

TOWN OF TREMONT
SELECTMEN'S WORKSHOP WITH MDOT
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008
5:00 PM

1. Board met with MDOT representatives to discuss state route 102 route numbering, State Highway designation and reconstruction

In attendance were Chairman Scott Grierson, Selectmen Heath Higgins, Chris Eaton, Lester Closson, Town Manager Millard Billings, Recording Secretary Heidi Farley, MDOT representatives Terry Hannum and Pete Coughlan, former Selectman Charlie Dillon, Mount Desert Islander reporter Mark Good and Bar Harbor Times reporter Laurie Schrieber. Selectman Kathi Thurston arrived at 5:22 pm.

Chairman Scott Grierson called the workshop to order at 5:01 pm.

Concerning the path of the major collector leading to the Ferry MDOT Representative Pete Coughlan has concerns about making sure the residents are notified and are okay with the switch. MDOT Representative Terry Hannum said he doesn't think the State will trade a three rod road for a two rod road but he will check.

Chairman Scott Grierson told MDOT representatives that the Town is doing its part by raising \$75,000.00 every year towards getting our roads fixed and we see no movement from the State. "It is very frustrating" Chairman Grierson said. MDOT Representative Terry Hannum said he hears our frustration and not to loose heart. Tremont is currently number 2 out of 8, but funding has fallen short.

MDOT Representative Pete Coughlin told the Selectmen that the one mile stretch between the gas station and Bernard corner is a State Highway not a major collector. It is a minor collector and needs to be classified as one because that is the way it functions. It will be put in decent shape before given over to the Town. The Town will be responsible for plowing and sanding and the State will still be responsible for usual maintenance.

MDOT Representative Pete Coughlin told the Selectmen that it doesn't make sense to continue route 102 past the gas station because that is what road names are for and it is road numbering protocol to not split a route at an intersection.

MDOT Representative Pete Coughlin told the Selectmen that contacting their representatives is the best way to get some sort of attention to the road problems.

MOTION by SelectmanChris Eaton to adjourn workshop at 6:32 pm, seconded by Selectman Lester Closson. Motion passed 5-0.

TOWN OF TREMONT
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MDOT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Selectmen's meeting of Monday, March 24, 2007 was called to order by Chairman Scott Grierson at 6:36 pm immediately after the workshop with MDOT.

2. ROLL CALL

Chairman Scott Grierson, Selectmen Heath Higgins, Kathi Thurston, Chris Eaton, Lester Closson, Town Manager Millard Billings and Recording Secretary Heidi Farley.

Members of the public present were: Mark Good from the Mount Desert Islander, Laurie Schrieber from the Bar Harbor Times and Charlie Dillon, Resident and former Selectman.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Selectman Heath Higgins to approve minutes of March 17, 2008, seconded by Selectman Chris Eaton. Selectman Kathi Thurston said that Nancy Thurlow's title is Business Manager not Union 98 Secretary. Motion passed 5-0 with title change for Nancy Thurlow.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

#116 \$7,109.56
#117 2,254.80
#118 18,761.81

MOTION by Selectman Heath Higgins to accept warrant 116, seconded by Selectman Kathi Thurston. Motion passed 4-0-1. Selectman Chris Eaton abstained because there was a check for him in that warrant.

MOTION by Selectman Heath Higgins to accept warrants 117 & 118, seconded by Selectman Kathi Thurston. Motion passed 5-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. PROPOSED BOUNDARY LINE AGREEMENT

Surveyor Thomas Benson explained to the Selectmen that he doesn't feel he has enough evidence to justify where the boundary line is between the Town and Resident John Buckwalter. Mr. Benson said he would like to make this work for the Town as well as Mr. Buckwalter

Selectman Heath Higgins said "you need to put aside the addition and structure, this is not a swap, and the Town needs to have a line. The line needs to be determined and finalized or it could be to the Towns disadvantage next time. We need to pick a line and make a decision."

Chairman Scott Grierson stated that the Town needs its own survey of Town properties as soon as possible, if this is not beneficial to the Town he would lean against it, and Mr. Buckwalter could do a citizens petition if the Board goes against what he is asking for.

Selectman Heath Higgins said the Town is Town people and the Town should decide whether or not to make a line agreement with Mr. Buckwalter. The Town isn't losing anything and it will clear up a problem.

Selectman Chris Eaton said that he does not see this as a swap, just a boundary line agreement.

MOTION by Selectman Kathi Thurston to get survey done of Town lot ASAP, seconded by Selectman Lester Closson. Motion passed 5-0.

B. UPDATE ONGOING PROJECTS

Nothing new to report

C. STATE ROAD 102

MOTION by Selectman Chris Eaton to investigate swapping the Shore Road as a major collector with the DOT for McMullan Ave, seconded by Selectman Heath Higgins. Motion passed 5-0.

D. REC BOARD REQUEST FUNDS

The Recreation Board is requesting that they be allowed to spend \$1,500.00 of Recreation Board funds to purchase a float to be converted to a stage for use at the Backside Blast.

MOTION by Selectman Chris Eaton to authorize the Recreation Board to spend \$1500.00 to buy a float to use as a stage at the Backside Blast, seconded by Selectman Kathi Thurston. Motion passed 4-0-1. Selectman Heath Higgins abstained because the Recreation Board is buying the float from his family business.

E. DOG WARRANT

MOTION by Selectman Heath Higgins to authorize the Animal Control Officer to issue warrants for unlicensed dogs, seconded by Selectman Chris Eaton. Motion passed 5-0.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Nothing new to report

B. ACCESS ROAD

Nothing new to report

C. CABLE/INTERNET ACCESS

Nothing new to report

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Keith Higgins and Town Manager Millard Billings met with Linda Feury and Lynn O'Kane at Hancock County Emergency Management in Ellsworth on Monday, March 17, 2008, they would like to assist the Town with updating the current Emergency Response Plan, which was adopted in 1994 and needs to be revised.
2. Town Manager Millard Billings was advised that he could teach some of the beginning ICS classes and given manuals for ICS 700, 100 and 200. These are the classes that all first responders need. A possible schedule is being developed, for anyone interested.

9. ANNUAL BUDGET

A. MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATIONS

Town Manager Millard Billings reported that last year the Town sent out bids for backup snowplow driver and truck and that John Goodwin Jr. was the lowest bidder. Last year the Board authorized him to go to the State surplus auction and buy one truck not three so that is why we needed backup.

The Selectmen authorized Town Manager Millard Billings to go to auction this Thursday and purchase one or two trucks if reasonable.

Town Manager Millard Billings reported that the salt/sand shed was 11,000.00 over budget because of blasting, ditch and site work but the Town can use some of the surplus from Public Works to cover it.

Selectmen agree that they would like to talk to ADD next week and would like Town Manager Millard Billings to have MMA look over the warrant article for next week.

Town Manager Millard Billings presented an optional and a proposed budget for the administration (see attached).

MOTION by Selectman Chris Eaton to approve optional budget which includes \$45,000.00 for a full time CEO /Assessor, seconded by Selectman Heath Higgins. Motion passed 4-1. Selectman Kathi Thurston opposed because she is not sure that a new full time employee is needed.

B. BOARDS AND COMMITTEES REQUESTS

Will discuss at next meeting.

10. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Selectman Kathi Thurston would like to discuss a Town newsletter next week. Town Manager Millard Billings will reflect school increases in the budget for next week.

11. OTHER

12. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

March 31, 2008

13. ADJOURN

MOTION by Selectman Chris Eaton to adjourn at 8:55 pm, seconded by Selectman Kathi Thurston. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted
Heidi Farley

Scott Grierson

Heath Higgins

Kathi Thurston

Chris Eaton

Lester Closson