

TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN MEETING
TREMONT COMMUNITY BUILDING
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2005
6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Alden Gray called the March 21, 2005 Selectmen Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Alden Gray, Selectmen Dean Tozier, Charlie Dillon, Scott Grierson, Steve Harper, Town Manager Millard Billings.

Members of the public present were David Kelley, Maurice Joseph Marshall, Jay L Sutter, Marty Lyons, Mel Atherton, Nancy Thurlow, Peter Campbell, Rob Lielow, Mark Good with the Islander, Laurie Schrieber with the Bar Harbor Times.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

“Don’t know of any at the moment,” said Chairman Gray.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectman Scott Grierson asked to have 15. A. 4. Island Explorer changed from “Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.” to “Motion passed by a show of hands 3-1, Selectman Scott Grierson opposed.”

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Scott Grierson, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed by a show of hands 3-0-1, Selectman Dean Tozier abstained; he was not present at the meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 119 4,554.94

Warrant 120 4,448.00

Warrant 121 23,926.43

Warrant 122 3,156.50

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to accept Warrants 119 – 122. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

6. POLICE PROTECTION

A. STATE POLICE

Town Manager Billings told the Selectmen, “On March 9th the joint committee of Criminal Justice and Public Safety made their recommendations and they recommended LD 102 ought to pass, and LD 534 ought not to pass. LD 102 was the bill that would allow the State Police to contract on a part time basis and LD 534 was the one that would prohibit the State Police from doing any contracting with municipalities. So they’ve made those recommendations that are favorable to Tremont and now it will go on to legislature. Depending on when legislature

actually acts on it, it still wouldn't go into effect until ninety days after they approve it. So we could be looking again at fall."

B. HANCOCK COUNTY SHERIFF

No new information to report

C. SOUTHWEST HARBOR POLICE DEPT.

Chairman Gray asked, "I get the feeling that until they do some renovations they wouldn't be capable at this time either?" Selectman Dillon, who was at the workshop between Southwest Harbor Selectmen, Tremont Selectmen and Southwest Harbor Police, responded, "That's right. They asked Mr. Chapais to crunch the numbers the meeting before, which he did. They included the numbers for us, but in the letter that Mr. Chapais wrote to the Selectmen he said that the additional manpower and coverage would increase his complaint volume and that the existing Police Department is not adequate due to space constraints to accommodate this proposed increase. He says further he does not wish to undertake the suggested proposed contract until conditions changed. So we got some numbers but they are not interested in doing anything until they change their conditions for their Police Office. They don't have room in that office to incarcerate or interrogate or otherwise take on more responsibility then they have now. And they mentioned the fact that the Fire Department is moving out and in the future they may increase the Police Department. The Selectmen didn't think that was anything that was going to happen right away because of the money they're spending on the Fire Department." Selectman Grierson said, "They will have more space then they have currently when the Fire Department moves out, but he didn't think that would be adequate to do that. . . It seemed as though they wanted a new Police Station some place else and at that time they'd be interested."

D. MOUNT DESERT POLICE DEPT.

No new information to report at this time.

E. TREMONT POLICE DEPT.

No new information to report at this time.

F. CITIZEN CORRESPONDENCE

Two instances of lobster theft have been reported at Thurston's Wharf.

Town Manager Millard Billings read from a letter he received from the Hancock County Commissioners addressed to Municipal Officers and Police Chiefs for an Annual Law Enforcement Meeting (see attached).

Town Manager Millard Billings will draft a letter for the Hancock County Commissioners Annual Law Enforcement Meeting.

7. ANNUAL BUDGET

A. SOUTHWEST HARBOR/TREMONT NURSING SERVICE

Chairman Gray said to Jay Sutter and Joey Marshall, with the Southwest Harbor/Tremont Nursing Service Inc., "We got wind from one of the Firemen that the ambulance is leaving Tremont. We just wondered if that was going to affect anything." Mr. Marshall's response was, "At this point we have not been notified of anything in connection with a move from Bass Harbor to Southwest." Selectmen Grierson asked, "You don't know your leaving?" The answer was, "No." Mr. Sutter continued, "The ambulance that's housed in Bass Harbor is our secondary ambulance. All emergency calls in Southwest Harbor or Tremont are answered by the ambulance in Southwest Harbor, and where we have a duty attendant on duty 24 – 7. That's the fastest response as we can possibly do. The only time that Bass Harbor unit would go out is if our primary unit is already out on a call." Chairman Gray said, "I understand originally when they brought the one to Tremont it was to facilitate faster response to calls over in this area." Mr. Sutter replied, "It could have been. We weren't involved in the ambulance service." Mr. Marshall went on to say, "The other thing if I understand the question dealt with the drug box. If that unit has to be activated the drug box is normally put to the scene by our Police Department." Selectman Dillon asked, "Do you have two drug boxes?" Mr. Marshall replied, "Yes, one for each rig. The reason we don't keep it here, it's to tempting, because the building isn't manned. The building has been broken into, so was our ambulance." Selectman Dillon said, "So even if the ambulance leaves town nothing will change." Both Mr. Marshall and Mr. Sutter agreed.

Motion made by Selectman Dean Tozier, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to recommend the Southwest Harbor /Tremont Nursing Service Inc. budget request of \$28,034.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

Mr. Marshall said, "Gentlemen, it has been a project of the ambulance to try every year to give back to the towns some funds we don't use." Mr. Marshall presented a check to the Selectmen for \$480.00.

B. HARBOR HOUSE

Scott Phelps of Harbor House explained the \$15.00 registration fee pays the initial costs of signing up for a program's season. Town Manager Millard Billings asked, "It's a maximum of \$15.00 per activity per season?" Mr. Phelps agreed.

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Steve Harper, recommend passage of the \$10,000.00 for Harbor House. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to abandon the agenda and move to 9. B. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

8. AGENDA ITEM 9. B. Wharf Garage Rental

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to rent the Wharf Garage to David Kelley for \$8,400.00 a year. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

Selectman Charlie Dillon suggested a \$500.00 Security Deposit.

Motion made by Selectman Dean Tozier, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to return to the agenda 7. C. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

9. AGENDA ITEM 7. ANNUAL BUDGET C. SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Principal Peter Campbell presented the Tremont School Department's Budget to the Selectmen (see attached). Nancy Thurlow explained Article 5 should be \$915,900 and the total for Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 is 2,107,288. And the Town appropriation (total of Articles 3, 4 & 5) should be 1,925,186. According to Nancy Thurlow the School is expecting \$155,000 from the State.

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Scott Grierson, to recommend School Board Budget, Articles 3 – 12. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

10. AGENDA ITEM 7. D. BOARDS & COMMITTEES REQUESTS

A. Fire Department requested \$36,550.00

Warrant Committee recommends \$36,550.00

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Steve Harper, to recommend \$36,550.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

B. Acadia Disposal District requested \$2,820.85

Warrant Committee recommends \$2,820.85

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to recommend \$2,820.85. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

C. Library requested \$24,600.00

Warrant Committee recommends \$24,600.00

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to recommend \$24,600.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

D. Board Of Appeals requested \$1,500.00

Warrant Committee recommends \$1,500.00

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to recommend \$1,500.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

E. Historical Society requested \$2,500.00

Warrant Committee recommends \$2,500.00

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Scott Grierson, to recommend \$2,500.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

F. Planning Board requested \$8,500.00

Warrant Committee recommends \$8,500.00

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to recommend \$8,500.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

G. Comprehensive Plan requested \$5,321.00

Warrant Committee recommends \$5,321.00

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Scott Grierson, to recommend raising \$5,321.00 from surplus. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

- H. Tremont Solid Waste Committee requested \$2,500.00
Warrant Committee recommends \$2,500.00

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Steve Harper, to recommend \$2,500.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

- I. E9-11 requested \$191.49
Warrant Committee recommends \$191.49

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to recommend \$191.49. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

- J. Recreation Board requested \$1,500.00
Warrant Committee recommends \$1,500.00

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Scott Grierson, to recommend \$1,500.00 plus any unspent money from 2004-2005. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

- K. Seal Cove Rec. Facility Reserve requested \$2,000.00
Warrant Committee recommends \$2,000.00

The Selectmen decided to invite a representative from the Seal Cove Rec. Facility to their next meeting.

11. AGENDA ITEM 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. REQUEST TOWN ATTORNEY COLLECT UNPAID 2004 LICENSES

Town Manager Millard Billings explained to the Selectmen that there are three residents who have not paid their 2004 Dog Licenses and they need to be turned over to the Attorney to collect the unpaid license and late fees.

Motion made by Selectman Dean Tozier, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to turn the unpaid 2004 Dog Licenses over to the Town Attorney for collection in court. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

B. ADOPTION OF 2005 MODERATOR'S MANUAL

Motion made by Selectman Scott Grierson, with second by Selectman Steve Harper, to recommend the adoption of the 2005 Moderator's Manual be put at the beginning of the Warrant for Town Meeting. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

C. LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF SELECTMAN

Selectman Scott Grierson advised the Board he would be away for two months and would not be present for Town Meeting, he will be leaving some time after March 28th. Mel Atherton suggested Selectman Grierson submit his resignation. Selectman Grierson replied, "I considered that and discussed that with our Town Manager." Chairman Gray said, "I think if you go by our By-laws, if you miss

three consecutive meetings you have to submit a resignation.” Selectman Grierson said, “Whether the Board accepts that is out of my hands.” Mr. Atherton said, “If you miss that many meeting you ought to resign.” Selectmen Grierson replied, “I take my service to the public very seriously. If I thought it would impact the town and it would have been more prudent to resign, I would have resigned.”

12. AGENDA ITEM 9. OLD BUSINESS A.

A. PROPOSAL FOR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Steve Harper, to purchase the camera equipment for the Tremont Gym and the Town Dock from TLC Lock Co. as proposed on March 8th. With the Rec. Board paying \$2,485.00 and the Wharf Reserve paying \$1,846.00. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

13. AGENDA ITEM 10. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

A. Town Manager Millard Billings told the Selectmen about the State of Maine Harbormaster’s Association spring training session at Maine Maritime Academy, Castine, April 15, 16 & 17. Total cost \$230.00 witch includes lodging, meals, course fee, membership and manual.

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to send our Harbormaster to the training at Maine Maritime Academy. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to abandon the agenda and move to Agenda Item 12 Other. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0.

14. AGENDA ITEM 12. OTHER

Selectman Harper asked what is happening with the gym floor. Town Manager Billings replied, “The recommendation from Space Design was wait till after school closed.”

Selectman Dillon asked about the petition about the roads 102 & 102A. Chairman Gray replied that it was going to the State Highway Department from the signed voters. Selectman Dillon suggested asking the State for their repair orders for the next year so the voters could be informed. Selectman Dillon went on to say, “I’ve had a lot of people ask me what we can do as a town to put some pressure on them to see what they’ve got on the agenda.”

Town Manager Billings suggested the conclusion of his report be done next week in Executive Session.

15. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Steve Harper, with second by Selectman Dean Tozier, to adjourn. Motion passed by a show of hands 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Alden Gray

Steve Harper

Scott Grierson

Charlie Dillon

Dean Tozier