

TOWN OF TOPSHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2015 - 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donald Russell
Marie Brilliant
David Douglass
Ruth Lyons
William Thompson

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: All present

STAFF PRESENT: Town Manager, Richard Roedner

A meeting of the Topsham Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at the Municipal Building at 100 Main Street, Topsham, Maine.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

Chairman Russell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All present were invited to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The recording secretary took the roll call and noted that all Selectmen were present.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

New Office Hours at Town Hall are now in effect in an effort to better serve our residents. The new hours are M – W 8:30 – 4:30, Thurs. 8:30 – 6, and Friday from 8:30 – 3 pm.

After dealing with multiple computer software issues, tax bills were mailed early this week. The due date is still October 15. The new mil rate is \$17.96, down from the estimated mil rate of \$18.34 at Town Meeting. This is due to the growth in property values.

This Saturday, September 19 from noon until 7 p.m. is Oktoberfest, sponsored by the Southern MidCoast Chamber of Commerce.

September 25 - 27 is the annual book sale at the Topsham Library. The preview for members of the Friends is on Friday evening, and the general public is welcome on Saturday and Sunday

Saturday, September 26 is Drug Take Back Day at the Topsham Police Dept. From 10 a.m. until 2 you can bring in your old, unused, out of date prescription drugs for proper disposal.

Saturday, October 3 will be the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. This time it will be held at the Brunswick Public Works facility from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Watch our webpage for sign up details.

Sunday, October 4 is Fire Prevention Day at the Topsham Fire Department from noon until 4 p.m.

The Selectmen have scheduled two more Neighborhood Meetings to discuss the outcomes from the series of meetings last fall. Tonight they are being asked to finalize their comments, and this document will then be posted and distributed. The two meetings will be October 19 and October 26 at 6 pm at the Library.

Finally, keep an eye open for a series of upcoming community meetings intended to begin the discussion over our upcoming Comprehensive Plan.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

John Shattuck, Economic and Community Development Coordinator reported on the following:

Chamber:

- Chamber's 2d Annual Oktoberfest at the Topsham Fairground
- This SAT 09-19 Noon to 7pm
- Forecast – sunny, highs in the 70s

Lower Village Development Committee (LVDC):

- Per 08-06 BOS approval RA feasibility study under way
- Completion expected in about 60 days
- Committee will report to BOS regarding costs, funding & timeline for building RA in coordination with FJW
- New member proposed: Caroline Russell

Topsham Commerce Park (TCP):

- Firehouse Tumbling will take place from 1 to 3pm SAT 09-19

TDI:

- TDI will be updating its annual strategic priorities plan
- As usual, will be inviting the Selectmen to participate
- New members proposed: Angela Twitchell & Curt Neufeld

TIFs:

- DECD has substantially approved our revisions Interchange Municipal TIF
- A few minor clarifications
- Justin Hennessy and I are providing the necessary information
- As soon as these are submitted, we anticipate a final approval from DECD.

Topsham: Back to the Future:

- Rod Melanson, Carol Eyeran, Susan Preece and I
- Pre-CP workshops re Topsham challenges in planning for the future

Getting around in Topsham: Stuck in Traffic? Can our roads serve all of us?
November 18th at 6:30 pm (Wednesday)

Topsham's historic heritage: Can we build for the future without losing the past?
January 12th at 6:30 pm (Tuesday)

Topsham's rural heritage: Can we grow without losing our natural environment, farms & open space?

February 10th at 6:30 pm (Wednesday)

Putting it all together: Can we coordinate our varied goals to move forward together?
March 9th at 6:30 pm (Wednesday)

PUBLIC COMMENT - None noted.

CORRESPONDENCE - None noted.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA - None noted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SELECTMENS MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2015

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was

VOTED

To approve the Consent Calendar approving minutes of the September 3, 2015 meeting as written.

PUBLIC HEARING

15-57 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE GENERAL ASSISTANCE ORDINANCE APPENDIX

General Assistance Coordinator and Town Clerk, Linda Dumont, presented the annual report on the General Assistance Ordinance Appendix. Following the presentation, the Public Hearing was declared open. There being no comments to be heard, the Public Hearing was declared closed.

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To adopt the Maine Municipal Association General Assistance Ordinance Appendix A & C from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016, as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None noted.

OLD BUSINESS - None noted.

NEW BUSINESS

15-58 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN DEEDS OF TRANSFER TO THE BRUNSWICK TOPSHAM LAND TRUST, PER ITS MAY 3, 2012 VOTE

Town Manager Roedner reviewed the need for the Manager to sign deeds of transfer to the Brunswick Topsham Land Trust per the May 3, 2012 Town Meeting Vote.

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To authorize the Town Manager to sign Deeds of Transfer to the Brunswick Topsham Land Trust per Town Meeting vote of May 3, 2012.

15-59 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON AWARDING A BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF A FRONT-END LOADER

Dennis Cox, Public Works Director, reviewed the bids which were opened on September 8, 2015 for a new front-end loader.

Bids were received as follows:

Beauregard Equipment	\$123,900
Chadwick-BaRoss Volvo	\$126,600
SDLG	\$ 88,500
Nortrax John Deere	\$117,464
Milton CAT	\$119,000

After listening to Mr. Cox's explanation why he preferred the Cat, motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons and it was

VOTED

To accept the bid from Milton CAT for a new front end loader in the amount of \$119,000. (The vote was 4 in favor and 1 opposed [Brillant]).

Mr. Cox asked the Board if they would agree to purchase a wing and plow to go on the new front end loader. The wing and plow currently on the loader will be transferred to the transfer station equipment.

Motion was made by Selectman Thompson, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was

VOTED

To accept the purchase of a wing and plow from H. P. Fairfield, not to exceed \$30,000, to be mounted on the Milton CAT front end loader. (The vote was 3 in favor with 2 opposed [Brillant and Douglass]).

15-60 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MOU WITH THE TOPSHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Town Manager reported that several meetings have taken place between the members of the Board of Selectman, Finance Committee and the Library Board to discuss various issues related to the relationship between the Town and the library. These discussions have led to a proposed amendment to the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and Library Board. The amendment was included in the Board package for the Board to review.

time easier and is an excellent step in the right direction.

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To accept the proposed Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Topsham Public Library.

15-61 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO TDI AND LOWER VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Motion was made by Selectman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Lyons, and it was unanimously

VOTED

To appoint Angela Twitchell and Curtis Neufeld to Topsham Development, Inc. and Caroline Russell to serve on the Lower Village Development Committee.

15-62 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING SUMMARY

A copy of the report of the Neighborhood Meetings was included in the Board Package for the Board to review. Question was raised on how to go about choosing top priorities for action. Suggestion was made to list the items which have already been accomplished as a start and then choose 4 or 5 more to work on.

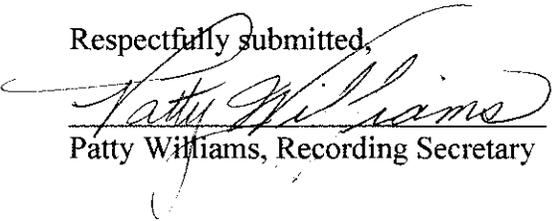
Selectman Lyons said we need to convey to citizens that the group is listening to concerns regarding the speed problems on Winter and Main Street. Agreement was reached to get the document cleaned up and put it on line and also to the library site.

The Town Manager was charged with picking 7 or 8 priorities to address and the Board members agreed to review the report and make appropriate suggestions. No action was taken on this item.

ADJOURN

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Patty Williams, Recording Secretary