

SELECT BOARD, TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

Minutes for Tuesday, February 11, 2025

The meeting was **called to order** at 6:01pm by Chair Collins.

The lone item of **public comment** came from Pam Gunnell, touching on her letter and sharing her belief that increasing opportunities for public comment on the agenda would increase public participation.

There were no **items added to the agenda**.

The lone **Scheduled appointment** was a Public Hearing on Revisions to the Town of Georgetown's Fee Schedule. The Hearing was declared open by Chair Collins at 6:05pm. The Town Administrator briefly updated the Board and assembled public of the proposed changes. These changes included: 1) a previously omitted Wireless Communications Tower Application Fee (\$500), 2) changes to the Recreational Shellfish Licenses (\$25 for Residents, \$40 for Non-Residents, and \$35 for an Off-Premise 7-Day Recreational License), 3) correction of the fee for Skiff's left at Todd's Landing (\$25), and 4) a previously omitted returned check fee (\$25). Chair Collins, as Liaison to the Shellfish Conservation Commission, noted that the Commission opted not to change the Resident Recreational License and did not want to see that fee increased to \$25, rather staying at \$20. That feedback was noted. There was no public comment. The hearing was declared closed at 6:09pm. Board Action on this hearing can be found under New Business.

Minutes:

- On a motion from Ms. Eee, seconded by Ms. Tudor, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the minutes of January 14th the meeting.
- On a motion from Ms. Eee, seconded by Ms. Tudor, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to table the Minutes of January 28th the meeting.

The Board was provided with updated Hauling Numbers for **review**.

Assessing items:

- On a motion from Ms. Eee, seconded by Ms. Tudor, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to table the Abatement Requests from Seidman Ledges, LLC. (01R-006, 01R-006-A:H)
- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Ms. Eee, it was voted unanimously to deny the Abatement Request from Christopher Ross et al. (11R-014-I)
- The Board was updated regarding Letter from Julie Ipcar, with Ms. Ipcar sharing that a recent survey had indicated her acreage was incorrect. The Administrator noted that this error would be corrected in the upcoming year's assessing work.

The Board was provided with the following items of correspondence:

- Office of State Senator Denise Tepler – Legislative Update
- State of Maine – Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife – Bring a newbie during Free Fishing Weekend Notice
- State of Maine – Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry – Letter re: Fee Sharing
- Sagadahoc County – Sheriff's Department - Incident Report for January
- Sagadahoc County – Emergency Management Agency – Annual Report
- Email from Counsel re: Upcoming Legislation
- Maine Municipal Association – Strategic Business Plan

- Maine Fire Chiefs' Association – 2024 Chief of the Year Nominations
- Letter from Pam Gunnell re: Public Comment at Select Board Meetings

Regarding **continuing items**, the Board was informed that the Office was in possession of receipts for pumping the holding tank at the Georgetown Community Center.

The Board tackled several **committee related items**. In terms of membership, appointments were made to the Ad Hoc Town Report Committee and the Working Waterfront Work Group. On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Ms. Eee, it was voted unanimously to approve the following slate to the Ad Hoc Town Report Committee: Patricia Kosalka, Victor Gavriellov, Rufus Brown, Margaret Limm, and Carol Start. On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Mr. Collins, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to accept the designated Committee Representatives and appoint Community Members Robert "Pat" Burns and John Jones to the Working Waterfront Work Group. Marissa MacMahan was chosen to represent the Shellfish Conservation Committee and Mike Farina to represent the Harbor Committee. At the time of the meeting, the TOPMB had yet to designate its member.

The following Board Member and Committee Updates were provided:

- Mr. Collins reported that the Shellfish Committee had met and discussed the proposed fee changes. The Planning Board, it was noted, was working on finalizing their Short-Term Rental Survey. Mr. Collins noted that the Planning Board wanted all suggested survey changes to them by Friday, February 14th.
- Ms. Tudor shared that she had a discussion with Susie Wren of the Georgetown Attainable Housing Initiative (GAHI) related to their interest in developing affordable housing on Town-Owned Property (at the First Church and the Five Islands Fire Station). Ms. Tudor reported that she encouraged GAHI to explore what could be done in those buildings prior to making a request of the Select Board for a Warrant Article to that effect. Ms. Tudor further reported on the Conservation Commission's Meeting. She noted that the Hydrology Grant was still being pursued, that their Budget Work was underway, and that they had a draft MOU for the Playground to be considered by the GCC and, ultimately, the Select Board.
- Ms. Eee reported that the Harbor Committee would be holding its meeting later in the week and that the Recreation Committee was soliciting nominations for Citizen of the Year. She also noted that the School Committee would be holding a Hybrid Meeting on February 26th.

Town Administrator Updated the Board on the following items:

- Mr. Washburn reminded the Board that the Town Office typically follows the School in regards to storm cancellations and encouraged members of the public to check the website, Facebook, or call the Town Office if in doubt due to weather.
- It was noted that the Town Clerk would be on vacation until February 19th.
- It was also noted that the Town the Bath EMS Contract was still with Counsel.
- Lastly, Mr. Washburn noted that Georgetown was in the news! He encouraged the Board to read the February edition of Downeast Magazine for a good article about Dahlov Ipcar.

There was no **old business**.

The Board addressed the following items of **new business**:

- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Ms. Eee, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the proposed Fee Schedule Revisions.
- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Ms. Eee, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Friends of Seguin Island

Lighthouse Station. This Memorandum allowed FOSILS to apply for a Maine Emergency Management Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Grant.

- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Ms. Eee, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to table any action regarding this year's Spirit of America Award until a subsequent meeting. The Board was directed to email any potential nominees to the Town Administrator for future consideration.
- On a motion from Ms. Tudor, seconded by Ms. Eee, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to designate Jon Collins as Select Board Representative to attend a meeting with various stakeholders, convened by the Georgetown Historical Society, regarding the Trafton Oliver Cemetery.
- On a motion from Ms. Eee, seconded by Ms. Tudor, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to donate all but four of the Pink Conference Room Chairs to the Georgetown Community Center.
- On a motion from Ms. Eee, seconded by Ms. Tudor, it was voted unanimously (3-0) to approve increasing the Town's Zoom Storage capabilities.

The following **items** were available **for signature**:

- Abatement Application for Christopher Ross et al (11R-014-I)
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Georgetown and the Friends of Seguin Island Lighthouse Station

There was no **public comment** at the close of the meeting. There was also no **Executive Session**.

Having completed all of the business before it, the Board stood **adjourned** at 6:52pm.