

**TOWN OF TREMONT  
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE  
HARVEY KELLEY MEETING ROOM  
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2013  
6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Chris Eaton opened the February 19, 2013 Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 PM.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present were Chairman Chris Eaton, Members Bobby Lee, Lester Closson and Hugh Gilley, Town Manager Millard Billings also present were Mark Good of the Mount Desert Islander, Fire Chief Keith Higgins, and Frank Gray arrived later.

**3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 6, 2013**

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

**5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS**

Warrant 88	\$ 7,668.93
Warrant 89	\$ 3,392.85
Warrant 90	\$132,444.51
Warrant 91	\$ 9,287.17

**Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve warrants 88 through 91. Motion passed by vote 4-0.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RECYCLING/SOLID WASTE UPDATES**

The Board was given copies of a letter from MRC that explained the new contract between PERC and Casella regarding the closure of the Maine Energy Resource Company (MERC) in Biddeford and the Juniper Ridge Landfill in Old Town being subject to a pending DEP application.

The Board was also given a copy of the EMR invoice for the month of January.

These items were for information purposes and no action was necessary by the Board.

## **B. APPOINTMENTS**

The Board reviewed an application from Leslie Becker requesting appointment to the Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee (ZOAC)

**Motion** was made by Bobby Lee with a second by Lester Closson to appoint Leslie Becker to the Zoning Ordinance Advisory Committee (ZOAC) for a three year term. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

A Letter of resignation was received from Deborah Helmke from the Bass Harbor Memorial Library Board of Trustees, which the Select Board regrettfully accepted.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. REPORT OF ONGOING PROJECTS**

#### **Status of Bernard Boat Launch Facility, Ramp Expansion Project.**

The Town Manager reported that the Floats are under construction and that the Concrete Paving Planks have been delivered to the Wharf.

Bobby Lee asked when they would be able to start construction of the Boat Ramp. Town Manager Billings explained that the Public Works Crew was working in the Community Center over school vacation. There were two and one half floats still to build but the floats could be done in April, were as the work on the Ramp needed to be completed before April 1, so the ramp would be free for spring boat launches. Possibly start work the week of February 25 if the weather forecast looked favorable.

### **B. REPORT OF PENDING PROJECTS**

Special Town Meeting of January 29, 2013 approved the purchase of the Closson Property. The vote was 22 yes and 13 no concerning the purchase.

Please review draft of the Minutes Harbor Committee Meeting of February 8, 2013. (see attached)

The Harbor Committee is concerned, that with the purchase of the Closson Property, which the Committee supported, the Wharf and Harbor Management Funds are going to be depleted to such a low amount that the Wharf and Harbor Reserves may be under funded if there should be a major breakdown or an unforeseen major expense.

The Harbor Committee voted to ask the Select Board, if the Board would place an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant to authorize the Select Board to borrow up to \$200,000.00 for up to ten years to be repaid through Wharf Reserves, as an insurance that no Property Tax money would ever be needed to support the Wharf or any improvements to the Closson Property. The loan would make a lower annual payment from Wharf Reserves that could be more easily met without putting items at the Wharf in risk of not being repaired or maintained due to insufficient funds.

Town Manager Billings provided the Select Board with a copy of an email from the Bar Harbor Banking & Trust Company concerning a loan for a MPI Highway Project that the Board had authorized him to explore as well as loan data for the Harbor Committee request. (see attached)

The Select Board did not cast an official vote on the Harbor Committee request but the unanimous consensus was that the Board would not approve such a request.

Town Manager Billings noted that Frank Gray had arrived during their last discussion and asked if the Agenda item concerning Appointments could be revisited, as Mr. Gray possibly could be interested in an appointment to the Warrant Committee.

The Select Board concurred that suggestion and after some discussion Frank Gray agreed to serve a one year term on the Warrant Committee.

**Motion** was made by Bobby Lee with a second by Hugh Gilley to appoint Frank Gray to the Warrant Committee for a one year term. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

## **8. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT**

A. Agenda for Hancock County Commissioners Meeting March 1, 2013 (see enclosed)

B. Copy of an email and draft of Warrant Review Meeting Policy for Hancock County Commissioners that the Commissioners voted not to adopt.

C. MMA Freedom of Access request training in Ellsworth April 9, 2013 at the Elks Lodge.

D. Enclosed are copies of the Harbor and Wharf revenues and Expenses for January 31, 2013

E. The Draft minutes of the County Commissioners Meeting of February 5, 2013 were made available for the Select Board.

F. A letter from MDOT stating that a paving project for State Routes 102A and 102 (the circle) is scheduled for a paving overlay this summer. (see attached)

G. A Draft advertisement for the position of Assessor/CEO was presented to the Select Board.

## **9. ANNUAL BUDGET**

### **A. BOARD & COMMITTEE REQUESTS**

1. **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER;** budget request for 2013-2014 is for \$5,540.00. After a brief discussion a **Motion** was made by Bobby Lee with a second by Lester Closson to table any action regarding this request until the next meeting and ask the Animal Control Officer to attend that meeting to explain the budget request. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.
2. **RECREATION BOARD;** budget request for 2013-2014 is for no money to be raised or appropriated only the unexpended balance to be carried forward for next year. After a brief discussion the Board concurred to table any action regarding this request until the next meeting and ask the Board Chairman to attend that meeting to explain the budget request.
3. **HISTORICAL SOCIETY;** budget request for 2013-2014 is for \$2,500.00. **Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the Historical Society funding request for \$2,500.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

## **B. MUNICIPAL REQUESTS**

1. **ABATEMENTS;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$10,000.00 the same as last year, the Tax Assessor and Town Manager support this request. **Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the funding request for Abatements in the amount of \$10,000.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.
2. **INSURANCE;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$24,535, MMA expects a 7% increase over last years cost. **Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the funding request for Insurance in the amount of \$24,535.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.
3. **PUBLIC WORKS BUILDINGS;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$10,000.00 the same as the last year. **Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the funding request for Public Works Buildings in the amount of \$10,000.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.
4. **TOWN EQUIPMENT;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$14,000.00 the same as the last year. **Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the funding request for Town Equipment in the amount of \$14,000.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.
5. **STREET LIGHTS;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$12,800.00 the same as the last year.

**Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the funding request for Street Lights in the amount of \$12,800.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

6. **SOLID WASTE;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$185,000.00 the same as the last year and to establish a Reserve Account with any unexpended balance at the end of the fiscal year to be accumulated towards the funding of the new PERC contract in 2018.

**Motion** was made by Bobby Lee with a second by Hugh Gilley to approve the funding request for Solid Waste in the amount of \$185,000.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

7. **LAW ENFORCEMENT;** request for 2013-2014 is for \$92,040.00, the hourly rate of \$59.00 per hour will remain unchanged for calendar year 2014.

**Motion** was made by Hugh Gilley with a second by Lester Closson to approve the funding request for Law Enforcement in the amount of \$92,040.00. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

**10. 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.**

The Town Manager was asked the status of the Wharf House as an income generating operation. Town Manager Billings explained that in 2010 the wharf house roof had been re-shingled there had been no other major expenses since 2004 when the windows were replaced, vinyl siding installed and a new furnace installed. The building is currently rented and has had the same tenant for several years. Town Manager Billings stated that in his opinion the future use of the wharf house should be for public restrooms, showers and laundry facilities for transient boaters and the Harbor Masters Office. This can not happen immediately but after the property is paid for and the parking situation resolved it should be the next item on the list of priorities. He stated that this is a Commercial Fisheries Maritime Operations Zone and any future use that is accessory to the wharf, marina or fishing operations could be allowed in that Zone.

**11. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING**

**12. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: MARCH 4, 5 & 18, 2013**

**13. ADJOURN**

**Motion** was made by Bobby Lee with a second by Lester Closson to adjourn the Meeting at 6:57 PM. Motion was approved by vote 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Millard Billings, Town Manager

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Christopher Eaton

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James LaPrade

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Robert Lee III

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Hugh Gilley

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Lester Closson