

**ST. GEORGE SELECT BOARD & ASSESSORS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, March 20, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were: Richard Bates, Chairman; Randy Elwell, Jerry Hall, Wayne Sawyer and Tammy Willey. Also present were: Town Manager Tim Polky, Elizabeth Curtis, Karol and Jack McGee, Wendy Carr, Carla Skinder, Jake Ward, Damian Brody, Josh Plourde, Suzanne Hall, Pat Hughes, Robert T. Hughes, John M. Falla, Susan Bates, Sandra Roak, Steve Thomas, Evelyn Blum, Sandra Coggeshall, Richard Cohen, Dan Morris, and Jerry Cushman.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

East Wind Inn Liquor License Application: Chair Bates presented the renewal license and asked for public comments. There were none and the public hearing was closed.

Seaside Inn Liquor License Application: Chair Bates presented the renewal license and asked for public comments. There were none and the public hearing was closed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**REGULAR SESSION:**

Adjustments to Agenda: Selectperson Hall had two proposed changes: the presentation by Aqua Ventus be moved from New Business and placed under Regular session; the policy manual discussion items be moved from Old Business to the end of the agenda and addressed, if time permitted.

Aqua Ventus Presentation: Chair Bates introduced the four members from Aqua Ventus consortium. The Select Board and members of the public were invited to participate. Chair Bates asked the public to refrain from making statements but to ask in the form of a question. He said if anyone had comments about the project, and they wanted them on the record, they could be submitted to the Department of Energy. Chair Bates said tonight's meeting was not a public hearing. The Aqua Ventus team gave a 40-minute presentation on the Offshore Wind Demonstration Project and their proposed plan. They are asking the St. George Select Board for direction on what their options might be, including use of 10 Cold Storage Road as a potential landing site.

Some of the benefits to the local community include: sharing all the survey results on shellfish and aquaculture activities, easements for the land and tax payments for the personal property, a newer line and perhaps a more reliable line to Port Clyde, a power upgrade for anyone who needs a larger power supply and local employment opportunities. Benefits to the state and the nation: it is one of the largest sources of domestic power. There is a chance to create some economic development through jobs and manufacturing. Aqua Ventus said they are committed to strengthening island coastal communities, looking for a responsible way to locate units where there is the least amount of impact.

There were many questions from the Select Board and the public. Some of those were:

- How could this project benefit Monhegan Island residents?
- Where would the control room (substation) be located?
- What were the safety issues of running a 34 KB line through Port Clyde?
- Is there a radius around the turbine that the fishermen cannot fish?
- Could the lines be buried? What would be the cost of burying the cable?

- What State and Federal permits would be required and would there be a Section 106 review for the village of Port Clyde? How long will you be collecting data?
- What was the size of the turbine compared to Vinalhaven?
- So, you are going to hang a bunch more wires through the village of Port Clyde? Is there any advantage to Port Clyde in all of this?
- What is the impact to birds, bats and mammals?

Chair Bates said there is a lot of work that needs to be done on this issue and it will be discussed at the next Select Board meeting. Chair Bates anticipates there will be more meetings and public hearings in the coming weeks.

Minutes: The minutes of March 6, 2017, Select Board meeting were amended as follows:

Page 2, paragraph 3, line 2, change

Page 3, under Adjustments to the Agenda: change to read notices be placed **at** the end...

Page 3, under Communications:

paragraph 4, change to read Letter from **Alan Buttons**.

paragraph 4, line 2, change to **Mr. Buttons** seems ...

paragraph 5, line 3, change name from Margret to **Peggy**

Page 4, under Town Manager's Reports, line 1 change to This week, they **hosted a Department of Energy Scoping Session about the Aqua Ventus project.**

Page 4, second to last indent under Watts Cove, delete sentence **They are expecting...in the future or.** Start new sentence **They would like...**

Page 6, paragraph 2:

line 2, change to read Selectperson Willey felt the **wage increase** percentage

line 3, change to read should be lower based on what she read and Ludman's comments about the **0.3% Social Security** increase.

line 4, delete section **She said it does not figure into this whole thing, but**

line 4, start new sentence **She felt the people...**

Page 9, last paragraph, second to last line, change to read good service **but** cited . . .

Page 11, under Unclassified, first line change to the Energy Reserve **Fund**

On a motion by Sawyer, seconded by Willey, it was voted 4-0-1 (1 abstention) to approve the minutes of March 6, 2017, as amended.

Board of Assessors: The minutes of the March 6, 2017 Board of Assessors meeting were amended as follows:

Item #7, second line change to read Gingras **met with Reinhardt and denied his FEMA abatement but granted his wrong classification abatement.**

Items #8, 9, 10, 11, change the vote to **3-0-1**

On a motion by Sawyer, seconded by Willey, it was voted 4-0, 1 abstention, to approve the minutes of March 6, 2017, as amended.

Communications:

A letter was received from Lifeflight Foundation thanking the town for the \$648 donation, and a note from the Knox Clinic thanking the town for the \$2,000 donation.

A letter from Sheriff Donna Dennison was received regarding the Animal Control issue. Dennison said they are not able to offer the town any services, at this time.

A letter was received requesting an application for the Animal Control Officer position. Polky said an application had been sent out.

Selectperson Willey received a poster from the Conservation Committee highlighting an upcoming event to be held at the Owls Head Transportation Museum, on Sunday, March 26, 2017, at 2 p.m. The discussion will be on Ticks.

Warrant: The warrant for the week of March 20, 2017 was reviewed and signed by the Select Board. The total expenses were \$465,766.04. This expense included three weeks of payroll including this week's payroll, two weeks of invoices, and a school payment of \$396,754.17 for March. Polky said that Tim Hoppe is making progress on the wood chipping at the Transfer Station and expects the town will soon be shipping it to his facility which should be more cost effective.

#### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Solid Waste Committee meeting is Wednesday. The time changed to 7:15 a.m.
- Harbor Committee meeting is Wednesday at 6 p.m. to discuss 10 Cold Storage Road
- Solar Committee is meeting Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at the town office
- Planning Board Meeting, Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Selectperson Elwell said the Comprehensive Plan met Thursday night. The committee is making progress on the plan and would like to have it finalized so it can go to the State for review. Since the town is holding a school referendum in June, Polky would like to see the updated Comprehensive Plan on the ballot.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

-Abatements: There were two abatements: William Reinhardt and Paul and Laureene Gattozzi. On a motion by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 5-0, to approve the abatements.

-Policy Manual: Policy manual updates were postponed.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

East Wind Inn Liquor License Application: On a motion made by Willey, seconded by Elwell, it was voted 5-0, to approve the liquor license for the East Wind Inn.

Seaside Inn Liquor License Application: On a motion made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, it was voted 5-0, to approve the liquor license for the Seaside Inn.

A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Willey, to extend the meeting time beyond 9 p.m. The vote was 4-0-1 (abstention). The motion passed.

#### -Review of the Town Meeting Warrant Articles:

Chair Bates asked for comments on the draft of warrants. Sawyer asked if Article 19, to transfer funds up to \$25,000 in order to cover line item overdrafts, was enough. He thought the Select Board had asked for a slight increase last year but did not get it. Selectperson Hall said, as long as the town was

within the appropriations, in total, he was in favor of requesting an increase and suggested \$50,000. Consensus was met. Chair Bates said the Budget Committee will need to meet and review the Warrant Article changes.

Selectperson Hall asked if everyone was comfortable with the amount under Article 4, \$4,000 for planning and \$24,000 for permitting and design for 10 Cold Storage Road. Polky, Elwell and Chair Bates said those were the amounts that Noel Musson had presented to them. Polky said the major issue will be permitting and that is what these amounts reflect. Chair Bates said there will be a public hearing on 10 Cold Storage Road, the proposed date is April 20<sup>th</sup> but it will depend on the Harbor Committee's decision on Wednesday.

Selectperson Willey asked if the Public Safety-Animal Control Officer, under Article 8, would receive a 3% raise? Polky said no. Curtis said the amount was the same as last year.

On a motion by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, it was voted 5-0 to accept the Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

Town Manager Polky said the town needs to appoint a shellfish warden. A motion was made by Elwell, seconded by Sawyer, to appoint John Hansen as the town's shellfish warden through December 31, 2017. The vote was 5-0. The Select Board signed the Certificate of Appointment.

Chair Bates said one of the agenda items for next week will be discussion regarding Aqua Ventus and the public comments that were heard. He said Cushman was quite adamant that burying the cable through Port Clyde was not practical and he (Bates) could understand why the public may not want high voltage cables running through the center of Port Clyde up to Rt. 73. Elwell asked if the Board should contact the town of New Harbor to see why they rejected the plan. Chair Bates said he would do that. Polky said one suggestion made was to have an article on the warrant for town meeting but he did not feel there was enough time get that done. Polky felt the town needed more meetings and to get more information out and back from the public. Selectperson Hall thought the lines could possibly be put underground. Selectperson Elwell asked if CMP could come in to talk with the Select Board. It will be discussed at the next meeting. No further discussion.

At 9:20 p.m., on a motion by Elwell, seconded by Hall, it was voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marguerite R. Wilson  
Select Board Recording Secretary

Reminders:

- Next Regular Select Board/Board of Assessors Meeting, Monday, March 27
- Review of School Budget by Mike Felton and Scott Vaitones, Monday, April 3