

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT COMMUNITY BUILDING
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2006
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The May 1, 2006 Selectmen's Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Member of the public present were Steve Wilson, Thomas King, Robert King, Clayton Gilley, Stewart Murphy, Frank Hopkins, Elliott Spiker, Greg Johnston and Greg Dow.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF MINUTES

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MINUTES OF APRIL 3, 2006

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to accept the minutes of April 3rd as written. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 125 \$ 4,983.33

Warrant 126 5,359.36

Warrant 127 46,099.59

Warrant 128 4,785.44

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Chairman Scott Grierson, to approve Warrants 125 – 128. Motion passed by a voice vote 4-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. NEW TOWN OFFICE CONSTRUCTION BIDS

The new town office bids closed at 4:00 pm. The bids submitted were Fine Line Builders - \$596,372.00, Associated Builders - \$499,725.00 and E L Higgins - \$587,877.24. The required forms and submittals were included. Chairman Scott Grierson asked all those present if anyone had an objection to Selectmen Heath Higgins participating in the discussion of the town office (he is an employee of E L Higgins). Town Manager Millard Billings asked Lane Construction to give the town a preliminary price for the final grading and paving by Tuesday, May 9,

2006. The Selectmen asked if Lane could get the estimate by Monday, May 8, 2006.

The Selectmen tabled this discussion until Monday, May 8, 2006, to give everyone time to compare the bids. At that time the Selectmen will make a decision on how much additional money to ask for at town meeting.

B. UPDATE NEW TOWN OFFICE

No new information

C. GARY GEAGHAN 2007 VALUATIONS

Gary Geaghan has updated the valuations by \$100,000,000.00 to make the valuation base \$474,254,200.00. He felt the town could get the extra money needed for the new town office and still drop the mill rate by 1 mill to 8.2 mills. Gary Geaghan requested carrying forward any left over money in the Assessor Salary account to FY 2007 to cover the extra days he feels he will need to be in the office to explain the new valuations/taxes.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to carry the unexpended balances forward to next year of the Assessor Salary. Motion passed by a voice vote 3-0-1. Selectman Kathi Thurston abstained; she works with Gary Geaghan.

D. BUILDING PERMIT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Clayton Gilley explained the Congregational Church built the addition and use it as a community center. They do not charge a use fee for using the facility. The Church does not view themselves as commercial; nor do they feel they are residential (see attached permit and letter).

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Chairman Scott Grierson, to waive the tripling fee for the church. The motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

The Selectmen felt the Ordinance is vague and should be reviewed.

E. ADD AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE SOLID WASTE CONTRACT

Elliott Spiker, Tremont's representative to Acadia Disposal District, requested the Selectmen sign a *Negotiating Authority* to enable ADD to negotiate with EMR on behalf of the town (see attached).

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to appoint Acadia Disposal District to serve as the agent for the Town of Tremont to negotiate with EMR, Inc. or other future solid waste service provider, new Solid Waste Contracts and/or modifications to existing contracts. Motion passed by a voice vote 4-0.

F. TSW REQUESTS TO CARRY UNEXPENDED FUNDS FORWARD

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to carry the unexpended funds forward for the Tremont Solid Waste Committee. Motion passed by a voice vote 4-0.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. QUARTERLY REPORTS

Not all of the Selectmen brought their quarterly reports with them so the Selectmen decided to hold this discussion until a later date.

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. The Town Manager has received a letter from Jessica Damon from DEP stating that the Department is willing to accept Sawyer Island as mitigation for the proposed dredge project.

B. The request by Kathi Thurston for a different time sheet for the Harbor Master was not favorably received by the Harbor Committee. They wish to continue with the Harbor Master having the same time sheet as other town employees. The consensus of the Select Board was to leave the time sheet for the Harbor Master the same as all other town employees.

C. OTHER

A Thank You Letter has been sent to Alice Chedister for her work on the Library Board of Trustees.

Town Manager Millard Billings gave the Selectmen a list of used vehicles he had received and also recommended going with new equipment. The Selectmen also felt they should use new equipment for plowing. Town Manager Billings reported he has scheduled with Equipment Depot to take the 650 town truck to them to be speced out for a plow and sander. The largest they carry is a 4 yard stainless steel Fisher sander. The Town manager would like a larger sander and the Select Board agreed.

Nomination forms were given to the Selectmen for the MMA Executive Committee Directors and MMA Vice President.

9. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Quarterly Reports at a later meeting

10. OTHER

Selectman Kathi Thurston showed pictures of the Bass Harbor Floats. She stated she was concerned someone will be injured because the float is in such bad shape and at a dangerous angle. The Selectmen passed the pictures on to the Harbor Committee. The DOT will be correcting the problem in the fall. Selectman Kathi Thurston and Town Manager Millard Billings suggested adding a 2 foot overhang to the float for the ramp to sit on.

11. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

May 8, 2006, 6:00 pm

12 ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Charlie Dillon, to adjourn. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Scott Grierson

Charlie Dillon

Heath Higgins

Katharine Thurston