



BOARD OF SELECTMEN / BOARD OF ASSESSOR
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2016
6:30pm

Call to Order

Selectman Ganiere called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

I. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Selectman Edward Ganiere, Selectman Mark Pendergast and Selectman Joshua Plante.

Staff Members Present: Finance Director Maureen Finger and Town Clerk Patricia Murray.

Selectman Plante moved to appoint Selectman Ganiere as Chair Pro Tem for the duration of the March 15, 2016 Board of Selectmen Meeting. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3-0.

II. Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2016

Motion: Selectman Plante moved to accept the minutes as written. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3-0.

III. First Public Comment - None

IV. Public Hearing

a. ComCast Agreement ending July 2017

Mr. Timothy Cremmen, BCTV, spoke. Mr. Cremmen stated the franchise agreement ends in July of 2017. BCTV is looking to increase the franchise fee from 2.5% to 5% which is the industry standard. The increase in fee would help fund an anticipated expansion of channels. A municipal committee is being formed to gather information and resident input. Survey results so far indicate a generally unhappy rating with pricing and data strength. The focus was mostly on internet service versus cable TV service. Mr. Cremmen indicated that a mailing will go out to receive more responses and they are looking into hiring a consultant. Selectman Pendergast asked if another company could be considered. Mr. Cremmen replied that they are obligated to negotiate with ComCast first and if an agreement cannot be reached then other companies can be considered.

b. Morning Dove Court Proposed Article for becoming a town maintained road

Ms. Maureen Finger spoke to the proposed article. She stated the Town Planner hired an engineer to inspect the road and reported that the road meets town standards. Ms. Finger asked the BOS to approve the proposed article for the Town Warrant.

Motion: Selectman Pendergast moved to approve the Morning Dove Court Proposed Article for inclusion on the Town Warrant. Selectman Plante seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3-0.

c. Proposed Land Use Ordinance Amendments

Mr. Dave Andreesen, Planning Board Chair, spoke to the proposed ordinance amendments. He stated some changes were to clarify language and all were to keep within state standards. A public hearing was held two weeks ago and no comments were received. Selectman Pendergast had questions regarding the changes to the fertilizer section and wanted to research before he made a decision.

Motion: Selectman Pendergast moved to table the Proposed Land Use Ordinance Amendments for inclusion on the Town Warrant. Selectman Plante seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3-0.

V. Reports of Committees

a. BCTV

Mr. Timothy Cremmen was present. Mr. Cremmen stated the committee has been contacting consultants and working on negotiations for the franchise agreement.

b. Envision Berwick Committee (EBC)

Mr. Frank Underwood spoke. He stated the ice skating rink had been removed on Sunday, March 13. The Committee is waiting on EverSource for the Purchase and Sales Agreement on the land purchase. The Environmental Assessment is moving ahead. Mr. Underwood expressed the Committee's interest in the recreational components proposed for the Prime location. He stated EBC would like to meet with the Recreation Committee and perhaps with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the Master Plan. He also stated the MS4 project had its kick-off meeting on March 3rd. He reported TIF information has been sent to the Town Manager. EBC's next meeting is scheduled for March 24th and a public hearing regarding the Brownfields clean up analysis is scheduled at 4pm on the 24th. The Riverfront Committee meets March 16th and their fundraising effort will begin shortly. The boat launch is slated for mid-May. The Historical Society's next meeting is scheduled for March 16th at the House of Hope.

Mr. Dave Andreesen presented the proposed welcome sign with the Town's slogan.

Motion: Chair Pro Tem Ganiere made a motion to approve the purchase of the Town sign as proposed.

Selectmen Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

VI. Appointment / Presentation / Other Guests

a. Berwick Farmer's Market Committee

- Kate Kennington

Ms. Kennington was introduced. Ms. Kennington has resided in Berwick for eight years and is a Health and Nutrition Coach.

Motion: Chair Pro Tem Ganiere made a motion to accept Kate Kennington as a Member of the Berwick Farmer's Market Committee with her term expiring December 31, 2017. Selectmen Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

VII. Unfinished Business

a. Pay as You Throw Program – fee schedule

Ms. Eleanor Murphy spoke. She referred to an article in the Maine Sunday Telegram about recycling. Discussion regarding mandatory recycling ensued.

VIII. Communications

a. Complete Streets Workshop

Ms. Finger informed the Board of a seminar on Complete Streets. The Board members were given the flyer. The seminar is being held in Saco on March 23, 2016 from 5 – 7. Selectman Ganiere expressed interest in attending.

b. Berwick Winter Farmer's Market Update

The Board received a written update from the Farmer's Market Committee. Ms. Kennington reported that the last market was very well attended.

IX. Approval of Warrants

03/03/2016	A/P Warrant #1636	\$ 682,640.87
03/03/2016	Water Warrant #0636	13,356.21
03/10/2016	Payroll Warrant #1637	41,958.38
03/10/2016	A/P Warrant #1637	53,172.13
03/10/2016	Water Warrant #0637	287.70
03/17/2016	Payroll Warrant #1638	44,068.11

Motion: Chair Pro Tem Ganiere made a motion to accept the Payable Warrants as presented. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

X. New Business

a. American Legion Request for Funding

Ms. Finger reported that Mr. Andy Buckman from the American Legion requested a donation from the Town for the 2016 Car Show which is scheduled for June 5th. The Town typically donates \$200.00 annually for the purchase of dash plaques. Mr. Buckman indicated the money would be used to purchase koozies this year.

Motion: Chair Pro Tem Ganiere made a motion to approve a \$200.00 donation from the contingency fund to the American Legion for the 2016 Car Show. Selectmen Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

XI. Quit Claim Deeds and/or Installment Contracts - None

XII. Abatements / Supplemental - None

XIII. Second Public Comment

Ms. Eleanor Murphy, Rochester Street, spoke. She noted that in the 40's and 50's every street in Berwick had sidewalks on both sides of the street. She stated that when new roads are built they should add sidewalks.

XIV. Executive Session - None

XV. Other Business/Non-Agenda item

Ms. Finger announced that there is a special Board of Selectmen Meeting and Budget Workshop Session scheduled for Tuesday, March 22. There is also a Budget Workshop Session scheduled for March 29 at which the BOS will meet with the Budget Committee. Ms. Finger requested a 6:00pm start time for both meetings. The Board agreed to the 6:00pm start time.

XVI. The Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Murray
Town Clerk

The March 15, 2016 BOS Meeting Minutes – Signed as approved at the Board of Selectmen’s April 5, 2016 Meeting.

On behalf of the Board
