mr. Polky said this business needed to change its name due to a copyright infringement and had to reapply for a liquor license under the new name. Hearing no further comments, Chair Bates declared the Public Hearing closed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

REGULAR SESSION:

- Adjustments to Agenda: The following adjustments were made:
 - The Third Quarter Financial Review was moved to Regular Session
 - Review of Amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance and Site Plan Review Ordinance were moved to Regular Session
- Third Quarter Financial Review: Ms. Curtis and Selectperson Hall met with the Budget Committee to review the third quarter financial report. Budget Committee Chair Susy Ellis began the review and said the committee had questions in several areas.
 1. Property Maintenance – The budget was slightly over. Was maintenance done for the budget year? Mr. Polky said there were no big projects scheduled until after July 1, 2018.
 2. Professional Services – The Budget Committee had previously discussed this section and said the Select Board explanation was satisfactory.
 3. Select Board and Assessors - Why were there no assessing agent expenditures? Mr. Polky said the Assessor's agent did his work the first of this year, but he had not yet submitted a bill. Ms. Ellis asked if he billed once a year? Mr. Polky said he usually had billed by now, but he had more pick-up work (any changes triggered by permits or new sales, etc.) to do after April 1, 2018.
 4. Planning – There were no questions.
 5. Fire Department – There were no questions.
 6. Animal Control – There were no questions.
 7. Roads and Property Management – Was the paving for the salt shed going to take place this spring (2018)? Mr. Polky said the paving would only happen this spring, if the town could get a good deal. He said half of the paving (the most important part) had been done. Ms. Ellis stated, "The rest of the funds may not be spent, then?" Mr. Polky said that was correct. Ms. Ellis said, "The town would have the money in the budget in resurfacing and in contract services to pave the roads at the beginning of the new

budget year." Mr. Polky said yes. He said the request for bids were out and should be received by 3 p.m. on May 11, 2018.

8. Solid Waste – There were no questions.
9. General Assistance and Social & Community Services – There were no questions.
10. Recreation – Ballfield improvements. Ms. Curtis said ballfield improvements had been completed.
11. Harbors – There were no questions.
12. Unclassified – There were no questions.
13. Revenues & Miscellaneous Income – This line was reposted.
14. Building & Plumbing Fees – There was a decline in these fees. Mr. Ludman asked why there were fewer building permits than anticipated. Mr. Polky said this area was hard to estimate, but the amount was based on past numbers. He said building had not been as robust as they thought it would be. Ludman said it could say something about the health of the community. Chair Bates asked how plumbing fees were determined. Mr. Polky said the State of Maine had a schedule and the plumbing fees were based per fixture unit. Polky said building permit fees are set by the town and currently the town is charging \$2 per \$1,000 estimated cost of construction.

Chair Bates asked about yearly rental income at 10 Cold Storage Road. Was that principally the Island Transport? Ms. Curtis said it included Art Tibbetts and Hale Miller (seaweed harvester). She said the way the contracts are written, some pay monthly, some pay twice a year, some pay per use.

15. Reserve Accounts – Chair Bates asked why there was \$173 in the Fire Department Training Building Fund? He thought all the money had been transferred over to the Fire Department account. Curtis said there was still a balance, so there was still an allocation of interest every month. Ms. Ellis asked if that could get depleted at some point. Polky said once the Fire Department Training building was built, the plan was to put the building back in the town's name. He said the account currently remained open because the Fire Department did fund raising and for the grants.

Sewage correction in the reserve account - \$33,000. Mr. Polky explained that the sewage correction reserve account was a safety net for the plumbing inspector. If the inspector came across a property which needed sewage correction and the property owner(s) were not cooperative, this law allowed the inspector to go in and replace the homeowner's system. Mr. Polky said without any available money, the town could not replace the system and that was why the reserve was set up. He said, ultimately though, the property owner would be responsible for the cost of the system, as the town could place a lien on the property.

- Amendments to the Shoreland Zoning and Site Plan Review Ordinance: Chair Bates distributed the Planning Board's revised ordinances on Shoreland Zoning and Site Plan Review. These drafts were based on Attorney Kelly's review and comments in his written letter to the Planning Board, his comments at the public workshop, and comments from public input. Chair Bates noted that the draft ordinances had been re-written as stringently as possible while remaining lawful.

At the April 24, 2018 Planning Board meeting, members recommended the revisions of the ordinances go to the voters, but first it would require recommendations from the Select Board, and a vote. Chair Bates said he recommended voting on the two ordinances. He said a Public Hearing date had been set for May 22, and the plan was to place it on the June 12, 2018 ballot.

Selectperson Hall asked if the Planning Board had heard back from Attorney Kelley regarding his recommendations on the modifications the Planning Board had proposed. Chair Bates said Attorney Kelly got back to Michael Jordan and the members of the Planning Board on Friday. He had a couple of suggestions

which were non-substantive, and these could be discussed at the Public Hearing. Michael Jordan wrote to Chair Bates regarding Bill Kelly's letter: "Please see Bill Kelly's advice below. This takes care of my concerns, so unless anyone thinks otherwise, the Select Board should go ahead on Monday and the ad should be placed and other postings made for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 22, 2018."

Chair Bates will check with Planning Board Chair Anne Cox regarding the date and a time as the School Board Budget meeting is scheduled for May 22.

Selectperson Hall commented that there had been a lot of work done on the cable ordinance revisions.

Mr. Polky said one aspect that Attorney Kelly had been concerned about from the beginning was procedural issues. Polky said Attorney Kelly cautioned the Boards not to debate the issues by email, rather discuss them in public forums so that was why no one received an email on the changes.

On a motion by Selectperson Hall, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 4-0 to approve the amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance and the Site Plan Review Ordinances, and advise the Planning Board to move forward with the Public Hearing on May 22 and have a citizen's vote on June 12, 2018.

- Minutes: The Select Board minutes of April 9, 2018 were amended as follows:

Page 2, second full paragraph, line 2, change to read: ...did not follow state **statute**.

Page 2, second full paragraph, lines 2 & 3, correct to read: If it is against the law, **it** is against **the** law.

Page 2, paragraph 9, line 2, change to read: ... legal boundaries, **then** we ...

Page 2, paragraph 10, line 4, delete the word **neither**

On a motion by Selectperson Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, it was voted 4-0 to approve the Select Board minutes of April 9, 2017, as amended.

- Communications: None.

- Warrant: The warrant for the week of April 30, 2018 was reviewed and signed. The total expenses were \$157,668.43 and included three weeks of payroll, worker's compensation expenses that included an audit for 2017 and a normal worker's compensation bill, a purchase of extra microphones for the new sound system.

Selectperson Elwell suggested getting a podium with a microphone for the public to use. Mr. Polky thought it might discourage people from speaking and Sawyer thought it might be more difficult for those with handicap disabilities. Hall thought having at least two microphones was a good idea. Chair Bates suggested trying out the additional microphones, before making any other changes.

Chair Bates asked about the MMA worker's compensation audit. Ms. Curtis said the town estimates what the town's payroll will be for the following year. She said it was under estimated by \$1,821, because worker's comp was now picking up Election Clerk payroll, Select Board payroll, etc., which she had not reported on.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Committee Meetings:

The Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, 5/3/18 at 4 p.m.

- Town Website update: Mr. Polky said the town's new website should go on line the week of May 4, 2018. He believed employees and the public would like the new website. Mr. Polky said Cherie Yattaw and Beth Smith had worked hard to get the project ready to go on line, and he also thanked Richard Bates for his input.

- Bids for Paving: Mr. Polky said the town got their bids in early, so he hoped the town would be able to negotiate a good price and get the entire four and one-half (4 ½) miles of paving done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Solid Waste & Recycling Committee: Selectperson Willey was not in attendance, so SW&RC member Wendy Carr gave a report. Ms. Carr said she recently attended the Maine Recycling and Solid Waste Conference & Trade Show at the Samoset. She sat on a panel with three other presenters. Each presenter talked about how they accomplished recycling in a small town, and Ms. Carr discussed how St. George handled their recycling.

Chair Bates asked if the committee would be recommending any changes? Ms. Carr said no but looking to the future, she thought single sort would be coming. Carr said even though St. George was doing a great job having clean, good recyclables, the town did not produce very much, and the town was lumped in for sale to go to a particular market, like a plastic recycler. Other small towns experienced similar problems.

Chair Bates said St. George has a premium sort, but the town does not get paid for that. Selectperson Sawyer said the town does a great job recycling and asked if there were other towns doing as good a job as St. George? If so, could there be a cooperative with those towns? Ms. Carr said it was a good idea and the committee had talked about it, but it always came back to logistics and transportation costs. Selectperson Hall asked if the town compacted the plastic containers or just shipped them? Mr. Polky said the town compacted plastic into bales. He said up until the last year, recycling had been successful in teaming up with communities in the area, such as Waldoboro and Union; but some of those communities had gone to single sort, and St. George had lost their partnership with those towns.

Annual Spring Clean-up will be on May 12, 2018 – This event is held in conjunction with the pancake breakfast which benefits St. George Days.

- Ms. Carr said she would be at the town office at 7 a.m. with a map of the town on mylar and people would be able to sign on the map and pick their segment of the road for clean-up.
- On Monday, May 7, the map would be available in the large room at the town office and there would be a list of problem areas that often remain dirty after the spring clean-up. Safety vests would be available.
- On May 10 or May 11, some of the Bolduc Unit inmates are scheduled to do clean-up starting at the town line and go to Rt. 73.
- The transfer station would be open to receive the trash and recyclables and there would also be people in trucks driving around to pick up the bags. Carr said if people separated the recyclables on the side of the road, the committee would provide cat litter plastic bins for the recyclables.

- Cemetery Report: Selectperson Hall reported that the committee held their first meeting on April 25. They reviewed the Select Board's charge for the committee. They agreed that one of the priorities should be to develop a set of rules regarding the Seaside Cemetery, i.e., are vaults required, what is the set back for a stone from the edge of the plot line. The committee will review policy manuals from St. George and other towns to formulate a draft plan.

- Planning Board: They met at 7:00 p.m. on April 24.

The application at 74 Taylor Point Road, to add an entry and mudroom was deemed complete, and, satisfying the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance section 12.C, was approved.

The 4/18/18 version of the amendments to the Site Plan Review and the Shoreland Zoning ordinances were reviewed, approved and passed on to the Select Board for their review. The date and time on the Public Hearing for these revisions will be determined.

- Budget Committee: Selectperson Hall attended the committee meeting. During the meeting, Mr. Ludman requested to change his abstention to a no vote on 10 Cold Storage Road. It was explained to Mr. Ludman that he could not change his vote, after the fact. He said if he had read the letter sooner (that was currently circulating), he would probably have opposed the 10 Cold Storage Road project. Selectperson Hall explained to the committee that no more than five members could vote, and their notes appeared to say six members had voted. The committee said their vote was 3 in favor and 2 abstentions.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Select Board Policy Manual – The manual was approved on March 19, 2018. Per Cherie Yattaw, the cover page needed to be signed by the Select Board members. All Select Board members signed, with the exception of Selectperson Willey, who was absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Drift Inn Canteen Liquor License: A Public Hearing was held on 4/30/18 at 7 p.m. There were no objections. On a motion by Selectperson Hall, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 4-0 to approve the liquor license for the Drift Inn Canteen.

- Seaside Inn at Port Clyde Liquor License Renewal: On a motion by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Hall, it was voted 4-0 to approve the liquor license renewal for the Seaside Inn at Port Clyde.

- Miller's Lobster Company Liquor License Renewal: On a motion by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 4-0 to approve the liquor license renewal for Miller's Lobster Company.

- Knox County Assessor's Return: This item was tabled. The Knox County tax bill covered the tax year 2017 and had already been paid. This expenditure is voted on by the citizens at town meeting. The Select Board will review this item after town meeting. The motion by Selectperson Sawyer, seconded by Hall was withdrawn.

- Machias Savings Bank: Ms. Curtis stated that Machias Savings Bank needed verification from the Select Board stating Ms. Curtis and Mrs. Yattaw were allowed to change the signatures on the Machias Savings Bank account. The Select Board minutes could serve as verification. Ms. Black and Mr. Falla's names should be removed as they are no longer employed by the town. Timothy Polky's name was already on the account.

Ms. Curtis said there was \$500 in the account, and it was used as a placeholder for when the town had to go for the Tax Anticipation Notes. She said, at some point, the Administration may discuss the future of this account.

A motion was made by Selectperson Elwell, seconded by Hall, to allow Ms. Curtis and Mrs. Yattaw to change the signatures on the Machias Savings Bank account by having Margaret Black and John Falla's names removed and adding Elizabeth Curtis and Cherie Yattaw to the Machias Savings Bank account. The vote of the Select Board was 4-0; motion carried.

- Select Board Meeting Schedule:

A regular Select Board will be held on May 7, 2018 at 7 p.m.

A Select Board Reorganizational Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marguerite R. Wilson
Select Board Recording Secretary

