

Submitted By:

Amber Jones

Amber L. Jones
Administrator

**TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES
August 29, 2018**

Approved by Selectmen:

*GR 9/19/18
JW 9/19/18*

Selectmen convened at 4:30 p.m. for a site walk at the Sand & Salt Shed for the proposed Community Garden site, followed by a 2nd site walk near the PES Ballfield.

The regular meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall with Selectman Read, Selectman Mixon, Selectman Young and Administrator Jones present.

I. New Business:

1. Consider the two proposed sites for the Community Garden and discuss the merits of both locations.

Ellen Winchester stated that they looked at both possible sites (one area on the south end of the ballfield at the Elementary School and the other to the west of the Sand/Salt Shed). The south section of the fence next to the ballfield, the negatives are that there is a large buffer of trees between that area and the development to the south. In order to have enough sunlight for the gardens, those trees would have to be removed. Ms. Winchester feels that may not be amenable to the neighbors. The pluses are: it is a nice spot, it's across from the Fire Station and parking is available there, it's also near to the Pilot Project, and is centrally located. Another negative of adding more raised beds there, is the preference not to do gardening during the school day, as it would be disruptive for the school and there may or may not be a water source there. Selectman Young added that it would be difficult to drive to this location. Ms. Winchester continued to say that the other location (to the west of the Salt Shed at the Transfer Station) there's a little road at the south end area for the garden where cars could park. Curtis has stated that he would remove the piles of asphalt, the sand and some of the trees and the bushes. One of the big pluses is that the neighbors are enthusiastic about the project and which is really important. The area needed to start is for nine 4 x 12 raised beds that would be arranged along the road, with access to the old dump. Curtis agreed to put gravel or sand down first, and then the beds, filling them with compost. From there the project could move forward quickly. The Committee hopes to sign people up this fall and possibly start next spring. Minuses are it's not centrally located, though everyone goes to the Transfer Station and passes the entrance to the proposed garden. There are animals that will inevitably be attracted to the garden. Selectman Mixon asked about water. Ms. Winchester responded that at either location they have made the decision a cistern tank to bring water in would be the safest way to go. Ellen is hoping to get a grant for that or a donation of a used cistern. Selectman Young likes the spot down by the Sand & Salt Shed. We would have to bring it to a Town Meeting vote and get permission to use the Town's site so probably the best thing to do is have the Conservation Commission meet, take a vote, bring back the formal vote to the Board, make a presentation for Town Meeting and check with the abutter down there.

2. Consider accepting a donation of \$500.00 for the Murphy House from an anonymous donor.

Vote: Selectman Mixon motioned to accept the above donation, which was seconded by Selectman Young, and passed by a vote of 3-0.

II. Correspondence:

1. Letter from Governor Paul R. LePage urging employers to reach out to lawmakers regarding LD 700, "An Act to Give Flexibility to Employees and Employers for Temporary

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Layoffs".

Selectman Young stated that the Legislature is trying to pass a law that grants a six week waiver for work search. So if you become unemployed you have six weeks before you have to start looking for a job. There is no action from the Select Board.

2. Email from Barney Baker, Baker Design Consultant, regarding funding compiled for the Popham Pier improvements.

Selectman Mixon stated that Barney Baker is still working out some more funding sources for the Town. We are close to knowing what funds are available at which point the Town could contract his services to build the design, have the State approve it, and start breaking ground. There are a lot of agencies involved and everyone has been working very well with us. Barney is keeping us moving forward as much as he can.

3. Water Quality Report 2017 from Meryl Bond, Marine Resource Scientist I, Maine Department of Marine Resources.

Selectman Young stated this is the annual report they give to the Town. The Shellfish Commission does water testing along the coast and send the results of those tests to the DMR. Then the DMR looks to see if they need to change any classifications and it looks like they are going to be conditionally approved as they have been for a while. The only question Selectman Young had was there were six problems from 2015 when DMR were doing shore surveys. Selectman Young isn't sure whether those have been remediated or not so need to check with Lee on the status of them.

Comment from the public that she heard there was a move to open up the Basin for clamming; it's not a water quality issue. Selectman Mixon stated that there has been a lot of time and money spent seeding down there over the past years. There were a few shore side septic systems that were causing an issue several years ago in that area. Selectman Young stated it looks like it's a section by Brightwater that is restricted; the rest of the Basin is open. Question from the public was should the Shellfish Commission look at this first and then come to the Selectmen to make a request to DMR for a water test - the response was yes.

III. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements:

Nomination papers available for RSU1 Board of Directors until September 24th

Administrator Jones announced that nomination papers are still available for RSU 1 Board of Directors until September 24th. If anyone would like further information it is on the website.

Selectman Young thanked Kehl Chadwick, who was the new Parking Enforcement Officer this year. He did a wonderful job and we're hoping he comes back next year.

Selectman Mixon reminded that if student's haven't started school yet they will tomorrow, so the school buses are back out on the roads so be mindful of that as it may take a few minutes longer to get to work. Selectman Mixon was also approached by someone who was concerned about an expansion project at the acre lot wharf. There are no plans to do any type of expansion project at the acre lot at this point.

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IV. Public Forum:

Dot Kelly who is on the Conservation Commission discussed the Popham parking – and thought that the Selectmen or the Conservation Commission could ask Sean Vaillancourt (Popham Beach State Park Manager) if he would be willing to give a debrief on the 2018 summer season. Selectman Read explained that the Select Board usually invites him to a meeting in the spring before the season starts so he can report on how the prior year went. The Board will also be talking with John to see how the summer went as far as patrol and parking officers working there.

V. Review and/or Sign:

1. Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants
2. Selectmen's Minutes for July 11th and July 18th, 2018
3. Municipal Quit Claim Deed for Jeffrey W. Smith (Map 030, Lot 006)

Vote: Selectman Mixon motioned to review and sign the above, which was seconded by Selectman Young, and passed by a vote of 3-0.

VI. Adjournment:

Vote: At 6:26 p.m., Selectman Mixon motioned to adjourn into a Selectmen's Bylaws Workshop, which was seconded by Selectman Young and passed by a vote of 3-0.

Selectmen's Bylaws Workshop