

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 9/20/2011
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Vice Chairman Spencer Booker, Beverly Wright

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Randhi Belain, Mike Hebert, Chip Vanderhoop, Buddy Vanderhoop, Jim Sanfilippo.

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

The minutes acceptance from the 9/06 meeting was postponed until the next meeting of the Board since Jim was needed to approve.

-1st item on the agenda was for the Board to vote to "opt in" for the mutual aid laws. There was discussion about other towns on the island opting in as well. Randhi said he thought most, if not all towns, will opt in because it's a very good idea. Adam said the key ingredient to opting in is there is no requirement for any town to have to provide aid if it can't financially or if it is not reasonable or practical to do so. Adam pointed out there are two "opt ins"; one for public safety and the other for public works.

Beverly made a motion for the Town of Aquinnah to participate in each of the mutual aid agreements: MGL c. 40, Sec.4J – Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid and MGL c. 40, Sec. 4K – Statewide Public Works Municipal Mutual Aid. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

Adam said he would write to MEMA and inform them of the Board's approval.

-Next on the agenda was two resignation notices. Spencer read Fire Chief Walter Delaney's letter stating he was retiring from the position effective October 31st, 2011. There was discussion about Walter's length of service and his commitment to the department. Spencer then read Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Jerry Wiener's letter stating he was retiring from the position effective October 11th, 2011. There was discussion about the length of service both men have had with the town and the respective positions.

Beverly made a motion to accept the resignations of Walter Delaney as Aquinnah Fire chief and Jerry Wiener as Aquinnah Building Inspector. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

Adam said he would write on behalf of the Selectmen and the Town thank you letters to both men for their years of service to the Town.

There was discussion about the recommendation Walter has made to make Jim Vercruysee the Acting Chief and what will happen in the interim.

Beverly made a motion for Jim Vercruysee to become Acting Fire Chief effective November 1st. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

There was discussion about Lenny Jason already serving as the Town's appointed Alternate Building Inspector and not needing to be voted to that position.

Next on the agenda was a report from Adam about the recent bids for two town highway projects. He said the Lighthouse Road resurfacing project and the Moshup Trail culvert project received only one bid each from White – Lynch Brothers. Both bids were under the advertised amount.

Next on the agenda was a request from the Striped Bass & Bluefish Derby to suspend resident parking regulations during the Derby. Randhi stated that it was a good idea, especially for fishing area at Lobsterville and West Basin. He said the “No Parking” areas would remain in effect.

Beverly made a motion to suspend for the duration of the Derby all resident parking restrictions. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The Board moved on to a continued review of the Shellfish regulations. Buddy asked that the section dealing with the granting of aquaculture licenses be deleted from the regulations because the issuing and oversight is the Board’s responsibility and not the Committee’s. Spencer asked about oversight controls: grant holder quarterly reports, expected harvests and other changes to what is on the grant. There was discussion about the language the state regulations has on leasing. Chip stated that as the Shellfish Constable, he has the responsibility to make sure the harvests are legal. Jim said there are controls that can be put in place in a lease defining who has oversight responsibilities.

By consensus the aquaculture section was deleted.

-There were several other minor changes made in the language of the regulations. There was discussion about the time frame for applications, reviews and the issuance of commercial scallop licenses. Buddy talked about an action plan to have everyone file a long form application due around the end of October for commercial scallop renewal that the Committee will review before getting a license. Buddy said the pond will be open for family limits October 1st and then beginning of November for commercial scalloping with a determination made of the number of struck bushels per day.

Beverly made a motion to approve the drafted shellfish regulations as amended. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-In other Selectmen’s business, Mike Hebert stated that he won’t be available to moderate for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for September 27th and that the Town Clerk will have to open the meeting and ask for a volunteer to be voted on by those present to moderate.

Beverly made a motion to adjourn. Spencer seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

The meeting ended at 6:21 pm.