

TOWN OF RANDOLPH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
September 30, 2008
3:00 p.m.

BOS PRESENT:

Robert B. Davis
Peter K. Hanley
Edward F. Gorham

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lynn R. Mealey, Town Clerk
Robert St. Pierre, Code Enforcement Officer
Bill Allen, Maine DOT

Meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. Peter Hanley made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 16, 2008 meeting. Ed Gorham seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Ed Gorham made a motion to sign the **Kennebec Valley Humane Society** annual contract for the Town of Randolph which takes effect on January 1, 2009 and goes through December of 2009. Peter Hanley seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Discussion of upcoming **Annual Audit by Smith & Associates** which is scheduled for next week, Monday, October 6, 2008. Bob Davis talked about the fact that he has stated that it is a good idea to change auditors every few years or you can choose to be audited by the State of Maine. Peter Hanley mentioned the fact that this service used to be put out to bid by the Town. Bob discussed actually sitting down with the Auditors to discuss the management letter and he feels this should be part of the process. He asked for the names and phone numbers of the people at Smith & Associates so that he may get in contact with them regarding this. Bob signed several documents that were requested by the auditors in anticipation of the audit next week.

Ed Gorham made a motion to have Bob Davis contact Smith & Associates about setting up such a meeting. Peter Hanley seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Bob asked the Board to attend a **public hearing** next Tuesday requested by **General Assistance Administrator**, Gloria Fitzherbert. This is an annual public hearing to adopt the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-C for 2008/2009. Bob, Peter and Ed all agreed that this public hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Notice will be posted today of the hearing. There was discussion about the fact that the auditors will be here and using the meeting room. Bob said that if necessary, they could be asked to move out of the room but it was not felt that it would be a problem.

Bob Davis brought up the issue with the piece of property between the **Goodheart** property and the Turgeon property. As discussed in the past, the Goodhearts have been pursuing this and would like to have possession of this strip of land. In all previous research it was determined that this lot vanished back in the late 80's and when the town tax assessor was questioned about

it, he stated that he felt it had been “absorbed”. Bob said that he feels that it is clear on the town tax maps and that Mr. Van Tuinen was in error. Bob said that the paperwork will be given back to Tax Collector Janet Richards for some more research to see if this was taken by the Town by virtue of unpaid taxes. Bob will be in touch with Mr. VanTuinen in regard to this as it was the general consensus that this was an assessor’s error.

Bill from **AE Hodsdon** which was given to town attorney John Larouche was discussed. Bob said that in talking with Larouche it was felt that Hodsdon never billed the town for this work in anticipation of getting this new contract for future work. Attorney Larouche is still working on this matter and that the “bill” in question will have to be broken down and then a decision will have to be made whether or not to pay it. Larouche expressed concern that the bill was not given to the town in a timely manner. Peter Hanley said that during this next project, the BOS should be more vigilant and keep a closer eye on the work being done on a weekly basis.

Bob discussed a memo from MMA regarding towns accepting debit/credit cards and not being charged surcharges or service charges which cannot be passed on to the taxpayers.

Bob St. Pierre was called into the meeting to give an update on the “Doray” property situation. Bob reiterated that the town does not have minimum standards on private residences and that in most situations the towns or municipalities do not want to tread into the private domicile freedoms. He said he had been contacted today by Sen. Earle McCormick’s office regarding a complaint on this property. Bob returned the call but was unable to make contact. He left a message at Sen. McCormick’s office and will provide them with any information they may want. Bob left the meeting.

Bob Davis stated that the next regular BOS meeting is schedule for Tuesday, October 14, 2008 @ 3:00 and asked Peter and Ed if they would be willing to go directly from that meeting to a meeting of the **Wastewater Committee and Earth Tech** at 5:00 p.m. He said that he felt this meeting would over by 7:00 p.m. but this was requested by Earth Tech. Both Peter and Ed agreed to be in attendance. Bob will notify all members of the **Wastewater Committee**.

At 4:25 p.m. Mr. **Bill Allen** from the Maine **Department of Transportation** entered the meeting to discuss the offer from DOT to allow the Town to obtain **diesel fuel** from the State’s pump at the DOT garage in Randolph. He gave the BOS members an info packet regarding the rules and regulations. Signing the agreement does not lock the town into participation but just allows the usage of the fuel pump. There is also no minimum or maximum as to usage. Also Mr. Allen stated that other towns are participating at the approximate 80 sites around the State. As the Town has only two vehicles that would be participating, one being a fire truck and the other being a tractor used by Public Works, there would be two cards issued to the town with two “PIN” numbers. This would be recorded on a weekly report and one bill per month. It was felt that the report should be e-mailed to the treasurer. Janet Richards, treasurer will also get the bill on a monthly basis. Mr. Allen will get in touch with Fire Chief Ronald Cunningham and Public Works Director John Crocker about the procedures for using the tank.

Mr. Allen stated that he would need the “vins” and years for both vehicles. He would also like to have an “estimate” of how much fuel the town might be using. The Board suggested that he

obtain this information from Ron and John. Janet Richards will be responsible for giving that information on the vehicles to Mr. Allen. Bob Davis signed the agreement and the State will send a signed copy back to the Town for their records. Mr. Allen said that some of the other towns participating in this program are: West Gardiner, Fairfield & Gray.

At 4:40 p.m. Janet Richards entered the meeting to inform the Board that Gloria Fitzherbert will not be able to attend the **MMA convention** next week with regard to the sessions on **General Assistance**. Patricia Ranks would not be able to as Lynn is going to be out of Town on that day. Janet suggested that the Board consider having the office closed on Thursday, October 9 so that she and Patricia can attend the MMA convention and the pertinent sessions. Peter Hanley made a motion to close the office for that one day. Ed Gorham seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Peter Hanley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed Gorham seconded the motion. **VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn R. Mealey, Town Clerk