

CALAIS SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Rose's DRAFT

January 25, 2016

7:00 pm Calais Town Office

Present: Calais Selectboard Members: Denise Wheeler, Chair, Scott Bassage, John Brabant, Rose Pelchuck, Toby Talbot, Donna Fitch, Town Clerk, Lou Cherry, Administrative Assistant, Ronnie Shaw; Merritt Kennedy; Erica DeCosta, Rita Copeland, Jack Russell, John McCullough and Rod Buck

Chair, Denise Wheeler, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

REVIEW & SIGN TOWN INVOICES AND HIGHWAY ORDERS

Orders were circulated for Selectboard review and signatures.

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Denise Wheeler welcomed Ronnie Shaw as a candidate for appointment to the Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Tammy Leno. Ronnie has attended several Planning Commission meetings and has become familiar with procedures and some of the issues. Ronnie indicated that he has a Master's Degree in Real Estate from NYU and 20 years real-estate finance experience. He indicated his goal as a Commission member was to insure that Calais residents were protected from over development. He would want to insure that there is an appropriate balance between development and preserving natural resources.

Denise Wheeler made a motion to appoint Ronnie Shaw to the four year unexpired term of Tammy Leno that expires in 2019. Scott Bassage seconded the motion; vote on and passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Denise Wheeler presented several Meeting Minutes have not been approved as follows:

Feb. 5th meeting with the East Montpelier Selectboard. Toby moved, Scott seconded, motion passed 5-0

Feb 23, 2015 minutes: Toby moved to approve, Scott seconded, motion passes 5-0

July 16, 2015 minutes of Joint Meeting with E. Montpelier and EMS Board. Toby moved, Scott seconded, motion passes 5-0

Oct 15, 2015. Minutes of Joint Meet. with E. Montpelier, Toby moved, Scott second, motion passed 5-0

Nov 9, 2015 minutes. Toby moved, Scott second, motion passed 5-0

Dec 2, 2015 minutes. Toby moved, Scott second, motion passed 5-0

Dec 7, 2015 minutes. Joint meeting with E. Montpelier, Toby moved, Scott second, motion passed 5-0

Dec 14, 2015 was continued to Dec 21st. Toby moved, Scott second, motion passed 5-0

Dec 28, 2015, needs some corrections

Jan 5, 2016 minutes was continuation of the Dec 28th meeting, minutes not finished

Jan 11, 2016, minutes. Toby moved, Scott second, motion passed 5-0

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE

Toby Talbot reported that Alfred was off today, and that there was nothing significant to report.

Scott Bassage asked about the estimated cost of the addition to the garage. Toby indicated they estimated \$36,500.

John Brabant raised an incident that occurred Singleton Road in front of his property where a town plow truck, moving extremely fast, threw up stones on his car, windshield, tractor, tractor seat, at least 8 feet from the road, and knocked down the guide stakes throwing them six feet onto his property.

TWIN VALLEY SENIOR CENTER UPDATE

Denise Wheeler had everyone introduce themselves and then pointed out that the TVSC budget request had been added to the Warning for the Town Meeting and that it was up to the Town taxpayers to decide to approve the request, not the Selectboard. Erica DeCosta summarized the purpose and function of the Senior Center and the services it provides to Calais residents. She pointed out that they regularly serve meals to Calais residents without cost. Scott Bassage suggested that the social service groups should coordinate their requests for support rather than

each coming to the Selectboard individually. Denise Wheeler suggested that TVSC might host a meeting inviting the six towns in their service area Selectboards or representatives to attend.

WEC REQUEST FOR PERMIT APPROVAL TO RELOCATE POLE ON QUARRY ROAD

Toby Talbot spoke to Dan Weston about this request. There is a maple tree near the Adamant Co-op Store and it is either cut down the tree or move the pole. Scott Bassage moved to approve the permit to move the pole. John Brabant seconded and the motion was approved 5-0.

REVIEW AND SIGN LETTER TO REP. ANCEL RE: INVESTMENT OF CEMETARY FUNDS REQUESTING LEGISLATIVE CHANGE

Denise Wheeler asked Rod Buck, Trustee of Public Funds, to draft a letter requesting the legislature update the statute providing for more appropriate investment of Cemetery Funds. John Brabant pointed out that it was probably too late to have any legislative action on this this year but have the letter drafted and sent anyway. Denise Wheeler requested a motion to have her and Rod Buck sign a letter to State Rep. Ancel. Scott Bassage moved and Toby Talbot seconded the motion. John asked what the letter would say. Rod indicated that the statutes were out of date (1950's) and the letter was asking Rep. Ancel to request the legislature to review the statute and update it as appropriate. Motion was approved 5-0. (See attached signed letter.)

AUTHORIZE DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR TO HIRE ATTORNEY FOR TAX SALE(S) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016

Scott Bassage made a motion to authorize the Delinquent Tax Collector, Nedene Martin, to hire Gloria Rice, Esq. to assist with tax sales for the year 2016. Toby Talbot seconded the motion and it was approved 5-0.

ZONING REGULATION UPDATE

John McCullough said he would complete the changes by mid-week. John Brabant will email John McCullough other changes. Since there were some substantive changes another public hearing would be necessary. That hearing would be held on the February 15, 2016.

REVIEW PROPOSED TAX REQUEST PAGE FOR THE TOWN REPORT

Donna Fitch indicated that she had added in the \$36,500 for the town garage renovation. That page is completed.

REVIEW/REVISE PROPOSED FY 2017 BUDGET

Donna Fitch pointed out that the only change was the \$36,500 for the garage addition.

SIGN TOWN MEETING WARNING

The final Town Warning was circulated for signing.

OTHER BUSINESS

Denise Wheeler asked John McCullough what exactly he wanted in regards to someone taking the Z.A. Position when he had a conflict. After further discussion, Denise Wheeler said she would check with VLCT to determine exactly what would be an appropriate alternate/substitute.

Rose Pelchuck reported that she has been attending the Roads Advisory Committee meetings. They were going well but they have a need for additional members.

John Brabant moved that meeting be adjourned. Scott Bassage seconded and the motion passes 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Cherry, Administrative Assistant.