



**MINUTES  
WATER BOARD AND SELECTMEN  
MEETING  
December 17, 2013**

**Water Board Meeting**

Tuesday, December 17, 2013 @ 6:00 PM  
Southwest Harbor Town Office

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.  
Present: Chairman Ralph Dunbar, Jr., Tom Benson, George Jellison, Dan Norwood, David Minton and Town Manager Donald Lagrange.
- II. No visitors not on the agenda.
- III. Manager Lagrange presented the budget as previously submitted for review. No changes were suggested. A decrease in revenue and expenses from 2013 budget to 2014 budget was a result of the truck purchase in 2013. A motion by Thomas Benson to accept the water budget for 2014 as presented in the amount of \$634,675 was seconded by George Jellison. It was voted in favor, 5/0/0.
- IV. No other business presented, George Jellison moved to adjourn the Water Board meeting at 6:10 PM. Second by Thomas Benson. Voted in favor, 5/0/0

**Selectmen Meeting**

Tuesday, December 17, 2013 (Immediately following Water Board Meeting)  
Southwest Harbor Town Office

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call: The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. Present: Chairman Ralph Dunbar, Jr., Tom Benson, George Jellison, Dan Norwood, David Minton and Town Manager Donald Lagrange
- II. Chief Chapais spoke as a visitor not on the agenda regarding the progress of the security doors. He stated the contractor, due to not installing in a timely manner, will install the interior doors on December 23 and not charge the Town the labor in the amount of \$1,625. He also mentioned he was continually working to get the center doors to be eventually installed.
- III. Thomas Benson moved to accept the minutes as presented and was seconded by George Jellison. It was voted in favor, 5/0/0.
- IV. Managers Report
  - ~The Manager reported the efforts of Clerk to develop a fire prevention plan, emergency plan and a model exposure control plan to comply with Maine State Labor rules.
  - ~He commented on a derelict scallop boat brought into the harbor and placed on a mooring without harbor master approval. The Manager requested this boat be hauled out at Hinckley and is paying the haul out fee with one months storage at a cost of \$640.00. He claimed the collateral for this was the boat owners mooring as well as possible enforcement

procedures available in the Harbor Ordinance.

~A notice was sent to customer on Long Pond Road to repair a leak or install a back flow preventer device.

~The Manager informed the Board he has been summoned for Grand Jury duty beginning the first week in January through April.

~Legal counsel is working on clearing the covenants in the Rhoades House deed

~Hancock County Commission has schedule a public meeting to discuss disbursement of windpower benefits totaling \$200,000. Manager Lagrange suggested these proceeds are not used as revenue for the county and placed into another reserve account to be used separate from the regular budget process.

~A root ball in the manhole at the intersection of Village Green Way and Main Street caused a backup resulting in contractor Goodwin being called to dig up the area which was originally believed to be a water leak.

~The Town salvaged 45-50 granite stones from the West Branch Marshall Brook and 10 of them were traded to Goodwin for 100 yards of winter sand with approximate value of \$1,000.

~The Manager summarized the surplus in the recently received Audit Report that there was \$2,092,778 in surplus or 29% of expenditures. He also stated this did not take into account the payment of the police department loan or the lower town dock loan. The sum of \$316,000 from the FY12-13 budget was added to the surplus.

~There were generator issues during the last weather event at same time of the fire in Tremont. Recent inspection by the servicing contractor determined a problem with the voltage generator which would be repaired in two days.

~A possible storm closure of the Town Office may occur the next day either all day or opening the office at noon.

#### V. Old Business

~The Manager summarized the construction meeting held on Tuesday at 9:00. He stated there were many residents in attendance to hear the discussions. The Manager and Contractors each presented a possible traffic plan with similarities in both. Due to the narrow area of Main Street between Herrick Road and Village Green, the contractor suggested closing this area completely with detour through Herrick. The mentioned the work from Seal Cove to Herrick road would last two weeks into July. The Manager requested they try to find a better solution. Dan Norwood also attended the meeting and discussed the same issues.

#### VI. New Business

a. The Manager provided an opinion from Town counsel regarding the float proposals as suggested by the Army Corp. Harbormaster Adam Thurston and Harbor Committee Chairman Dan Bartlett suggested that town ownership of floats being leased to fishermen was the preferred choice of all fishermen. Chairman Dunbar requested more information concerning Town liability, the definition of Tort Act and actual owners responsibility for indemnifying the Town.

b. Harbormaster Thurston summarized a change in Harbor fees. Chairman Dunbar suggested they be posted by the Town prior to taking action at the January 7, 2014 meeting. Potential ordinance changes were presented by Dan Bartlett regarding house boats as well as derelict boats in the harbor. The Selectmen advised to proceed with these suggestions. The discussion of the fees also brought attention to the lobster boat on the pier. The concern was the weight limit and limited use of pier when truck on pier. Harbormaster stated sufficient space for another pickup on the pier if all gear was removed. He also stated the pier has not had any major upgrades for 20 years.

c. The Town Manger announce the new recipient of the Boston Cane is Ferne Rumill Leonard at the age of 96. The Cane will be presented with Chairman Dunbar on December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

d. A brief discussion about the 2013 sewer audit detailed a change in the net position from (\$81,808) in 2012 to \$4,797 in 2013. Manager Lagrange stated the Auditors will present their report at the January 7, 2014 meeting.

e. Don Lodge, Jim King and Susie Homer represented the Chamber of Commerce interests in the construction of a visitors center and stated they would have a consensus by its members before the end of January, 2014 whether they would choose to continue participation.

f. Dan Norwood summarized the goals of the infrastructure committee as listed, stating the department heads would assess the priorities to be discussed later. Once prioritized, the list will be compared to Olver study for important projects.

g. The school budget was presented by Tom Benson, having attended the School Board meeting with Manager Lagrange. Discussions were primarily focused on the insurance issues the school will not address and the decrease in the state benefits that the board wants to pass on to the Southwest Harbor taxpayer. Other schools should be consulted regarding their reactions to the decrease in state benefits.

h. Manager Lagrange presented the municipal audit which was recently received and re-iterated the Auditors report on January 7.

VII. Accept and sign warrants.

1) Tom Benson moved to accept the following warrants: General Fund Warrants, **FY13-14, 81,83, 87, 88**; Water **FY2013, 22**; Sewer **FY13-14, 86**; School **FY13-14, 82, 85**; Special Projects, **FY 13-14, 89**: Second by Dan Norwood. It was approved by a vote of 5/0/0.

2) Dan Norwood moved to accept the General Fund Warrants, **FY13-14, 84**. It was second by Dave Mincton and approved by a vote of 3/0/2 with Selectmen Jellison and Benson abstaining.

VIII. Next Meeting Date: Special Meeting, Monday December 23 at 5:00 to discuss the union contract. The next regular meeting will be January 7, 2013 to include scheduling Budget Meetings.

IX. Adjourn Selectmen Meeting

It was moved by Dan Norwood to adjourn meeting at 7:35 PM and seconded by Dave Mincton. Approved and voted 5/0/0.

Approved: January 7, 2013