

TOWN OF EDGECOMB
Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting
December 29, 2008

PRESENT: Stuart Smith and John Johnson (selectmen); Marilee Harris (secretary); Susan Johns (Wiscasset Newspaper);

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes of December 15, 2008 meeting were tabled until January 5, 2009.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Possible costly situation with General Assistance

John reported there is currently a person in town who is seeking to apply for disability through social security. According to DHS when this situation occurs, it becomes the responsibility of the town of residence to pay the person's rent until social security takes over. According to John's records the amount needed will cost \$1000's of dollars over the available money in the General Assistance account. John wanted the selectmen to be aware that due to economic struggles it will be difficult to take on additional financial responsibilities and he will keep the selectmen informed.

Snow Removal

Town Hall Following the previous storm the town hall building was plowed but the walkways and handicap access ramp had not been shoveled. This caused difficulty for office personnel to enter the building. John was contacted and he was able to hire Jeff Cusamano to come and clear the snow. In order to avoid similar happenings, John has hired Mr. Cusamano to continue shoveling around the town hall after subsequent storms.

Spring Hill Farm Road Stuart was also called, on Sunday, December 21st, by resident Val Thompson, who lives at the end of Spring Hill Farm Road. Mr. Thompson phoned to inform Stuart that the end of his road had not been plowed and he was expecting guests for the holiday. Stuart contacted Scott Griffin, the town's road commissioner to see what had happened. Mr. Griffin stated the town had never plowed past the town turn around because there was not efficient room for equipment to turn around. Stuart informed Mr. Thompson of his findings and after much consideration agreed to have the town plow him out this one time. However, in order to clear up the discrepancy Mr. Thompson would need to bring the matter up at the selectmen's meeting on January 5, 2009.

Letter to Maurice Hyson

John submitted a copy of a letter written to Maurice Hyson removing him from the position of Deputy Director EMA, effective immediately and requesting Maurice to return all keys and equipment that are the property of the town of Edgecomb. This letter followed an incident initiated by Mr. Hyson. After receiving a letter of resignation as Assistant Chief of Operations from Fire Chief Potter, Mr. Hyson went to Chief Potter's place of employment and threatened him with bodily harm and made a statement that "it was not over yet." Chief Potter called Stuart and informed the selectmen and he also called the sheriff. The sheriff has visited Mr. Hyson and stated he is required to stay away from both Mr. Potter and the fire department.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of issues on next week's agenda

John requested Stuart re-contact MMA in regards to the petition concerning the Murray Property submitted by Tom Boudin. It was noted that Claudia Coffin insists there is nothing in the legal election books that precludes the selectmen from doing as Mr. Boudin asks. John felt it would be prudent to receive definitive answers from MMA in order to respond appropriately to the questions that Mr. Boudin will be presenting at the selectmen's meeting on January 5, 2009.

The issue of the Town of Edgecomb's Bicentennial Committee and Friends of Fort Edgecomb will also be discussed at the January 5, 2009 meeting. John shared his disappointment with the situation which resulted in the loss of three valuable volunteers, who thought they were on a town committee.

WARRANT:

Number: 14 Amount: \$5733.21

A motion was made to sign the above warrant. Seconded. Passed 2-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.