

**TOWN OF TREMONT
REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TREMONT TOWN OFFICE
MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The May 18, 2009 Regular Selectmen's Meeting was called to order by Chairman Charlie Dillon at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present were Chairman Charlie Dillon, Selectmen Kathi Thurston, Chris Eaton, Lester Closson, and Bobby Lee, Town Manager Millard Billings, and Recording Secretary Debbi Nickerson.

Members of the public present were Mark Good – Islander, Brad Reed – Tremont Volunteer Fire Department, Jim LaPrade – Tremont Volunteer Fire Department, and Laurie Schreiber – Bar Harbor Times.

3. ADJUSTMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

None

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Charlie Dillon was elected by the Board to be Chairman.

Kathi Thurston was elected by the Board to be Vice Chairman.

5. ADOPTION OF POLICIES

The Selectmen asked to have some typos corrected in the policies (see attached).

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to accept the General Policies of the Board of Selectmen, the General Policies of the Treasurer Disbursement Warrants, and the Policy for Tax Collector to apply tax payments the oldest outstanding bill. Motion passed 5 - 0.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2009

Selectman Kathi Thurston asked to have Item 4 motion changed to read April 21, 2009. Selectman Chris Eaton asked to have "Public Haring" changed to "Public Hearing". Selectman Kathi Thurston asked to have the word "to" added to the second motion in Item 12.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve the Minutes of April 21, 2009 as amended. Motion passed 4 - 0 - 1. Selectman Bobby Lee was not on the Board on April 21, 2009.

7. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Warrant 115	48,262.50
Warrant 116	34,539.98
Warrant 117	7,136.87
Warrant 118	1,461.21

Warrant 119	277.20
Warrant 120	4,986.00
Warrant 121	104,490.77
Warrant 122	10,087.44
Warrant 123	50,651.41
Warrant 124	6,959.07

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve Warrants 116 – 124. Motion passed 4 – 0 – 1. Selectman Bobby Lee was not a Selectman when all the Warrants were created.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. REVIEW BIDS FOR PORTABLE TOILETS

Bids closed on May 13th at 4:00 pm. At 4:01 pm the bids were opened and were publicly read aloud as follows (see attached):

Korey Goodwin - \$66.00 per month
18.50 bi-weekly if needed

Michael Gott - \$11.75 per week
17.00 bi-weekly if needed

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to accept the bid of Michael Gott for the Port-A-Potties. Motion passed 5 - 0.

B. FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR MATCHING GRANT FUNDS

Brad Reed – Tremont Volunteer Fire Department Chief – explained the Fire Department is requesting permission to submit an application by May 20, 2009 under the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants program. The cost to the Town would be 5% of the budget cost for any item (see attached). The Selectmen suggested the Fire Department use their reserve fund to cover the 5% and any money required over the amount in the reserve the Town would try to fund.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to approve the Fire Departments request for the FEMA Assistance Program and that the Selectmen do what ever they can to help the Fire Department get the equipment. Motion passed 5 - 0.

C. ACTION ON OUTSTANDING PERSONNEL PROPERTY TAXES

Town Manager Millard Billings explained there are 8 Personal Property Taxes for tax year 2009 that currently remain unpaid. The Assessor is granting abatement for one of these taxes (see attached). There are 17 Personal Property Taxes for years 2008 and prior that currently remain unpaid. These 17 taxes involve 7 Property owners. The Assessor and Tax Collector recommend 1 of these be abated by the Board of Selectmen because it should have been abated over a year ago and only the Select Board can abate a tax after one year. The Assessor and Tax Collector recommend 3 of these be declared uncollectible due to the death, relocation or going out of business of the owner (see attached). The remaining 13 outstanding taxes belong to 4 personal property owners and Town Manager Millard Billings is asking to take them to small claims court if necessary.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to abate 2008 tax for account 40, George Putnam, for \$26.07. Motion passed 5 - 0.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to declare the following accounts uncollectible:

Clayton and Charlotte Black, Account 6, \$9.45

Son Ye Yu, Account 21, \$31.20

Newcourt Comm. Fin. Corp., Account 37, \$157.00

Motion passed 5 - 0.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to authorize Millard to send letters to all the delinquent accounts stating that the first meeting in July, if it's not paid by then we will proceed to Small Claims Court. Motion passed 5 - 0.

The Selectmen asked to have the delinquent Personal Property Taxes listed in the Annual Report.

D. REQUEST FOR A RELEASE DEED

Request from Amy Craig, Consumer Title, for a Municipal Release Deed for Tina Lunt (see attached). The current tax records show liens for tax years 2002 & 2003.

Motion made by Selectman Kathi Thurston, with second by Selectman Chris Eaton, the Board of Selectmen sign the Municipal Release Deed for Tina M. Lunt. Motion passed 5 - 0.

E. APPOINTMENTS

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to appoint [for one year] Millard Billings as Town Manager, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Road Commissioner, General Assistance Administrator, Alternate E9-11 Coordinator, Alternate Code Enforcement Officer, and Alternate Local Plumbing Inspector and Carl Young as Tax Assessor, E9-11 Coordinator, Code Enforcement Officer and Local Plumbing Inspector and McKenzie Jewett as Town Clerk, Deputy Tax Collector, Deputy Treasurer and Deputy General Assistance Administrator and Heidi Kelley as Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Registrar of Voters and Deborah Nickerson as Deputy Town Clerk and Keith Higgins as Emergency Management Director and Teri Lanpher as Health Officer and David Schlaefer as Harbormaster and Chad Smith as Town Attorney and Elliott Spiker as Acadia Disposal District and Janet Patton as Registrar of Voters two year term in an odd numbered year and Jen Shaw as Animal Control Officer. Motion passed 5 - 0.

9. OLD BUSINESS

A. REPORT OF ONGOING PROJECTS

1. FLAT IRON RD.: Estimated prices from Lane are attached. Town Manager Millard Billings recommends the paving projects be put out to bid: Flat Iron Rd surface coat, reclaim Kelleytown and fine grade Kelleytown before June 30, 2009 on this year's budget. Pave 2" binder coat on Kelleytown Rd. after July 1, 2009, on next year's budget.

The Selectmen asked to have the Flat Iron Rd. specifications changed to having the contract signed before July 1, 2009 and work completed before

August 1, 2009 (see attached). It was also suggested the reclaiming of Kelleytown Rd. be separate from the paving of the road.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to authorize [Town Manager] Millard Billings to send out bid packages for the Spring (08-09) paving for Kelleytown Rd. and the grinding up and reclaiming of Kelleytown Rd. and the 09-10 project for Kelleytown Rd. Motion passed 5 - 0.

2. SEAL COVE FISH WAY: Town Manager Millard Billings met with Roland Dupruis and an Engineer. They agreed to raise the level of the cement in the sluiceway the width of one of the planks, but the key way can not go at the top or it will not put enough water in the ladder. Town Manager Millard Billings authorized the change and the project is proceeding ahead (see attached). The Fishway goes in front of the Planning Board on Tuesday, May 19, 2009.

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to authorize [Town Manager] Millard Billings to send out the bid packages for the Seal Cove Fishway Project. Motion passed 5 - 0.

B. REPORT OF PENDING PROJECTS

1. Acquisition of Real Estate: Town Manager Millard Billings spoke with the land owner. She still believes there are many prospective buyers and she does not want to wait for a special town meeting.
The Selectmen asked Town Manager Millard Billings to contact the homeowner in August before the Special Town Meeting that will happen in September.
2. INTERNET EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE: Nothing new to report

10. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. The new draft of the Piggy-back dredge project is attached showing the proposed dredge area to extend to the deregulated area. Most of this area has a 12 foot depth and will not need any dredging. By making this application large enough to encompass this entire area the permit would be good for ten years if any maintenance dredging was ever needed.
2. An e-mail Town Manager Millard Billings received concerning the Bass Harbor Dredge Project is attached. The e-mail is from Mike Tuttle requesting Town Manager Millard Billings advertise in a local paper the ACOE intent to file for a permit to dredge Bass Harbor (see attached). The Selectmen agreed to the ad.
3. Maine Legislature will act on a recommendation from the Transportation Committee to reduce the URIP (Urban/Rural Initiative Program) funding to municipalities by \$5 million in FY 2011. Attached is an e-mail from Mike MacDonald of Mount Desert and his letter to Dennis Damon opposing this action. Town Manager Millard Billings will write letters to Hannah Pengree and Dennis Damon on behalf of the Town.
Today, Town Manager Millard Billings received an e-mail about shifting the cost of Teacher Retirement from the State to the Towns (see attached).

4. Other:

Fred West, who has mowed the Town's Cemeteries for several years, will not be doing it anymore. Town Manager Millard Billings suggested hiring another Public Works operator/laborer to mow cemeteries in the summer and plow roads in the winter. The Selectmen disagreed – there is no room in the budget for it. The Selectmen authorized Town Manager Millard Billings to hire a temporary employee for the summer. Then next year plan for another employee. The Town has received a building permit for a cell tower on Kelleytown Rd. It will be discussed at the first Planning Board Meeting in June.

11. SUGGESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

12. OTHER

None

13. SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

June 1, 2009

14. ADJOURN

Motion made by Selectman Chris Eaton, with second by Selectman Kathi Thurston, to adjourn. Motion passed 5 - 0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbi Nickerson
Recording Secretary

Charlie Dillon

Katharine Thurston

Chris Eaton

Lester Closson

Robert Lee III