

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT COMMUNITY BUILDING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2006
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Scott Grierson called the January 9, 2006 Regular Selectmen's Meeting to order at 6:13 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Scott Grierson, Selectmen Charlie Dillon, Heath Higgins, Kathi Thurston, Town Manager Millard Billings, Recording Secretary Debbi Nickerson.

Members of the public present were Mark Good – Islander, Mel Atherton, Curt Bartram – CES, Laurie Schreiber – Bar Harbor Times, and Peter Campbell.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Because the electricity was out in town and the meeting was being held under the emergency lights in the school, it was thought that the agenda would be adjusted as needed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2005

Selectmen Charlie Dillon asked to have page 5, number 3 changed from *Tamp* to *Ramp*.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to accept December 12th minutes as amended. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 74 34.44

Warrant 75 4,098.61

Warrant 76 9,126.70

Warrant 77 4,194.65

Warrant 78 57,503.19

Warrant 79 8,934.10

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to accept warrants 74 – 79. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

Peter Campbell explained that the budget this year will look different because of legislation called "Essential School Services" which dictates where particular money is shown on the budget and how it is being spent. An example of this is

any money spent on Kindergarten to Second Grade needs to be broken out from the rest of the budget. Rob Lielow has created a budget for this year that looks like last years budget. Mr. Campbell explained there is more money in salaries this year because the Island is standardizing teacher salaries. There will also be one more Kindergarten teacher and supplies for the new Kindergarten class. Fuel oil costs will increase the budget next year, as well as the rental of the old town office space. Mr. Campbell took the utilities from FY 2005 for the space and added the cost of repairs to budget the lease for the space. He feels the school should be responsible for the repairs in the old town office. The amount he came up with was \$22,600.00.

Chairman Scott Grierson expressed sentiments for everyone when he said to Mr. Campbell, "We will miss you. It has been a pleasure working with you. And you've been more then fair and reasonable with us and honest with us and we appreciate that."

B. UPDATE NEW TOWN OFFICE

CES had questions on the heating of the new town office and brought along Curt Bartram who will be designing the HVAC. Jim Lacaty was also there from CES filling in for Greg Johnston, who was on vacation. Dave Merritt gave out copies of the latest design of the new town office (available at the town office).

Curt Bartram explained that radiant heat was more efficient, but if the building is air-conditioned there would be other requirements that would require two types of vents, etc. Mr. Bartram said it would cost about \$40,000.00 for air-conditioning. The Selectmen agreed not to air-condition the new town office.

Town Manager Millard Billings asked CES if they would have the designs and specifications done by January 16, 2005 as the contract calls for. CES felt they needed a little more time.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to extend the final plan/contract with CES to the 30th. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

C. APPROVAL OF 2005 AUDIT

The Selectmen chose to table this until the next meeting.

D. APPROVAL OF BID PROPOSAL FOR SNOW PLOWING

Some of the town's parking lots have been removed from the bid proposals for snow plowing for the winter of 2006-2007 (see attached).

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to accept the winter road maintenance bid package as presented. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

E. CONTRACT WITH SMALL ANIMAL CLINIC

See attached letter and contract.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to enter into a contract for these services with the Small Animal Clinic. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

F. AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER PURCHASE AND SALES AGREEMENT

Town Manager Millard Billings asked the Selectmen for authority to sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement for the Town of Tremont.

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Purchase and Sales Agreement. Motion passed by a voice vote 3-0-1. Selectman Kathi Thurston abstained stating she had unanswered questions.

Town Manager Millard Billings said the Seller's Attorney had reviewed the contract and requested having the extension of time eliminated. Without that extension in the contract the town would have to close on the property by May 30th.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, scratch Item 3 from the contract to purchase the land. Motion passed by a voice vote 3-0-1. Selectman Kathi Thurston stating she had unanswered questions.

Chairman Scott Grierson apologized to Selectman Thurston explaining he had not meant to stifle general questions and conversation; he just didn't want to go into executive session. He then invited her to ask her questions saying, "You are welcome to speak any time." Selectman Thurston asked about Wayne Libhart's involvement in the contract. Town Manager Millard Billings explained Mr. Libhart had volunteered to write the contract to save the town the money it would have had to pay the Town Attorney. Selectman Heath Higgins felt Mr. Libhart had saved the town as much as \$1,500.00.

G. REQUEST TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE LAND USE COMMITTEE

Maynard Young, Chairman of the Land Use Committee, has requested to change the name of the committee to the Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to change the Land Use Ordinance Committee to the Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee. Motion passed by a voice vote 3-0-1. Chairman Scott Grierson abstained – he is on the committee.

H. APPOINTMENTS

None

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. STATE ROADS

Town Manager Billings has not received any new information.

B. PARKING ISSUES IN TREMONT

The Harbor Committee submitted a letter to the Board of Selectmen (see attached). Scott Swan, speaking for the Gott's Island residents, asked the Selectmen to not take any action until after next summer. The residents would have a chance to explore their options and maybe solve the problem.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to table this request until October 2006. Motion passed by a show of

hands 4-0. Selectman Charlie Dillon requested a letter be sent to the Harbor Committee explaining the Selectmen's action.

C. ANNUAL BUDGET

Motion made by Selectman Kathi Thurston, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to table budget discussion until the next Selectman's Meeting. Motion passed by a voice vote 4-0.

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Jessica Damon of DEP and an agent from DMR will be here January 12, 2006 at 10:30 to review the Dredge Project inter-tidal mediation.
2. Bob Birk of Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management will be here January 11, 2006 to review proposed well site at new Town Office.
3. The Harbor Master's Shack has been shingled by Public Works employee Jimmy Schlaefer.
4. Blasting has been completed at Town Office Site and rubble moved to rear of lot.
5. Ceiling fans have been replaced in the Gym.
6. Webber Oil has been here to inspect furnaces in Wharf House and Town Garage to be placed on Presidential Plan with Webber.
7. Harbor Committee voted to have a new furnace installed by H G Reed's at the Wharf Garage. This has been ordered.
8. Other

The Harbor Committee would like to extend the Harbor Master search.

Motion made by Selectman Kathi Thurston, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to extend the closing date to applications for Harbor Master to February 15, 2006. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

9. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Budget and CES if necessary

10. OTHER

Chairman Scott Grierson asked if the town could have some kind of participation in Community Service for High School Students and Town Manager Millard Billings to coordinate with the High School.

11. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

January 16, 2006 and January 23, 2006. With a workshop on the 16th if CES deems it necessary.

12. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to adjourn. The motion passed by a show of hands 4-0. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm.