

BOARD OF SELECTMEN, TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

Approved Minutes for Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Call to order: The Meeting was called to order @ 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Collins. Ms. Tudor was in attendance, as were the Town Administrator, Finance Director and Code Enforcement Officer. One member of the public attended in person. Six members of the public attended virtually, by Zoom.

Public comment: There was no public comment provided prior to the start of Select Board Business.

Items to be added to agenda (if approved by chair and board): The Town Administrator noted that an item of “*New Business*,” the request from the Fire Chief to purchase a new Squad truck, was pulled to allow for more time to gather some information. It was further noted that this item would be on the upcoming agenda.

Scheduled appointments:

- Harbormaster Hanstein re: Whisper (*see Old Business*) @ 7:15pm
- Lighthouse Farms LLC, Sarah Valencik re: Tier Two Cultivation License Renewal (*see New Business*) @ 7:30pm

Minutes: It was moved by Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, to approve the Minutes of July 25th Meeting as amended. The motion carried, 2-0.

Review: The Board was provided with an updated listing of the Sagadahoc County Dispatch Numbers for July.

Assessing items: The Board was informed that Pat Dow is still working in Town on pre-commitment pickup work.

Correspondence:

- There was a letter from Dave Polito regarding First Church. A copy of his letter is attached, at his request, to these minutes.
- There was an invite to volunteer at Newman Sanctuary from Maine Audubon on August 29th from 9am to 12pm.
- There was a letter from the Dept. of Environmental Protection regarding agency rulemaking on the topic of Coastal Sand Dunes.
- There was a bulletin from the Georgetown Community Center regarding the Community Cupboard. It was noted that the GCC will be holding a monthly Food

Pantry open to all town residents, usually on the last Monday of the month, from 3-5pm. The Board was informed that the opening day would be August 28th.

- There was a Bulletin from the Age Friendly Communities of the Lower Kennebec regarding an opportunity for Free Cell Phones or Tablets, with internet access for a year.
- There was an email from LIHEAP requesting meeting space. It was noted that LIHEAP reached out to request meeting space, once a month, to help serve residents who would have tech and travel barriers. It was agreed that will be a good benefit to Georgetown residents.
- The Board was provided an agenda for the August 16th School Committee Meeting.

Other Correspondence: There was none.

Continuing Items:

Receipts for pumping: There were none.

Maine Waste Discharge License *renewal* / transfer applications: There were none.

Maine Waste Discharge License *approvals*: There were none.

PBR / NRPA : There were none.

Town Administrator Update: The Town Administrator noted that he had an enjoyable visit to the Newman Sanctuary with Noah from Maine Audubon, Bob, and Kathy Gravino check on the walking bridge. Discussion was had regarding the creation of some railings on the approach to said bridge. He further discussed some highlights from his attendance at the New England Management Institute.

Finance Director Update: The Finance Director updated the Board on the status of the 2021-2022 Annual Audit, it is complete. She is now preparing for the 2022-23 Audit, which begins in September.

Committee Updates:

Minutes:

- The Board was provided with a copy of the July 6 Recreation Committee Meeting.

Membership:

- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, the Board voted to reappoint Franklin McDonald to the Recreation Committee. The motion carried, 2-0.

Liaison Updates:

- Mr. Collins reported on the Recreation Committee.

- Ms. Tudor reported on the Conservation Commission and the Solid Waste Committee. She noted that Solid Waste Committee discussed congestion at the Transfer Station at considerable length and agreed on several steps staff could take to alleviate it but they did not feel extending the hours would improve the situation. They would like to install a series of Jersey Barriers around the metal pile to keep it from spreading out into vegetated areas where it can't be picked up. They are taking temporary measures now but anticipate including a substantial amount in next year's budget for the more permanent improvement. She further noted that the Conservation Commissions' August pot-luck was cancelled due to unforeseen volunteer constraints and other numerous community events. Commission Members had expressed the desire for a community calendar to facilitate community event planning. The Coastal Clean-up will take place in September.

Board Member Updates:

Mr. Donaldson: Mr. Donaldson was absent.

Mr. Collins: Mr. Collins had no additional updates.

Ms. Tudor: Ms. Tudor had no additional updates.

Old Business:

- S/V Whisper update – Email from Harbormaster: The Harbormaster arrived for a scheduled appointment to update the Board on the status of S/V Whisper. It was reported by the Harbormaster that the previous plan to have the vessel removed fell through and that it would cost between \$30,000 and \$50,000 to do so. He had consulted with the Coast Guard and they did not require its removal. He has also contacted Bath Iron Works in hopes that they may want to dispose of the vessel. The Board thanked the Harbormaster for his update.
- Code Enforcement Officer Update: The Code Enforcement Officer noted that 13 CEO permits, 26 Planning Board permits, and 21 Plumbing Permits were issued year to date. He further updated the Board regarding the two outstanding LPI issues.
- Ordinances back from legal for review: The Town Administrator noted that there was nothing to report at the time of the Board Meeting. He did note that after a few reschedules, he would be meeting with Kristin Collins and Bob Trabona the following day, August 16, to discuss.
- FEMA Grant Update – The Town Administrator noted that FEMA kicked back our grant application for a few minor tweaks. The application, it was noted, would be resubmitted ahead of the new deadline.

- Gulf of Maine Research Lease Question – follow up discussion: Mr. Donaldson had requested this item be added to the agenda. The Board designated him, in abensentia, to attend the early meetings on behalf of the Town.
- Ordinance Fee Schedule Discussion – The Town Administrator checked in with the Board on the status of previous work to create a master fee schedule for the town (and accompanying ordinance). Ms. Tudor reported that there had been some work done to analyze all current ordinances to identify current fees. She noted that there was some resistance from the TOPMB. The Board tasked the Town Administrator to work on a sample ordinance, to be completed prior to the start of the budget season.

New Business:

- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, the Board voted to renew the Tier Two Cannabis Cultivation License for Lighthouse Farms LLC.
- Proposal From Fire Chief Whalen to Purchase Squad Truck – At the meeting’s outset, at the request of the Finance Director, this item was removed from the agenda pending additional information.
- Zoom Proposal from Town Administrator: On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, it was voted unanimously to approve the creation of a Town of Georgetown Youtube Account for the purposes of posting Select Board Meetings and other relevant Town events. On a second motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, it was voted unanimously to approve up to \$150 for the purchase of a quality, external, hard drive.

Items For Signature:

Certificate of Appointment – Franklin McDonald
 Tier Two Cultivation License – Lighthouse Farms, LLC

Public comment: Alison Freeman noted that she did not believe an external hard drive was sufficient for storing the videos of Planning Board meetings. She offered to meet with the Town Administrator to discuss these concerns.

Executive Session: There was none.

Adjournment: On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, the Board adjourned at 7:56pm.