

SELECTBOARD MEETING
Approved Minutes

August 29, 2011

7pm Calais Town Hall

Attending: Denise Wheeler, Mike Garand, John Brabant, Scott Bassage, Toby Talbot, Donna Fitch, Alfred Larrabee, Noreen Bryan, Gail Graham, Morgan Ecklund, Arlyn Bruccoli, Peter Bachman, Annie Christopher, Steve Cusick and Rose Pelchuck.

Actions:

Approval of August 8th Meeting Minutes – The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes and made two changes. John Brabant made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Approval of the July 21st Joint Meeting Minutes – The Selectboard reviewed the Minutes. John Brabant made a motion to approve the Minutes as written. The motion was seconded, voted on and carried 5-0.

Town Invoices and Orders of the Day – The Selectboard reviewed and processed the invoices and orders of the day as per usual protocol.

Sign Truck Loan Paperwork – The Selectboard reviewed and signed the loan papers for \$158,957.00 for a five-year loan from Merchant's bank at 3.25% interest as approved at town meeting in March to buy a new 10-wheeler truck. Annual installments in the amount of \$31,791.40 are due beginning August 29, 2012 thru 2019. Alfred Larrabee has already received word that the truck is ready and will be in service soon.

Dog Licensing – Donna Fitch informed the Selectboard about the list of unlicensed dogs. Donna suggests that a letter be sent to each dog owner as a last chance for them to license their pet. Afterwards, a warrant will be issued and forwarded to Fred Bushway, Animal Control Officer.

Letter for Ed Rowell – Denise Wheeler will print a certificate of appreciation and pass around the letter she wrote to Ed Rowell on behalf of the town to be signed by the Selectboard members.

Update from various Boards and Commissions – The Committee on Unmapped and Unmaintained Road Chair, Darby Bradley, will come in on October 10th to provide the Selectboard with an update on the work of this committee.

Road Commissioner Update – Alfred Larrabee, Road Commissioner, gave a summary of damage caused by tropical storm Irene on Sunday, August 28th. The road crew had to cut trees; two roads were closed (Gray Road was impassable) and a washed-out culvert was replaced with two instead of one culvert. Alfred is sure this should take care of the problem on this section of Gray Road. Mike Garand noted that FEMA would handle anything over \$1,000.00 for materials, employee pay, and machinery; you just have to keep accurate records of expenditures. Mike said, "In the whole big picture, it was a serious one." "You have to get a hydro geological study from the state, take pictures, and track the help hours."

Status report on the old grader – Alfred Larrabee reported he has decided to fix it by fixing the leaking cylinder at approximate cost \$1,200.00 to \$5,000.00 and then further diagnose what is going on. The repairs will begin tomorrow. Jim is on the grader. Sidney Griggs (newest employee) does not know how to run a grader. Donna Fitch reported the town has been deducting 5% of employee salary to VMERS (retirement fund), which is incorrect. The town was to contribute 6.2% and the employee contributes only 3.3%. The town clerks had not been using the correct figures since January 1st. The Selectboard agreed to have the town clerk find the best solution to reestablish getting back on track with correct withholdings.

Tax Rate Update – Denise Wheeler went to the school board meeting. It was agreed that the Selectboard, the school board and State Representative, Janet Ancel, would devise a document to better explain the tax rate.

Peter Bachman R-O-W Permit – The Selectboard noted that Peter Bachman obtained a permit for the dock and stairs at 501 #10 Pond Road but did not get a permit for the dock being located in the town's R-O-W. John Brabant made a motion to approve the permit for the dock in the town R-O-W as presented pending the final ok from the Road Commissioner. The motion was seconded, voted and carried 5-0.

August 29, 2011, Minutes
Continued, Page 2

Rose Pelchuck
Selectboard Administrative Assistant