

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2008
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Selectmen's Meeting of January 21, 2008 was called to order by Chairman Scott Grierson at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Scott Grierson, Selectmen Heath Higgins, Chris Eaton, and Lester Closson, Town Manager Millard Billings, and Recording Secretary Debbi Nickerson. Selectman Kathi Thurston arrived at 6:04 pm.

Members of the public present were Mark Good – Islander, Laurie Schrieber – Bar Harbor Times, Carey Donovan, Linda Lord, and Heidi Welch – all three on the Bass Harbor Memorial Library Board, Jim Keene – Tremont Comprehensive Plan Committee.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of January 7, 2008

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to accept the minutes of January 7th as written. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Selectman Kathi Thurston arrived at 6:04 pm.

5. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 83	7,069.75
Warrant 84	5,830.42
Warrant 85	944.00
Warrant 86	1,130.00
Warrant 87	560,816.55
Warrant 88	1,107.61
Warrant 89	0
Warrant 90	200.00

Motion made by Selectman Heath Higgins, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, to approve Warrants 83 – 90. Motion passed 4 – 0 – 1.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. UPDATE ONGOING PROJECTS

1. TOWN OFFICE

There was a very short punch list for Associated Builders to do on the building and they all have been completed.

2. SALT/SAND BUILDING

- a. Sand has been delivered and mixed with salt by John Goodwin Jr.
- b. Electric wiring has been installed underground from the garage to the salt/sand building. Steve Stanley, of Stanley Electric, has asked to wait until spring to wire the building. The Selectmen ask that he install the electrical outlet and lights near the door and wait until spring for the rest of the installation.

3. SEAL COVE RAMP

Town Manager Millard Billings included letters from the Town's Lawyer, J Keeney Construction's lawyer, and a copy of the lawsuit in the Selectmen's packets (see attached). The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to offer to pay half of the withholding for the Town Crew for their help in building the ramp, as well as have Mr. Keeney sign a lien waiver to release the Town of any financial responsibility to his suppliers for materials used to construct the ramp. The Selectmen would also like Joe Keeney to sign a 2 year warranty.

4. FLAT IRON ROAD

Nothing new to report

5. PLOWING AND SANDING

- a. F450 had a broken spring caused by going off the March Rd. during the New Years day storm. The F450 was used with only a half load of salt/sand during the last snow storm on January 14th. The new spring was ordered and was replaced on Friday, January 18th.
- b. The Top Kick was used to plow and sand during the last storm and Jerry Walls received training on using it.
- c. A replacement part for the sander drive chain on the Top Kick is in and we are waiting for David Kelley to install it.
- d. The F650 had the sander spinner and hydraulic motor bent when the driver backed into a snow bank or maybe a ledge. The problem has been fixed.
- e. The F450 has been equipped with a lighted wooden guide so the drivers will be able to tell where the spinner is. Public Works is developing something for the F650.

6. SEAL COVE FISHWAY

Nothing new to report

B. AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2007

The audit is available at the Town Office. The Selectmen asked a few questions which Town Manager Millard Billings answered.

The auditor, James W Wadman, asked to have the Management Representation Letter signed and returned (see attached).

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to authorize Town Manager Millard Billings to sign the Management Representation letter from James W Wadman. Motion passed 5 – 0.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Town Manager Millard Billings asked if the letter that was written in response to the Lyons' offer was acceptable to mail (see attached).

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to authorize Town Manager Billings to send the letter to Beth and Marty Lyons. Motion passed 5 – 0.

Linda Lord, a Library Trustee, read a letter composed by the Trustees concerning the Hinton Estate and how they plan to conduct themselves when discussing the Estate into the record (see attached). The Library Trustees have formed a committee of three Library Trustees to analyze the impact on the Library that may come up concerning the Hinton Estate.

B. ACCESS ROAD

1. A final proposal would need Town Meeting approval to trade, swap or sell town owned property, or to acquire new property for the town.
2. Public Works has started cutting trees on the site.
3. Excess rip rap that was not used at Seal Cove has been moved to this site to clear the area for the construction of the Salt/Sand Shed.
4. December 6, 2007 Swan Agency ad in the Bar Harbor Times listed the Fudge property for \$895,000.

C. CABLE/INTERNET ACCESS

Nothing new to report

8. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TLC Lock came to review the surveillance system and make a recoding of two incidents to save and still keep the recorder running.

Town Manager Millard Billings gave the Selectmen the Winter Roads Operation and Maintenance Plan for the Town (see attached).

February 11th there is a Town Meeting and Elections Workshop in Bangor. Town Manager Billings invited any Selectman that would like attend to let him know so he could sign them up.

Town Manager Billings gave the Selectmen a packet for the Emergency Management Institute Independent Study Program (see attached). He encouraged them to take the course because grant money will be associated to the course.

9. QUARTERLY REPORTS

The Selectmen reviewed the 4th Quarter Reports for Expenses, Revenues and the General Ledger (available at the Town Office).

10. ANNUAL BUDGET

A. BOILER PLATE ARTICLES

The Selectmen reviewed the "Boiler Plate" Articles for the Town Meeting (see attached). Town Manager Millard Billings explained the Article Numbers have been removed because it is unknown at this time what the numbers will be. He also explained the only change from last year was on the last one which authorizes the Board of Selectmen to appoint a member to act as Snowplow Coordinator and to be paid \$45.00 per storm, not to exceed 12 storms per fiscal year.

B. THIRD PARTY REQUESTS

1. BAR HARBOR FOOD PANTRY

The Bar Harbor Food Pantry has submitted a request for funds to the town (see attached). The Selectmen have forwarded it to the Warrant Committee.

2. HOSPICE OF HANCOCK COUNTY

Hospice of Hancock County has submitted a request for funds to the town (see attached). The Selectmen have forwarded it to the Warrant Committee.

11. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Chairman Scott Grierson suggested having the next meeting January 28th, so the Select Board would have time to review the Town's responses to J Keeney before the dead line. Then, have another meeting February 11th.

12. OTHER

Jim Keene, Co-Chair of the Comprehensive Plan Committee, explained to the Selectmen the Comprehensive Plan is moving forward. Hancock County Planning Commission is pulling together the stats necessary for the Comprehensive Plan. The questionnaire is complete and will be mailed soon. He encouraged everyone to answer the questions quickly and return the questionnaire as soon as possible. Chairman Scott Grierson expressed his concern that the Select Board did not see the questionnaire before it was finalized. He felt the Board could have added some questions to help the Comprehensive Plan Committee ascertain the residence's desire for the Town's direction. Mr. Keene told him the questions were vague enough for the residences to voice their opinions and concerns.

13. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

January 28, 2008 & February 11, 2008

14. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Heath Higgins, to adjourn. Motion passed 5 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Scott Grierson

Heath Higgins

Katharine Thurston

Chris Eaton

Lester Closson