



BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF ASSESSORS
AGENDA
February 3, 2015
6:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Call to Order: 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Chairman O'Connor, Selectman Crichton, Selectman Ganiere, Selectman Wright
Selectman Pendergast

OTHERS PRESENT: Interim Town Manager Gary Stenhouse, Town Clerk Jo Anne Lepley

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. January 20, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectman Wright requested that the statement by Eleanor Murphy be clear regarding the \$30,000 for Economic Development he wants added to the 2016 Budget reflect her support for the amount even if it meant cutting the budget elsewhere.

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Ganiere and seconded by Selectman Pendergast to approve the minutes as amended.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

b. January 20, 2015 Public Hearing – Water Rate Case

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Wright and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to approve the minutes as corrected.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

III. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a. BCTV Committee

Selectman Wright announced that Vicky Stone had resigned her position on the committee.
Chairman O'Connor and the other BOS

b. Recreation Committee - none

c. Envision Berwick Committee (EBC) – none

IV. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT

William Langley – Mr. Langley spoke regarding his feelings that nothing was being done to stop the theft occurring at the Transfer Station and asked why he is not allowed to speak with former co-workers at the Transfer Station.

Mr. Stenhouse stated that this was a topic to be discussed in closed (Executive) session.

Selectman Pendergast – Selectman Pendergast stated that with the Governor's proposed budget it is even more important to actively seek consolidation wherever possible with neighboring towns. He feels that renewing the dispatch contract with South Berwick is definitely a step in the right direction. The BOS discussion also included the consolidation of Town Manager, Police, Fire and Dispatch.

V. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/OTHER GUESTS – None

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Comments on Three Berwick Water Department Unanswered Hearing Questions – Sandy Bolotsky

Mr. Stenhouse stated that the number of small users was actually found to be around 33% versus the 10% discussed at the Public Hearing. The BOS requested that this item be posted on the Town's website.

b. Town Manager Recruitment Strategy

Mr. Stenhouse went over the plan for advertising the Town Manager position and stated that a challenge statement will be developed. There was a short discussion regarding the residency for the future Town Manager.

c. Budget Meetings

Mr. Stenhouse stated that the BOS Budget Meetings start next Tuesday and that the Budget Committee is behind. Budget Committee Chair Andrea Ouimette stated that they are meeting Wednesday, February 4, 2015 and on Monday February 23, 2015 and will finish what needs to be done before the BOS meets on the 24th.

VII. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANTS

A/P WARRANT	1529	\$59,168.68
WATER WARRANT	0530	\$3,471.10
PAYROLL WARRANT	1531	\$59,913.83
A/P WARRANT	1531	\$63,764.44
WATER WARRANT	0531	\$1,970.13
PAYROLL WARRANT	1532	\$63,821.65

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Ganiere to approve the Accounts Payable Warrants as submitted.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

VIII. QUITCLAIM DEEDS AND/OR INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS

a. Quitclaim Deed Re: 2010 Lien that was paid in 2012 and not recorded

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Wright to accept and sign the Quitclaim Deed Without Covenants for R004-004-001, Supplemental as presented.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Stenhouse stated that the tax abatement appeal hearing before the York County Commissioners was continued until February 18, 2015. The next BOS meeting is February 17th and Assessor Paul McKenney will attend to present his findings.

X. NEW BUSINESS – None

XI. ABATEMENTS/SUPPLEMENTALS – None

XII. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT –None

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS/NON-AGNEDA ITEMS

Selectman Wright – Selectman Wright restated his proposal to have \$30,000 in the 2016 Budget for Economic Development. Frank Underwood is working on developing an economic development plan that would be the guide for using the funds. Selectman Wright stated that funding should be cut in all areas to

allow for the requested \$30,000. Chairman O'Connor stated that the wording of the warrant article must be crafted in such a way that the rules on how it will be spent are clear.

Selectman Wright – Selectman Wright brought up the matter of impact fees and stated that he had spoken with three members of the Planning Board and asked if they would look into this. Selectmen Wright asked that the Planning Board be directed to do so.

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Wright and seconded by Chairman O'Connor to direct the Planning board to look into impact fees and to bring a proposal to the BOS.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

Selectman Crichton – Selectman Crichton restated his position regarding permit fees supporting the Planning and Code departments and felt the fees should be raised by 20%.

Selectman Wright stated that he agreed with raising the fee but would like to wait and see what a year shows with the current increase that was recently put into place.

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Crichton and seconded by Selectman Pendergast to increase Planning and Code fees by 20%.

The motion failed on a vote of 2 – 3 (O'Connor, Ganiere, Wright)

Selectman Wright – Selectman Wright stated that he had been appointed to MMA's Legislative Policy Commission and that he had been able to attend a recent meeting where they went over the Governor's proposed tax plan. Selectman Wright felt that there was a lot in the Governor's proposed budget that will be affecting Berwick and that now is the time to start considering how to deal with the loss of revenue sharing and the taxing of non-profits.

Selectman Ganiere – Selectman Ganiere stated that Diamond Hill Road is in bad shape and that they should give serious consideration in fixing at least part of the road.

XIV. POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: It was moved by Chairman O'Connor and seconded by Selectman Wright to enter into Executive Session per M.R.S. Title 1 §405(6)(a) – Personnel

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

No action resulted from the Executive Session

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: It was moved by Selectman Wright and seconded by Selectman Pendergast to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously; 5 – 0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

**The February 3, 2015 BOS Meeting Minutes
Signed as approved at the Board's February 17, 2015 Meeting.
On behalf of the Board**

Bryan O'Connor, Chairman, Berwick Board of Selectmen

Handwritten signature of Robert E. Crichton, with the text "Robert E. Crichton, Chair" written below it.