

ST. GEORGE SELECT BOARD & ASSESSORS
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 6, 2017

Board of Assessors

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. Members present were: Richard Bates, Chair; Randy Elwell, and Tammy Willey. Also present were Tim Polky, Town Manager; Bob Gingras, Marguerite Wilson, and Cherie Yattaw.

The Board reviewed and acted upon the following abatements. Letters and abatement notices will be sent out by Cherie on March 7.

1. Gardner Howe – Port Clyde Road
Mr. Howe feels his lot is not in deep water but in a cove and therefore, his land is over assessed. Mr. Gingras reviewed the property with Mr. Howe and determined that the property is being assessed the same as similar properties in the area using the appropriate methodology. It is being assessed in the mud flat category and not deep water. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, to deny the abatement. There was no further discussion. The vote was 3-0 to deny the application.
2. Bryce & Gail Molloy - 542 Wallston Road
The Board of Assessors did not review the Molloy's' abatement request as it is out of our jurisdiction at this time pending court action. No action will be taken until the court action has been settled.

Wayne Sawyer arrived at 6:20 p.m.

3. David Konieczny – Island Avenue
At this point in time this was a request to combine lots for tax purposes. In this particular subdivision he has to go before subdivision review to take it out and do the paperwork needed to combine the lots. If he gets it to us before taxes are committed for this year, the lots will be combined but no abatement will be granted. When he combines the lots, he will have a savings. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, to deny the application. There was no further discussion. The vote was 3-0-1 (Sawyer abstained/he did not hear the whole explanation for the denial and felt he should not vote) to deny the abatement. Lots will be combined once the paperwork has been received.
4. Amanda & Gary Camardo – 380 Wallston Road
He had an appraisal done for estate purposes not assessment purposes. Gingras explained that our assessments had to be fair and equitable and his property was assessed similar in comparison to other properties in his area. Gingras will be reviewing the property in the spring as the Camardos feel the buildings are not in good condition, a lot of renovations seem to be needed. A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Willey, to deny the application. There was no further discussion. The vote was 4-0 to deny the abatement.

5. Paul Gattozzi – 13 Third Street
Gingras recommended an abatement for this property. The owner owns 2 pieces of property. The back lot is where the house is located; the front lot goes to the water. The front lot has a septic system on it for the house. This lot probably cannot be built on; it is being utilized for the septic system. A motion was made by Willey, seconded by Elwell, to grant the abatement in the amount of \$416.64. The front lot assessment was \$158,300 and will be reduced to \$108,700 due to the change in the land assessment. There was no further discussion. The vote was 4-0 to grant the abatement.
6. Richard Schellens – Glenmere Road
He feels his land is over assessed. Gingras reviewed Mr. Schellens' property and compared to other properties in his neighborhood, he is assessed similar to his neighbors' properties. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to deny the application. There was no further discussion. The vote was 4-0 to deny the abatement as the property is assessed similar in comparison to other properties in his area.
7. William Reinhardt – 13 Crazy Point Lane
Gingras met with Reinhardt and denied his FEMA abatement but granted his wrong classification abatement. Reinhardt was paying a different base lot value compared to his neighbors. He was assessed in the wrong neighborhood. His current assessment is \$896,700 and will be reduced to \$761,700 due to the land value correction. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, to grant an abatement of \$1,134. There was no further discussion. The vote was 4-0 to grant the abatement.

John Axten (4 properties)

Mr. Axten wanted explanations on how the state of Maine assesses properties. Gingras explained the methodology involved and that Mr. Axten's properties were assessed in comparison to similar properties in his area, he understood how he was being assessed and had no issues.

The Board voted individually on 4 pieces of properties.

8. 34 Deep Cove Road – a motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to deny the application. The vote was 3-0-1 (Willey abstained)
9. 34 Coveside Lane – a motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to deny the application. The vote was 3-0-1 (Willey abstained)
10. 39 Deep Cove Lane – a motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to deny the application. The vote was 3-0-1 (Willey abstained)
11. Sibley Drive – a motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to deny the application. The vote was 3-0-1 (Willey abstained)

The Board of Appeals adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Select Board

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Richard Bates, Chair, Randy Elwell, Wayne Sawyer and Tammy Willey. Also present were: Town Manager Tim Polky, Elizabeth Curtis, Scott Vaitones, David Percival, Susan Ellis, Peter Lubs, Earl Ludman and Elizabeth May.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

REGULAR SESSION:

-Adjustments to the Agenda: Chair Bates requested meeting notices be placed at the end of New Business.

-Minutes: The minutes of February 27, 2017 were amended as follows:

Page 1, under Minutes correct the date to read, February **6**, 2017

Page 5, last paragraph, lines 3 and 5, correct P-K to **Pre-K**

Page 6, second paragraph, line 14, correct P-K to **Pre-K**

Page 6, second paragraph, lines 1 and 16, correct name from Alter to Deb **Armer**

Page 8, last paragraph under Planning, line 3, insert the word, unchanged **items**.

Page 10, under Solid Waste, add a bullet:

- **There was a discussion on the brush/wood line and with the uncertainty of the changing situation, we decided to keep the amount unchanged.**

On a motion made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 4-0 to approve the minutes, as amended.

-Communications:

- A Thank You Letter from Trekkers. Polky received a letter from Trekkers, thanking the Select Board for the town's donation of \$2,500 for this last year.

-A Notice from the Bureau of Alcohol Beverages. A notice was received from the Bureau of Alcohol Beverages stating there will be a public hearing in Augusta on March 24, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss agency liquor store license for the Tenants Harbor General Store.

-Renewal Agreement with Interstate Septic Systems. The yearly contract with Interstate Septic System was received. It will be discussed under New Business, Action Items.

-Letter from Alan Buttons. A letter was received from Alan Buttons. Selectperson Willey reached out to Mr. Skoglund to see if he could work on it. Mr. Buttons seems somewhat frustrated and asked for help; the Board has encouraged him to call Mr. Skoglund.

-Letter from Foster & Foster. The Select Board members received a letter from Foster & Foster about the audit. Chair Bates noted under Item #10, he (Foster) did not see the ledger of sick leave and vacation that the Town Manager has been keeping. Chair Bates said Polky assured him that Peggy Black takes care of this, so that was incorrect. He said Polky mentioned at the beginning of February, the audit was good, and when Mr. Falla left, he left all in order.

-Waypoints Booklet. Chair Bates and Polky received booklets from the Island Institute called Waypoints. It shows all the data and statistics about the peninsula and islands; such as income, the economy, impact of lobster in different towns up and down the coast, broadband access, affordable housing, etc. It is also online.

-Letter from the Business Alliance. The Select Board received a letter from the Business Alliance, inviting the Board to take out an ad in their visitor's newcomer's guide. Chair Bates felt the Alliance was great but did not think this was an issue for the Select Board. He asked the members for their input. Selectperson Sawyer was not sure what the Town would sell or advertise. They felt it was not pertinent to the Board.

-Warrant: The warrant for the week of March 6, 2017 was reviewed and signed by the Select Board. The total expenses were \$24,528.13 and included one week of invoices and one week of payroll.

Chair Bates asked about the email accounts getting paid, and Polky said Peggy Black was working on the issue. Because it came up with the Planning Board, Chair Bates told the Budget Committee anyone who deals with town business, could have their email accounts subpoenaed under the Freedom of Information Act. He said the Select Board and anyone else who volunteers on a town committee can have a town based email account.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS:

-Update on 10 Cold Storage Road: The Town Manager said it had been busy. This week, they hosted a Department of Energy Scoping Session about the Aqua Ventus project.

- The Town Budget: Polky and Curtis have been busy working on the Budget.

-Molloys' Appeals: Chair Bates said the issue between the Molloys and their neighbors is now at Superior Court. It is outside of the Planning Board's jurisdiction. He said the Select Board or any Board should not be commenting on the case. Polky said the public or those directly involved can comment; but any Town Official, member of a Board or volunteer member, cannot.

-Committee Meetings: Solid Waste Committee will meet on March 15, at 7:30 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-Conservation Commission: Selectperson Willey said the Conservation Commission (CC) met on March 2nd; their first order of business was education. The CC has three programs planned, so far, for 2017:

Wildlife Habitat – They are looking for locations for the event. It would be an evening meeting. Selectperson Willey suggested they go to the Town Office and have the meeting there.

Alewives Project – They are planning a meeting with an engineer on Tuesday, March 21st at the Marsh, to put together the best plan for a new dam and a fishway.

Town Foot Paths –Tentatively, scheduled for Saturday, May 6th the following paths will be cleaned: The School Nature Trail, Jones Brook, the Town Forest, and the Fort Point Trail. The committee will be looking for volunteers, and they will contact Trekkers to see if it is something they would like to be involved in as a community event. Chair Bates said it could be put in the May newsletter.

Solar Energy - There was a discussion about solar energy. The CC feels the PUC ruling is workable for St. George.

Energy Audit – The CC said the audit had been done by Evergreen. Chair Bates asked if an energy audit had been done or did they have an estimate for the cost of the audit? Polky said they did a basic audit but Evergreen does not do electricity, just heat loss. Selectperson Willey said the committee is waiting to hear what Evergreen says, and then would likely want a more comprehensive audit.

Watts Cove – The CC is following this case. They would like to see ordinance changes.

Action Plan – The CC reviewed their plan and will be submitting it to the Select Board.

Chair Bates asked if there were paths that the CC was not working on. Selectperson Willey said those were the four they mentioned. She did not know if there were others paths in St. George. Budget Committee member Ellis asked if the path from the tennis courts down to water was a town path. Selectperson Willey said she had never heard them mention that one. Chair Bates said they were working on the major paths and trails; Selectperson Willey said eventually, they will be going out to help with High Island.

-Planning Board Report: Chair Bates said the following applications were addressed:

- Construct a pier at 542 Wallston Road (denied by the Planning Board and remanded back to the Planning Board by the Board of Appeals). It has been tabled; the case has been appealed to the Superior Court.
- Shoreline stabilization at 37 Haskell Point Road voted complete and approved.
- Repairs to a structure at 3 Derbyshire Lane; add a ramp and float. There will be an onsite public hearing on Monday, March 13 at 5:30 p.m.
- Pre-application to construct a Tiki hut/barbeque pit at the Happy Clam, 13 River Road. The Board had various issues which need to be addressed before the application is submitted.
- Application to combine lots at 555 Island Avenue on Rackliff Island was tabled, as the Planning Board needed additional information from the Subdivision Association.

-Harbor Committee: Selectperson Elwell said the Harbor Committee met to discuss 10 Cold Storage Road. They did not finalize a plan but did agree on a plan that Noel Musson had prepared. Selectperson Elwell said there is a possibility; it may be ready for some fishermen to use this summer. Mr. Musson is working on a proposal for funding. Chair Bates said the fishermen who are interested in using the landing this summer made a list or requests. Selectperson Elwell said the fishermen came up with a three-option plan; but there are a lot of questions that need to be addressed.

OLD BUSINESS:

-Finalize Review of 2017-2018 Municipal Budget:

The Town Office:

- There was no change. Chair Bates recognized Budget Committee Chair Ellis. She said the Board wanted to make a recommendation regarding which CPI-W table and which specific website was used and have that information put into the employee/personnel manual. Ms. Ellis said they felt they should have a hard-core number to go to that is their Cost of Living Adjustment; the committee will make a recommendation on which table, what date and what website and present it to the Select Board.

Chair Bates agreed but said this issue is difficult. Chair Bates said of the four factors in the personnel policy, the CPI-W that is specified, which is the National CPI-W, is just one of four components. It says National CPI-W which pins it down to one specific index in the Bureau of Labor's website. The personnel policy does not specify the months which you use or is the averaging that is involved. There are fluctuations month to month. Ludman said if you are doing a year, there is no fluctuation of that; if there are multiple tables, it should be nailed down so there is no discretion involved. Chair Bates agreed it would be helpful, on that one of the four factors. He said there are four components that the personnel policy says shall be considered:

1. National CPI-W and other factors, such as:
2. Exemplary Performance

3. Improved Productivity
4. Labor market realities.

Chair Bates said the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Salary Reports are very helpful regarding the issues of salaries. He noted there were no surveys done in 2014 and 2015. In 2016, MMA brought the survey back and Chair Bates anticipates seeing a 2017 MMA survey this year. No further discussion.

A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to accept the Town Manager's proposed budget recommendation. The vote was 3-1, motion carried. Selectperson Willey felt the wage increase percentage should be lower based on what she read and Ludman's comments about the 0.3% Social Security. She felt the people who pay their taxes are not going to get an increase to cover their expenses. Chairperson Bates acknowledged her point and said there were many factors that determine the prevailing wage rates.

Select Board and Assessors:

- Select Board accepted the Town Manager's proposed budget recommendation. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. The vote was 3-1, motion passed.

Planning Department:

- Two changes in this department that the Select Board discussed that exceed the Town Manager's recommendation:
 1. Conservation Commission, they asked for additional \$1,000.00.
 2. Proposal to have an Energy Reserve Fund in the amount of \$20,000.00

Ms. Curtis asked if the Energy Audit Reserve should be on the Unclassified page and not on the Planning page. Chair Bates thought that was the discussion. Curtis said it was not a planning department expense; it is a town expense. It should be put under Unclassified. Selectperson Elwell thought the Board had agreed on that. The Board said an energy audit expense would be covered by the town administration. Polky said some of these requests should not be coming out of the CC. That is why they discussed putting the \$20,000 in unclassified.

Chair Bates stated the changes: The Select Board recommends the CC receive \$6,700 for their operations, excluding the energy audit. The difference between the Town Manager's recommendation under the Planning section and the Select Board's recommendation is \$1,000.00 with the extra \$1,000.00 going to the CC. A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to accept the proposed changes. The vote was 3-1; motion passed.

Public Safety:

- **Fire Department:** There were no changes. The Select Board accepted the Town Manager's proposed budget recommendation. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. No further discussion. A vote was taken, 3-1, motion passed.
- **Animal Control:** There were no changes. The Select Board recommended the Town Manager's proposed budget. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. No further discussion. A vote was taken, 4-0, motion passed.

Public Works:

Road and Property Management: S/S Shed Repave was changed to read Salt Shed Repave. Budget Chair Ellis asked if a job description had been written for the Property Manager and suggested the title of the position be changed to caretaker, coordinator, or maintenance. Polky said basically it would be combining all the town contracts, then formulating a job description. Vaitones said the Board's concern over the word Manager, is the public perception that a manager is being added to the budget. Polky said they would come up with a title other than manager. A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to accept the Town Manager's recommendation. No further discussion. A vote was taken, 3-1, motion passed.

Solid Waste: Curtis explained why the number of \$116, 940 was not the correct number. Last year's budget amount only had an extra \$10,000 for the part-time transfer station attendants. That was not adequate, so Town Manager increased it by \$15,000 for this budget. She said when she was doing the research for why that 7.1% was on that line, we realized we really needed to increase it by \$22,000 for the part-time transfer station attendants. Selectperson Elwell said that covered wages for the part-time employees, and she said yes. Chair Bates said when we review the budget for this current year; we will be over on that line, because we had to pay more for the part-time attendants than expected. Curtis said yes. Chair Bates said it should be adjusted for this coming year. Ludman asked if we knew why the transfer station went over budget last year from \$10,000 to \$22,000. Curtis said there were no notes or explanation of where the \$10,000 came from for this current year budget. She said they have what was actually expensed for this year. Ludman said when there is a difference between actual expenditures in a budget that is when you ask questions. Chair Bates said the question is: why the transfer station attendants were required to work the hours they were. Curtis said if you look at the year before, the Town expensed \$118,000 on that line. She said she was not sure why the \$109,000 was budgeted for this year. She said she thought that was where the error is. It is the budgeted number and she did not have the details of what made up that \$109,150 and why it was only an extra \$10,000 for the part-time attendants. Chair Bates asked what number should be in that category and Curtis said \$123,940. Chair Bates said they could look at the 2015-16 number of \$118,000 then skip last year because we think it was incorrect. Chair Bates said we do not understand that amount, but it seems plausible that in the years from 2015-16 to 2017-18, there would have been increases. Given we expended \$118,000 in 2015-16; it does not seem unreasonable we would be expending \$123,940.

Ludman said of the two possible explanations: 1. The \$10,000 was a mistake, or 2. We were throwing money around. The first explanation seems more plausible. Polky said the staffing at the Transfer Station had not changed. That is why it was confusing to us as to why we had this problem. Two part-time people work their hours so it works out to one full-position. We do not propose to change the staff; we plan to use the same number of employees. Ludman said he did not doubt there was a good explanation, he just wondered what it was. Chair Bates said the Select Board should recommend \$123,940.

Discussion: Selectperson Elwell said if it was a mistake, it was a mistake. He asked what the adjustment to the budget would be. Chair Bates said \$7,000 would be added, making the total amount \$485,581. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the adjusted total amount of \$485,581. A vote was taken, 3-1, motion passed.

Ludman asked if there was any effect on employee benefits. Curtis said very minimal. Social Security is a separate line item. Chair Ellis said that would have to have an adjustment. Chair Bates said we just voted on this but could amend it to \$9,500. The unemployment tax would change. Curtis said $\$7,000 \times 8\%$ would be \$560. Chairperson Bates said there are two options. The Select Board can deal with the overrun that may arise when we look at the fourth quarter review a year from now, or we can change the amount right now. Selectperson Elwell asked what amount. Curtis said another \$560. Chair Bates and Curtis said the rate is $\$7,000 \times 7.65\%$ and unemployment is 1.1%. The total adjusted amount is \$486,193.

Mr. Percival asked again about the Solid Waste Equipment Reserve is \$30,000. Last meeting Polky said he would like to use \$24,000 towards rebuilding the compactor.

The Select Board amended the Solid Waste budget to \$486,193. Selectperson Elwell made a motion, Sawyer seconded, to amend the Solid Waste budget, correcting the salary, and changes in the social security and unemployment taxes, totaling to \$486,193. A vote was taken, 3-1, motion passed.

General Assistance:

- There were no changes. The Select Board accepted the Town Manager's proposed recommendation. A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to accept the Town Manager's proposed recommendation. A vote was taken, 4-0, motion passed.

Social & Community Services:

- Health Equity Alliance did not respond to a request for more information.
- The Budget Committee talked at length about the library request. They would like to recommend \$40,000.00 covering the \$5,000 which was lost because of the timing on the grant. If the second anticipated grant did not get funded, the committee proposed the library return to the Select Board for an additional funding request. Chair Bates asked the Select Board's opinion. Selectperson Elwell agreed with the \$40,000 recommendation. Selectperson Sawyer and Chair Bates said they recommend \$50,000. Chair Bates said there is the question about whether the library will get the grant or not. He said they provide services to the community and in particular, to the school. The school classes go down regularly. He thought it was a good reason why Mr. Felton came down last week to endorse the extra money. Chair Bates said it is money well spent to have a strong working relationship between the school and the library. Chair Ellis said they did an extraordinary job. Ms. Willey said she got the sense, as the Budget committee did; they are not sure what is going on with the grant. She said the Pre-K serves 12 children, and is a good program. Currently, there is no fee to attend but thought they would eventually need to charge a fee, as their costs also rise each year. Chair Bates said he did not think their fundraising covered their costs. His opinion was if the library did not provide a free Pre-K, it would fall on the school because Pre-K is such an important part of children's education. There was further discussion on the interpretation of the library's funding request. Ludman said, in general, good documentation is necessary in justifying funding requests.

Selectperson Elwell's recommendation was to ask the library to come back to the Select Board if they did not get the grant, and then request it. Chair Bates thought what Mike Felton said was the school has these afterschool programs that take place in the library. That was why the library

needed more money. Percival supported the Pre-K program as a way of trying to get younger people to move into town. He noted, with real estate being rather high, having something like the Pre-K program might be an incentive. Vaitones said he found himself conflicted because he represents the school and represents the taxpayers. He said what he heard from Ms. Welch was a fear of losing the \$15,000 private grant from one person. If that happened, that would be very difficult for them. From a budget committee standpoint, he said he would rather have the library come back to the Select Board and say they lost this grant, we have this program, we need the taxpayers' help to continue it. He said he did not hear Ms. Welch say that she had added any staff. Chair Bates said the Budget committee is recommending \$40,000. If they have a funding gap in September, return and talk with the Boards because they recognize it is an important program.

Jackson Memorial Library line item: A motion was made by Willey, seconded by Elwell, to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation of \$40,000, with the understanding if Library has a budget gap due to grants, return to the Select Board and explain their need. A vote was taken, 3-1, motion passed.

- **Health Equity Alliance:** A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, to remove the line item Health Equity Alliance. A vote was taken, 4-0, motion passed.
- **Veterans Graves:** The Town Manager recommended \$5,125. for cemeteries, and an additional \$1,500 for the North Parish cemetery which was verified in a written note from former Town Manager Falla, to Selectperson Hall, totaling \$6,625. The Select Board is recommending \$1,500 more for cemeteries than the Town Manager recommended.

There were three changes to the Social & Community Services: Deletion of the Health Equity Alliance of \$500; increased cemeteries to \$6,626 (total); decreased the Jackson Memorial Library request to \$40,000.

Selectperson Willey asked if Neighbor-to-Neighbor was a one time, \$3,000. request. Percival said he did not know. Curtis said that was the discussion last week, and she made a note regarding that for next year's budget. Selectperson Elwell said he thought she said it was a one-time request because of insurance and setting up the Board. Selectperson Willey said she thought they had \$700 for fundraising and \$800 for advertising, and she did not understand the advertising, at all. She asked why, if it is specific to St. George, they couldn't go to the individual places, like Oddfellows, the granges, churches, American Legion and explain what they are doing. Percival said they did and they explained what it was all about. Selectperson Elwell said the eight members went to the Oddfellows Hall and spoke about the program. He said he did not think word was getting out, so he felt advertising would get the information out there quicker. There are a lot of requests coming in, so recruiting more drivers is another factor. Chair Bates said it is a volunteer organization and there is a need. He did not think the request would be a recurring charge. Ms. Willey said it is a good service but cited Ludman's earlier remark that it is difficult to justify going to the taxpayers and asking them to fund some of these program requests.

A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the recommendation of \$170,992. with removal of the Health Equity Alliance amount for \$500 and adjusting the funding for the Jackson Memorial Library to \$40,000. A vote was taken, the vote was 4-0, motion passed.

Parks and Recreation:

- There was no change to the Town Manager's recommendation. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the Town Manager's recommendation of \$96,237. No discussion. A vote was taken, 3-1, motion passed.

Harbors:

- There was no change to the Town Manager's recommendation. There was a question about the design and permitting capital cost and the planning fees cost from Noel Musson on the two charges. Polky recommended that those amounts be a separate item in the warrant and explained why. He said he wanted to make sure there was public input on this issue. As a separate item on the warrant, the town would hold a public hearing. Polky said the amount is for the planning, permitting and design. Curtis said it was \$4,000 for planning and \$24,600 for permitting and design. Chair Ellis asked if that was the full request for Cold Storage Road for the year. Polky said yes, it is for the planning and design for fiscal year 2017-2018. The actual construction would be probably fiscal year 2018-2019. Chair Bates suggested the Select Board take two votes. One, for the Harbors without those two amounts. Then one as a separate item, which would include the work on 10 Cold Storage Road.

Vaitones said he thought the Cold Storage project is incredible for this town. He had concern about Chadwick's comments and what he had seen himself; there are some people using the space now and other people that are excluded from it because they do not have a key. Chair Bates said it was not because they do not have a key. It is because they have not negotiated with the town to have access to it. That is what some of the fishermen in that group are attempting to do. Vaitones said the town really needs to develop a policy of what the use of that facility will be before you can actually develop the facility. Chair Bates said the Harbor Committee started to work on that last year but did not finalize their policies. At the last Harbor Committee meeting, a sub-group who worked on the plan last year, came up with policy. When the fishermen apply to use it this year, the Town will have a defined (hard and fast) policy to look at. For example, are they self-insured. The Island Transport which uses it is self-insured to \$400,000. Fishermen will need to have insurance to cover them. The policies will include that they are self-insured. Vaitones asked how you can design the facility if you do not know what the policy around the use is going to be. He said his use as a pleasure boater is different than a lobster-fisherman's. Would he be excluded from that? Selectperson Elwell said at the Thursday night meeting, the planned use is for both; one section is for commercial and one section is for recreational. Chadwick said they wanted to use it this year. In order to let them use it this year, the committee had to create a policy. For instance, the Island Transporter has a contract with the town. Art Tibbetts or Art Henry, for example, uses it on a short-term basis. Polky said the committee has looked at what the use will be when it is completed. They have done a good job and have changed the plan a little bit, so off season, the town can make it more useable for our working waterfront or commercial. During tourist season, it may be used more by the tourists. Polky said some of the fishermen want to use it now, and we are trying to work it out with them. Schmanska asked that group to write a list of requests as to what they absolutely need to have there and what they propose. Polky said he felt the most important issue was to formulate a

policy and a plan for the completed project. Vaitones said he would support Polky's suggestion of separating this as a separate warrant item. No further discussion.

A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to accept the Town Manager's recommended \$198,313 under the Harbor Department. The vote was taken 3-1, motion carried.

A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the Town Manager's recommendation to make 10 Cold Storage Road a separate warrant item, budgeting \$4,000 for planning fees and \$24,600 for design and permitting. No further discussion. The vote was taken, 4-0, motion carried.

Unclassified:

- Chair Bates said the Energy Reserve Fund of \$20,000 has moved from the Capital account to Unclassified.

Family Health Contingent – There is a change in the amount recommended. Chair Bates said when Town employees were first offered Family Health, the Town did not know how many of them would take it. We have a better idea now, because the program has been in place for a year. The Town Manager and Finance Director reviewed this. Their recommendation is \$25,000. This gives some latitude for staff that will retire and new staff that may be hired who might want to take advantage of the plan. No further discussion. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to accept the Town Manager's proposed recommendation of \$88,141. The vote was taken, 3-1, motion carried. Selectperson Willey explained the Town is still paying the Family Health at 75% and when it was discussed last year, she felt it should be lower.

Chair Ellis reported that the Budget committee voted to support the budget as amended by the Select Board at tonight's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Notice from the Maine Bureau of Alcohol: The Town Manager said the Maine Bureau of Alcohol is asking the Municipal Offices to waive the public hearing. After five years, an establishment can ask for a waiver. Polky added as long as a business has not had any problems, they do not need to have a Public Hearing. Their renewal needs to be placed on the agenda and acted upon. It is then sent to the state where the license gets issued. Selectperson Willey asked if a business can by-pass the Town and go directly to the State; Polky said no. Polky also explained that the Maine Bureau of Alcohol wants municipalities to document issues, if they do not want to grant a business a liquor license; but a business can still be granted a license by the State of Maine Bureau of Alcohol. Chair Bates said if it were some egregious behavior there would probably have to be a public hearing.

Craignair Inn Liquor License Application: A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to waive the Craignair Inn's Public Hearing. The vote was taken, 4-0, motion passed. The public hearing was waived. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, to grant the liquor license application to the Craignair Inn. The vote was taken, 4-0, motion passed.

Interstate Septic System agreement. Polky presented the Interstate Septic System agreement. He said the Town pays Interstate a yearly fee of \$2,300. Individuals pay for their own pumping but the town has

to have an agreement before they can take St. George residents' septic waste. A motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to accept the Interstate Septic System agreement for 2017. The vote was taken, 4-0, motion passed.

Chair Bates asked Jake Ward of Aqua Ventus to give a presentation for the Select Board at their next meeting, March 20. Members of the public are invited. He felt they addressed some issues but did not give a lot of information to where the cabling would go in Port Clyde, and how that might affect the public's views. Selectperson Elwell said many people were confused about the presentation.

Selectperson Elwell said there was a Harbor Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 14.

Chair Bates said Selectperson Willey had asked about having Mike Felton and Scott Vaitones do a review of the school budget. Mr. Felton suggested Monday, April 3. That would give the school board a few weeks to work through the proposed budget and make any changes before it was presented.

Chair Bates said that in the Town Charter, the Town Manager has a probationary period of at least six months with a review and written evaluation by the Select Board, every two months. Chair Bates and Selectperson Sawyer will meet with Polky at the beginning of April, to start the review process. Other members of the Select Board can give input to Chair Bates or Selectperson Sawyer.

Hearing no other items for discussion, a motion was made by Sawyer, seconded by Elwell, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marguerite R. Wilson
Select Board Recording Secretary