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Selectboard:
Jan Gaudio
Walter Reitz
Cheryl Waterman

SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Date: January 8, 2019 Time: 6:00 PM Place: Municipal Building Rev.0

Present: Selectboard Members: Jan Gaudio, Walter Reitz and Cheryl Waterman
Others: Town Administrator Owen Casas, EMA Director Betty Thomas, Fire Chief Bryan Calderwood, FD new hire Sadie Davis, S Thomaston citizen Donna Cook.

Note: A listing as present does not denote attendance for the entire meeting.

I. Call to Order

Reitz called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

II. Adjustments to the Agenda

Gaudio proposed adding Donna Cook to agenda after approving FD new hire as new item C.

III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

No public comment was offered. Chair Reitz informed the Board and public that he did not intend to run for reelection to the Board. Reitz asked Administrator to inform the media of the open seat.

IV. New Business

A. Presentation by EMA Director Betty Thomas- potential grant opportunity through US Dept of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Director Thomas discussed the grant opportunity she, Admin Casas and Road Commissioner Grierson have been exploring. The area of interest for this grant is the mainland side of the Island Road bridge area leading to Spruce Head Island. Because of the federal government partial shutdown, sourcing pertinent information associated with the grant has been difficult so there are multiple "unknowns" at this time. What is known is that the area of interest is continuing to degrade and will need to be addressed in the near future, regardless of grant

opportunities. Discussion on the topic centered around this known need, logical steps to prepare for the future project and information needed to submit a competitive grant application. The first logical step was to contact engineering firms and work on engineering plans to understand the costs associated with project completion.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to have EMA Director Thomas continue working on sourcing engineering plans in preparation for the project and grant opportunities.

Motion passed 3-0.

B. Fire Chief- new hire approval- Sadie Davis.

Fire Chief Calderwood introduced and sought approval for new hire to FD, Sadie Davis. Chief Calderwood informed the Board that Ms. Davis was voted upon and approved at the December 17th firefighters meeting. The Board invited Ms. Davis to talk about her interest in firefighting. Ms. Davis discussed her family connections with fire and ambulance services and her desire to help those in need, firefighting being one way to accomplish that desire.

Gaudio moved and Waterman seconded a motion to accept Sadie Davis into the fire service.

Motion passed 3-0.

C. Discussion about nuisance animals on Donna Cook's property

Donna Cook wanted to inform the Select Board of an ongoing issue she has been having with her neighbor's animals coming onto her property. Points raised during the discussion were:

- The issue at hand has grown overtime. In the past it has been only one animal (a dog) that would come from the neighbor's property to Mrs. Cook's property. Currently there are three dogs, ducks and chickens that are routinely coming onto Mrs. Cook's property. Issue has been ongoing for (roughly) 18 years with the same neighbor's animals.
- S Thomaston does not have an ordinance specific to nuisance animals and how to deal with them. If an ordinance was crafted, who would enforce it? County Sheriff's office does not enforce local ordinance.
- When no local ordinance exists, state statute is used. State statute does have sections on dangerous/ nuisance dogs, animal control, dogs at large and animal trespass.
- The extent to which the animals have gone from "nuisance" to a public safety concern because of poultry/ fowl wandering in the road. This has, on occasion, almost caused motor vehicle accidents with drivers swerving to avoid animals. Mrs. Cook's concern that one of her dogs might chase trespassing birds into the nearby road.

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- Mrs. Cook's notifications of the issue to Animal Control and Knox County Sheriff's office. Also her "game cam" log of dates of which animals have trespassed, many instances have been recorded. Game cam is now seeing wildlife (coyote) more frequently hanging around.
 - Chair Reitz volunteered to draft a letter, on behalf of the Select Board, to the homeowner. Reitz will be provided additional information on state statute, the standing of animal registration and any input from Animal Control Officer.

D. Discussion and Approval of "Property Endorsement Request" and "Vacant Building Questionnaire" for submission to MMA for Gilford Butler school.

Select Board reviewed both documents. Document "inputs" were generated by GBS Committee members John Spear and Jeff Northgraves and Admin Casas. Discussion was centered around whether the sprinkler, heating and security system should remain active when S Thomaston takes over the Gilford Butler school. Cost estimates were reviewed for the items associated with these utilities. Select Board expressed their interest in keeping these systems active after the town takes control. Heating system will be set at the lowest appropriate temperature to ensure freeze/ thaw shifting does not happen.

No action taken by Select Board.

E. Old Business- Sand for town residents

Select Board reviewed proposed new language for Part II. The Demo Debris Facility, A. Site Description, #2 - Winter Sand for Resident's Personal Use:

Section will be amended to read:

The Town places a pile of sand at the end of the Stump Dump access road, in relative proximity to the demolition debris bin area. This sand is for South Thomaston residents only and is intended for personal, not commercial, use. Commercial use is strictly forbidden. Users must supply their own buckets and load the sand themselves. The taking of sand is limited to days on which the demolition debris facility is operating, in accordance with Part 1, B, #3 of this manual. Total allowable amount of sand to be taken per day of facility operation, per resident, shall not exceed 15 gallons.

V. Review Correspondence

A. Georges River Regional Shellfish Management Ordinance

Select Board reviewed the proposed amendment language for the Georges River Regional Shellfish Management Ordinance. Public hearing on Ordinance amendment set for Feb 12, 2019.

Waterman moved and Gaudio Seconded to accept the amendment language for public hearing.

Motion Passed (3-0)

B. Approval of Certificate of Settlement and Certificate of Recommitment.

Waterman moved and Gaudio Seconded to approve the Certificates of Settlement and Recommitment.

Motion Passed (3-0)

VI. Reports and Administration

A. Ambulance – December Report

The Board reviewed Ambulance

B. Assessor’s Agent – December Report

There was no Assessor’s report.

C. Code Enforcement Officer – December Report

The Board reviewed the CEO’s report.

D. EMA- December Report

The Board reviewed the EMA Report.

E. Fire Department – December Report

The Board reviewed the Fire Department report.

F. Licensed Plumbing Inspector – December Report

The Board reviewed the LPI report.

G. Treasurer – December Report

There was no Treasurer’s report.

H. Town Administrator’s December Report

There was no Town Administrators Report.

I. Authorize Treasurer’s Warrants

The Board Authorized the Treasurer's Warrants.

J. Review Check Reconciliations for December 2018

The Board reviewed the December Check Reconciliations.

K. Approve Minutes of December 11, 2018 and December 17, 2018

Gaudio Moved and Waterman Seconded a motion to approve the minutes of December 11 and December 17.

Motion passed 3-0.

L. Schedule Future Meeting(s)

The Board set their next regularly scheduled meeting for Feb 12.

Adjournment

Waterman moved and Gaudio seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:30pm.
Motion passed 3-0.