



Board of Selectmen  
Tuesday, January 24, 2012 @ 6:00 P.M.  
**Southwest Harbor Fire Station Meeting Room**

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.  
Present: George Jellison, Jr., David Minctons, Ralph Dunbar, jr., Tom Benson, Dan Norwood, Donald Lagrange
- Visitors: Dick Dimond, David Chapais, Jim Wimbiscus, Dick Broom, Tony Smith, Lydia Goetze
- II. Visitors to be heard not on the Agenda: none
- II. Approval of Minutes of January 10, 2012, January 17, 18 and 19, 2012: It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Minctons) to approve the minutes of January 10, 2012 as submitted. Vote: 5 – 0.  
It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Benson) to approve the minutes of January 17, 2012 as submitted. Vote: 5 – 0.  
It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Benson) to approve the minutes off January 18, 2012 as submitted. Vote: 5 – 0.  
It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Minctons) to approve the minutes of January 19, 2012 as submitted. Vote: 5 – 0.
- IV. Manager's Report: Lagrange said Hinckley is putting out a new boat design and launching it on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Governor LaPage will be there. PCO Central web designers have approached the Town about creating a web site. They are a new business in Town. Originally, their price was high but recently came back and said they would design the website if they could get support from the community to sponsor payment. The Town got a letter this afternoon, from Olver Associates, regarding the water tank – they got the numbers and put in an estimate for the balance of the work. Tank quotes vary from \$345,000 to \$385,000 – we are on the primary list for over \$600,000 low interest loan, and if we proceed with this we should go for this at 1 ½% not using any of the Wesley Mansell money as that is higher interest. The Town plans to return funds to reduce the interest. On this tank, we recommend the program that is available, but the State will still have to make funds available. Our Town is one of 12 Towns that have a good shot at getting the low interest rate. Dunbar asked if this included demolition of the tank – no the only numbers now are the tank itself. Letter will be in the next packet. No word from the insurance company on the Police Department and Lagrange will turn tracking of that over to the Finance Director. Chapais will follow up with the heating firm. Dunbar asked if we knew how the school was making out with their insurance claim – Lagrange will follow up. At the sewer plant where people clean boats, if their waste meets specific criteria they

may become a customer of the plant. This would allow them to dump boat washing waters at the waste water plant. Small boat repair concerns do not have their own facility. There are two potential customers presently to pay the minimum sewer fee on a quarterly basis. The Plant foreman will coordinate this and confirm the waste meets the criteria.

- V. Warrants: Administration 123-128 Water 1  
Sewer 27 Mansell/Wesley 121 (signed/check sent)  
Warrants will be motioned at the end of the meeting.

VI. New Business

- a. Route 102/198 Intersection (Tony Smith): Smith said there has been interest in developing a turn lane at the light in Somesville, heading North on Route 102. With an engineer at Maine DOT they put together a design in order to be able to come up with an estimate of the cost. That is estimated at \$150,000. The DOT would pay half and Mt. Desert would pay the other \$75,000. Smith asked if the town of SWH would join in for 1/3 of the 75k price. He has approached Tremont and they will put it before the voters at Town Meeting. Jellison asked if the design is available. Smith said it is a sketch only. It moves the right hand lane going north east where the sidewalk exists now. Smith said there is considerable room to do that. DOT has submitted the application in house for funding. If successful they will wait until the other towns have had their meetings. Benson asked if it changed the lanes going south. No. There would be no change in the traffic lights as it is too expensive. Dunbar said the town has a 20 year plan to try to improve the infrastructure and not a lot of resources, and he understands working with the state is difficult. It would be very hard to enter into this venture, because most of the tourism comes to MDI and it is a dead end when you get here. The funding from the Park is non-existent. The time will come when the Park Service will need to pick up some of the cost of the infrastructure. Dunbar said he wished the Town had the resources to help with this, but doesn't see it with the expenses we are under. Norwood agreed with comments from Dunbar – feels it would be a great project, but feels the town needs to spend its money within the town. He doesn't see us supporting it now. Benson agreed, but said we have such a large load here it would be hard to put money into something out of town on a state road. Jellison asked the board if they wanted to leave it to the townspeople. The budget for roads next year is pretty much taken up. He suggested looking at it through the Collaboration group and possibly looking at it next year. Smith thanked the Board for their time, and said he understood the budget constraints.
- b. Warrant Committee Appointment(s): (Goetze, Dimond): Jellison asked both candidates their reasons for being on the warrant committee. Dimond said he served on the warrant committee for five years and was asked by Lagrange to serve since the committee was short two members. Dimond said he hoped the committee would approve. Lydia said she is interested in serving and interested in looking at how the financial system works. She was asked, as well, since the committee needed a minimum of two

additional members. Dunbar asked what you envision the duties of the warrant committee to be. Candidates indicated they understood it was advisory. It was Moved (Norwood) and Seconded (Benson) to appoint Lydia Goetze to the Warrant committee until June 30, 2015. Vote: 5 – 0 It was Moved (Norwood) and Seconded (Benson) to appoint Richard Dimond to the Warrant Committee until June 30, 2015. Vote: 5 – 0.

Letter was received from Donald Lodge who said he would like to join but could not attend the meeting tonight because of previously scheduled travel plans. Dunbar said it has always been the policy of the board not to appoint a member without the member being present. Dimond said it would be impossible for the candidate to participate as the next meeting is after the Warrant committee concludes their meetings. Dunbar said the warrant committee has been seeking members since last year – if you make an application at the last minute you can't expect the board to roll over and accept the application. Norwood said he was not able to get in touch with Lodge to understand his qualifications before Lodge left. Dimond thought he would be back here on the 26<sup>th</sup>. He was asked by Dimond to apply. Minctons said he agrees with Dunbar, but he would certainly come to a special meeting if Lodge returns and still wants to be on the committee. Benson said there is a meeting Monday and if Lodge is back on the 26<sup>th</sup> Board members would be willing to meet at 5pm on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January to take his application. Three members committed to meet then. Lagrange pointed out that there are 7 members, now which meet the minimum requirement.

- c. Water Commitment: \$ 132,460.47: It was Moved (Minctons) and seconded (Benson) to approve the water commitment in the amount of \$132,460.47. Vote:5- 0
- d. Sewer Commitment: \$ 106,140.40: It was Moved (Minctons) and Seconded (Benson) to approve the sewer commitment in the amount of \$106,140.40 Vote: 5 - 0
- e. Infrastructure Committee (Benson): he would like to include the Town Crew Forman, Finance Director and Lagrange, to meet at 1:00pm on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Walsh will get a copy of the Olver study to Norwood. Goetze asked what the charge was to the infrastructure committee. Jellison said they will review the entire Olver study and come back with recommendations to the Board on where to start implementing the plan. Dimond said he understood the Olver report categorized things as to high medium and low priority – and he understood that the town might change some of those priorities – he asked whether or not the items were checked off, marked “in progress”, etc. Is that what the committee will do? Dunbar said over 20 years the priorities and budgeting will change – this group of people will help prioritize needs as well as the budgetary concerns and try to merge that into the 20 year plan. Goetze said the Comprehensive Plan recommendation was to set up a separate Water/Sewer board; she encouraged town's citizens as part of the committee. LaGrange said the water and sewer board would be a separate issue. The in house committee will get in the technical and financial aspects of our future as they are the

people who are intimate with the infrastructure and financing. Benson said we are looking at how to get the work done without hiring all of it out. The subcommittee will spend the time to make a detailed study of the Olver information and come back to the Selectmen.

- f. Warrant Committee Ordinance (Dunbar): Dunbar said he would like the Board to review and asked if there were any suggested changes to be made to this. The deadline of the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in January seems stringent – would like to see more leeway in this time change and any other recommendations from the Board, at the next meeting. Dimond asked if the Board wanted the warrant committee to weigh in on this. Jellison said the way the calendar set up this year, we felt we should look at this and look at the time line overall. Dunbar said that Don’s work on the budget was exemplary.
- g. Water/Sewer Board Meeting (Jellison). He will be out of town of Monday and Tuesday – need to set an agenda and would like to set this up further down the line. Lagrange is asking to push this off until the week of February 20<sup>th</sup>. Dunbar suggested changing the meeting to the 15<sup>th</sup> of February and including the water sewer board meeting. Don suggested the Planning Board meet on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the Selectmen meet on the 16<sup>th</sup> including the water/sewer meeting. We will be done by 9pm. Will check to see if the fire station is available.

VII. Other Business: Dimond is impressed with the water sewer newsletter – well articulated, simple and clear. Suggests continuing that paragraph on rate explanation in each newsletter.

VIII. Sign Warrants: It was Moved (Benson) and Seconded (Minctons) to approve the Administrative warrant as presented. Vote: 4 – 0 - 1 (abstain, Jellison).  
It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Minctons) to approve the Water warrant as presented. Vote: 5 – 0.  
It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Benson) to approve the Sewer warrant as presented. Vote: 5 – 0.  
It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Benson) to approve the Wesley/Mansell warrant as presented. Vote 4 – 0 – 1 (abstain, Norwood).

IX. Adjournment It was Moved (Dunbar) and Seconded (Benson) to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Vote: 5 – 0.