

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Scott Grierson called the February 6, 2006 Regular Selectmen's Meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Member of the public present were Wayne Libhart, Frank Gray Sr., Mark Good – Islander, Greg Johnston, Dave Merritt, McKenzie Clough, Eric White, Rylie Clough, and Laurie Schreiber – Bar Harbor Times.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Cemetery Committee requested to speak to the Selectmen.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to adjust the agenda and put the Cemetery Committee in 6.A. and move everything else down one. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2006

Chairman Scott Grierson asked to have "ruff" changed to "rough".

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to accept the minutes of January 16th as amended. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

B. MINUTES OF JANUARY 23, 2006

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to approve the minutes of January 23rd as written. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

C. MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2006

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to approve the minutes of January 26th as written. Motion passed by a show of hands 3-0-1. Selectman Kathi Thurston abstained; she was not present.

D. MINUTES OF JANUARY 30, 2006

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to approve the minutes of January 30th as written. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 88	\$ 3,040.00
Warrant 89	4,119.51
Warrant 90	77,724.38
Warrant 91	18,610.25

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to accept Warrants 88 – 91. Motion passed by show of hands 4-0.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. AGENDA ITEM 6. E. CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT

Wayne Libhart and Frank Gray, from the Cemetery Committee, asked the Selectmen to begin the process to declare the Benjie Gott or Murphy Hill Cemetery abandoned. If the Cemetery is declared abandoned the Town can assume the maintenance.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to pursue authority found in MRSA Title 30 A Statute 3107, take the necessary steps to acquire the Gott or Murphy Hill Cemetery. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0. The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to pursue this with the help of the Cemetery Committee.

Chairman Grierson asked Wayne Libhart and Frank Gray asked how they would like to have the Cemetery funds invested – the amount of risk or return they were expecting. Wayne Libhart felt it all could go into Federal Government Long Term Bonds or other AAA Bonds. Frank Gray felt the Town could take the interest from the Trust Funds to maintain the Cemeteries where those lots are located. Frank Gray offered to have the Cemetery Committee submit a budget for Cemetery care. The Selectmen accepted the offer. Selectman Charlie Dillon asked about the Cemeteries the Town is taking care of, but are privately owned. Town Manager Millard Billings explained the Town has been mowing two privately owned Cemeteries since at least 1997 and the Selectmen felt they could not just stop mowing them. Selectmen Kathi Thurston said she thought a Town Warrant was voted on at a Town Meeting to mow one of the Cemeteries in question. The Selectmen decided to put a Warrant Article to the Town at Town Meeting and asked the Cemetery Committee to draft a Warrant to remove the two private cemeteries from the mowing contract.

B. AGENDA ITEM 6. A. UPDATE NEW TOWN OFFICE

Greg Johnston, with CES, brought in four copies of the specs and six copies of the plans for the new town office. Dave Merritt will revise the counter and bring the up-dated plans by the office Monday or Tuesday to check with the staff to make sure they are appropriate. The Selectmen asked to have a statement added to the specs so the concrete and leach field would not be included in the bids for the Town Office construction.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to authorize CES to release the water/well information that they have acquired from the Dump Closure. Motion passed by a show of hands 4-0.

C. AGENDA ITEM 6. B. SCHOOL RENTAL AGREEMENT

Town Manager Millard Billings asked the Town Lawyer and Auditor to review the School Lease, their findings are attached. Town Manager Billings revised the lease draft as directed and will include a copy in next weeks Selectmen's Packets. The Selectmen asked to have a copy forwarded to the School.

D. AGENDA ITEM 6. C. LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL THURSTON'S

This is a new license because the applicant is different (see attached). A Public Hearing is scheduled for March 6, 2006 at 6:00 pm. Town Manager Millard Billings will request a floor plan and signature on the application.

E. AGENDA ITEM 6. D. RESIGNATIONS

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to accept Sherry Harkins resignation from the Warrant Committee. The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to send Sherry Harkins, Steve Harper, Dean Tozier and Alden Gray "Thank You" notes and to send them to anyone that has served the Town.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. ANNUAL BUDGET

1. JOINT MEETING WITH SCHOOL BOARD AND THE WARRANT COMMITTEE

The School is not available in the month of February. The Selectmen decided to invite the School Board and the Warrant Committee a meeting in March.

2. THIRD PARTY REQUESTS

There have been 11 Third Party Requests returned by the dead line (see attached). The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to invite representatives from Westside Community Nursery School, Southwest Harbor Tremont Nursing Service, Harbor House Youth Services and Harbor House Community Center to the Selectmen's February 13th meeting and get a legal opinion on the town voting on money to support Westside Community Nursery School.

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Deer Heard Management Committee has scheduled Tom Schaeffer, of Maine Department on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, to meet with them on Monday, February 13th at 5:00 pm.

B. The Selectmen were given a news letter from the Rec Board as well as a copy of their minutes of their last meeting (see attached).

C. Town Manager Billings has approached to Mike Avery and Tom Benson to do a survey on an aerial map around Sawyer's Island if the DEP will accept it.

D. The Town has an agreement to purchase land in Bass Harbor and Town Manager Millard Billings wondered if the Gott's Island people could be approached for donations for guaranteed parking spaces or maybe some other type of assistance.

The Selectmen agreed it would be a good idea to talk with Gott's Island residents and get their support.

- E. The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen will be gone from February 15, 2006 to March 21, 2006 and he would like to have an excused absence from the Board.

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to give our Chairman the excused absence February 15th to March 21st. Motion passed by a show of hands 3-0-1. Chairman Scott Grierson abstained – he is the one requesting the excused absence.

9. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

To discuss the Town's funds invested with Fidelity Investments.

10. OTHER

Selectman Kathi Thurston said she liked the Rec Board newsletter and would like to see the Town of Tremont put out the same type of newsletter.

Selectman Charlie Dillon asked about a CES Statement the Selectmen received in their packets that referred to a topo. Town Manager Millard Billings is to check on what the bill is for.

Selectman Heath Higgins asked Town Manager Billings to check what the additional spec packages from CES would cost the Town.

11. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

February 13, 2006

12. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Charlie Dillon, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debbi Nickerson

Kathi Thurston

Steve Harper

Scott Grierson

Charlie Dillon

Heath Higgins