

**Board of Selectmen & Assessors Meeting - Agenda  
December 12, 2016 @ 6:00p.m.  
Newcastle Fire Station**

**Final Approved  
1/9/17**

**Present:** Selectmen Christopher Doherty, Ben Frey, Brian Foote, Carolyn Hatch and Joel Lind; Town Administrator Jon Duke;  
Superintendent of Roads, Buildings & Grounds Steve Reynolds

Guests: Maine DOT Commissioner David Bernhardt, Deane VanDusen, and Meghan Russo

**1. Call to Order:** Foote called meeting to order at 6pm

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Done

**3. Public Comments: (For items not on the agenda) - None**

**4. Amendments to/ Approval of the Agenda:** None

**5. Discussion:**

5.1 Sherman Marsh Discussion – Maine DOT Commissioner David Bernhardt

Bernhardt present to speak to the state's acquiring an easement on properties surrounding Sherman Lake via eminent domain.

Property owners present to question why Shoreland Zoning is not sufficient enough for the future environmental impact. The commissioner was asked if the Maine DOT was familiar with Federal Farming Act or if that legislation was taken into consideration during this eminent domain process. Bernhardt referred question to Deane who confirmed that nothing of that act has been mentioned or considered.

Resident Martha Gaythwaite noted that Shoreland zoning is legislative and that no one from interagency review team has spoken with this group of residents and believes that restrictions imposed upon residents is different than statewide Shoreland Zoning.

Marva Nesbitt requested a written confirmation of restrictions and allowances. Deane advised all acquisitions are hoping to be complete by the end of June. VanDusen will obtain information from the property office and email landowners updated information.

5.2 Bernhardt asked if there were any other MDOT issues that the board would like to discuss. Foote mentioned the drainage hole in Memorial Park that has been filled several times but keeps sinking and the sidewalk from the town office to Academy Hill Road that the town would like to see repaired. Bernhardt advised that all sidewalks are the responsibility of the municipality, not MDOT, however that doesn't necessarily mean that the MDOT would not repair in the process of a project, ie – reparation of the drainage. Duke charged with emailing Bernhardt details of all issues discussed.

**6. Actions/Appointments/Resolutions**

6.1 Street Vendor Application – Que Rico

Proper paperwork is in order. Frey motioned to approve the application; seconded by Lind.

**Approved: Vote 5-0**

- 6.2 Tax Acquired Land Bid –  
Bids submitted did not meet the 90% minimum of assessed combined land values of all 3 lots.  
Assessed value is \$143,700 (90% would be \$129,330)  
Board concurred that it would be in the best interest of the town to decline the bids as they do not come close to the expected and published.  
Frey motioned to reject all bids, seconded by Doherty. **Approved: Vote 5-0**
- 6.3 Winter Maintenance Sidewalk Extension – Lincoln Home to Newcastle Fire Station  
Reynolds advised that bids proposal were solicited for maintenance. Bids received from J&H Landscaping for \$8,600; Property Care Plus Services for \$5,000, F&S Property Management for \$3,700.  
Reynolds recommends the town accept the low bid from F&S Property Management.  
Frey motioned to accept the bid from F&S Property Management; seconded by Lind. **Approved: Vote 5-0**

## **7. Approve Consent Items**

### **Minutes:**

- 7.1 Minutes: November 28, 2016 - Tabled

### **Warrant(s):**

- 7.2 Town Warrant: \$ 215,121.18  
Lind motioned to accept; seconded by Hatch. **Approved: Vote 5-0**
- 7.3 Town Warrant \$ 139.00  
Fox-it PDF software  
Frey motioned to approve, seconded by Lind. **Approved: Vote 5-0**
- 7.4 Fire Warrant \$ 655.36  
Frey motioned to approve; seconded by Lind. **Approved: Vote 5-0**  
Available Cash: \$ 1,574,303.83

## **8. Communications:**

### **9. Executive Session**

- 9.1 Personnel
- 9.2 Real Estate  
Pursuant to M.R.S.A. § (405)(6)(A) – Personnel & M.R.S.A. § (405)(6)(C) – Real Estate Issue  
Frey motioned to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Doherty. **Approved: Vote 5-0**

Following Executive Session Frey motioned to authorize Christmas bonuses for the town employees; seconded by Lind. **Approved: Vote 5-0**

Frey also made a motion to increase the salary for the Fire Chief's position to the amount commensurate with the new Federal salary minimum of \$47,473; seconded by Hatch. **Approved: Vote 5-0**

## **10. Adjourn**

At 9:10pm Frey motioned to adjourn; seconded by Hatch. **Approved: Vote 5-0**

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Dorothy Peters, Recording Secretary

### **Upcoming Events**

Town Office Closed - Christmas Day Observed: Monday, December 26th  
Town Office Closed – New Year's Day Observed: Monday, January 2nd