

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
HARVEY KELLEY MEETING ROOM
MONDAY DECEMBER 3, 2012
6:00 PM**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chris Eaton opened the December 3, 2012 Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Chris Eaton, Members Robert Lee III, Lester Closson and Hugh Gilley, Town Manager Millard Billings also present were Tony Smith Chairman Acadia Disposal District, Mark Good of the Mount Desert Islander and Fire Chief Keith Higgins. Members of the public present were John Buckwalter, and Stephanie Clement.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the Agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2012

Motion was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Bobby Lee to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed by vote 4-0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 55	\$ 7,151.00
Warrant 56	\$ 7,504.15
Warrant 57	\$ 546.00
Warrant 58	\$104,076.00
Warrant 59	\$ 7,507.73

Motion was made by Bobby Lee with a second by Hugh Gilley to approve warrants 55 through 59. Motion passed by vote 4-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. RECYCLING UPDATES

The Board was given copies of the ADD Agenda for their meeting of December 6, 2012 as well as the EMR, Inc. invoice for the month of October. The Town Manager informed the Board that he had received a letter from Hancock County Planning Commission offering their Technical Assistance for Solid Waste and Recycling, he added that he felt that these issues were currently being handled by ADD and no

change was necessary at the present time. No action was taken by the Board under this agenda item.

B. ADD REQUEST FOR LOCAL SUPPORT TO OBTAIN LAND IN TOWN HILL AND ANY AVAILABLE FUNDS

Acadia Disposal District Chairman Tony Smith was present to ask for the Boards recommendation concerning the Town of Tremont's support an endeavor of the greater island wide communities to develop a concept for an area wide transfer station and the transfer of the National Park Property in town Hill, which is approximately 55 acres, to the town of bar Harbor without reservation and request a congressional appropriation of \$350,000.00 to the Acadia Disposal District.

Motion was made by Lester Closson with a second by Bobby Lee for the Town of Tremont to support the Acadia Disposal District and the Town of Bar Harbor in their endeavor to acquire the Town Hill Property and the \$350,000.00. The Motion was passed by vote 4-0.

C. RENEWAL OF SHERIFF'S CONTRACT FOR POLICE PROTECTION

The Law Enforcement Contract with the Hancock County Commissioner's for the Hancock County Sheriff's Department 30 hour per week police coverage for the Town of Tremont is due to be renewed. The new contract is for \$59.00 per hour for 30 hours per week for the calendar year January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

Motion was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the 2013 contract as written. The motion was passed by vote 4-0.

D. DOES THE SELECT BOARD WISH TO DO A QUESTIONNAIRE MAILING TO LOCAL VOTERS TO DETERMINE IF THERE IS INTEREST IN OPENING DEER HUNTING IN TREMONT?

The Town Manager informed the Board that as a result of the discussion at the last League of Towns Meeting the four Mount Desert Island Town Managers would be asking their respective Select Boards/Council to approve the mailing of a questionnaire asking local voters how they felt about opening deer hunting in the respective towns. The purpose being to determine if there is any interest in the idea of opening hunting before spending a lot of time and effort in the project if no one is in favor of the project. He said that College of the Atlantic had volunteered to write the questionnaire as well as to intemperate the results.

The Town Manager explained that his interpretation of what I. F. & W had said was that if hunting was to be opened it could only be opened in a way that was consistent with Maine State Statutes.

The Select Board voiced support of the mailing but were explicit in their desire that the questions would be worded in a manner that when answered the resulting opinions could be clearly understood, without clear decisive answers the questionnaires could become a wasted effort.

Motion was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to proceed with the questionnaire to see if local voters supported an open deer hunting season. Motion was passed by vote 4-0.

E. AUTOMATIC FORECLOSURE OF 2011 TAX LIENS

Select Board member James LaPrade arrived at 6:30 PM.

Town Manager Billings gave the Select Board an update on the status of properties that had become tax acquired on December 1, 2012. On November 28, 2012 when the computer printout that was enclosed in the Selectmen's packet was printed there were 15 different accounts pending. Prior to December 1, 2012 account 1333 had paid their 2011 tax lien, the Town Manager had spoken with local banks that were sending payments for accounts 6, 605, 1341 and 1443, payment arrangements for accounts 301, 1461, and 299 had been made with the owners, account 287 had been foreclosed last year for 2010 tax liens but they had worked through the year and got those paid he will continue to make payments this year on the 2011 tax lien, account 942 had been foreclosed last year for 2010 tax liens and has been working sporadically over the year and is not presently caught up but is willing to continue with payments, account 1118 has not been reached for discussion, account 37 is property owned by two brothers one has paid his share the other has not paid his share but the brother who has paid will not let the property lapse to the town (he will pay this bill), account 524 is presently in jail and has no way to make payments or payment arrangements, account 376 was had a family sickness but other family members have spoken to me and may help, account 1356 was foreclosed last year for the 2010 tax lien and the owners never made any contact with the town or accepted certified mailings, when the Town Manager went to the house to hand deliver a notice, he said "that he felt someone was home even though no one other than a big dog came to the door".

The Town Manager stated that he felt comfortable working with people that were trying to pay their taxes and get themselves caught up, but if people were not going to make an effort to even acknowledge the bill and attempt to make some kind of arrangement, than a different procedure should be adopted. He suggested a letter showing a draft of the newspaper advertisement for the tax lien auction of the property might have an effect.

The Select Board authorized the Town Manager to send a letter to account 1356 with a draft of the newspaper advertisement for pending tax lien auction if a payment or a payment arrangement was not made prior to the Selectmen's Meeting of January 7, 2013 and in addition to regular and certified mail also to be hand delivered by a Deputy Sheriff.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. REPORT OF ONGOING PROJECTS

I have received a \$12,000.00 from Richard McMullen, (he has the snowplow contract for the Town of Lamoine) for the purchase of both Truck #5 for \$4,000.00 (truck only no sander) & #6 for \$8,000.00 (truck with old Svenson Sander) as authorized by the Board at the last meeting.

There has been no interest in the F650 that is at Colwell's.

We have a Svenson drop in Sander and a 10 Foot Fisher Plow that came out of the F650. We could offer them for sale or just hold onto them as replacements. I recommend trying to sell the plow and sander.

The Select Board authorized the Town Manager to see if there was any interest by the purchaser of the Top Kicks in purchasing either the Sander or the Plow.

B. REPORT OF PENDING PROJECTS

Status of Bernard Boat Launch Facility, Ramp Expansion Project.

The 3 pilings have been set and the concrete bulkhead has been poured. The Bass Harbor Floats which are 20 foot wide came up past two bulkheads without a problem.

Material has been ordered to construct new floats for ramp expansion project. The floats will be built in the garage over the winter for a spring launch.

The Town Manager has been authorized by the MDOT Project Manager Catherine Rand that it is alright order the concrete planks for the Ramp surface.

8. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Enclosed are copies of Harbor & Wharf Expenses and Revenues for November 2012.

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT MAY COME IN LATE AND ARE FOR THE BOARDS INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY, NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN, UNLESS BOARD REQUESTS IT BE PLACED ON AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING.

10. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Tremont resident John Buckwalter was present and expressed his desire to be put on the Agenda of the next Meeting of the Select Board to discuss options for adopting a property line agreement between his property and the abutting Town owned property.

The Board asked that He submit a draft proposal before the meeting.

If CES and DEP have water test results available for discussion they will be at the meeting to explain their test results.

11. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: MONDAY DECEMBER 17

12. ADJOURN

Motion was made by James LaPrade with a second by Bobby Lee to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Motion was approved by vote 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Millard Billings,
Town Manager

Christopher Eaton

James LaPrade

Robert Lee III

Hugh Gilley

Lester Closson