

**South Berwick
Board of Assessors
November 15, 2011**

Chairman David Burke called the meeting to order at 6:17pm. Assessors present included Jean Demetracopoulos, Gerald W. MacPherson, Sr., and David H. Webster. Town Manager Perry Ellsworth and Assessing Agent Craig Skelton were also in attendance. John C. Kareckas arrived at approximately 6:25pm.

The Board discussed abatement request #1 from Leonard & Maya Bogh for property located at 19 Highland Avenue.

On a motion by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, seconded by Mr. MacPherson, it was unanimously voted to grant a tax abatement of \$699.05 to Leonard & Maya Bogh, Account #F0550R, due to the over assessment based on the condition of the building.

On a motion by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, seconded by Mr. Webster, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:31pm.

Attest:

Barbara Bennett, CCM
Town Clerk

South Berwick Town Council November 15, 2011

Chairman David Burke called the meeting to order at 6:32pm. Councilors present included Gerald W. MacPherson, Sr., Jean Demetracopoulos, David H. Webster, and John C. Kareckas. Town Manager Perry Ellsworth was also in attendance.

Organizational

1. The Town Clerk administered the oath of office to Councilors Elect MacPherson and Webster.
2. On a nomination by Mr. Webster, seconded by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, Gerald W. MacPherson, Sr. was unanimously elected Chairman for the ensuing year. On a nomination by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, David H. Webster was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr. MacPherson moved to the Chairman's seat to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

3. On a motion by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, seconded by Mr. Webster, it was unanimously voted to adopt **Roberts Rules of Order as the Council's meeting rules.**
4. On a motion by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, it was unanimously voted to sign the **Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wages & Benefits.**

Approval of Minutes

1. Public Hearing 10-25-11: On a motion by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, seconded by Mr. Webster, it was unanimously voted to adopt the minutes as written.
2. Council 10-25-11: On a motion by Mr. Webster, seconded by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, it was unanimously voted to adopt the minutes as written.

Treasurer's Warrant – Nov 15, 2011

On a motion by Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, it was unanimously voted to sign the warrant in the amount of \$825,346.84.

Public Comment

1. **Norma Tutelian, Butler St, commented that she appreciates SOBO's flower baskets on the Main Street sidewalk, but it is time for them to go.**

Mrs. Tutelian asked when budget discussions will begin. Mr. Ellsworth responded that the Council will need to meet in a workshop to discuss it and give direction sometime next month.

Mrs. Tutelian also asked what the cost of heating the new library will be. Mr. Ellsworth stated that it is estimated that utilities will cost somewhere between \$8,000 and \$10,000 annually.

Town Manager's Report

-Commented that he had received an email regarding school children crossing Main Street at the Academy Street intersection. He stated that parents and kids need to be encouraged to cross Main Street in front of the Town Hall where there is a crossing guard.

-**Commented that he had received 2 complaints about the flags not being put out for Veteran's Day.** Mr. Kareckas explained that several years ago the Town stopped having highway personnel perform the task to reduce holiday overtime pay. Volunteers have been handling the flags and due to weather conditions there are some days that the 110 flags are not put out or a limited number are put out.

-Library: To date the Friends of the Library have given the Town \$115,000. The project is still on track for coming in under the \$1.6 million cap. Another walk through will take place on Wednesday, November 16th at 11:00am. The project is about 75% complete.

-Made note that next week the offices would be closed on Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

-Received Council consensus to cancel the meeting of November 22nd and meet on November 29th at 6:30pm instead.

New Business

1. On a motion by Mr. Kareckas, seconded by Mr. Burke, it was unanimously voted to accept the Maine Municipal Safety Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$1,214.67 for the purpose of purchasing collapsible barricades for the Fire Department.

Note was made that the Firefighters Association will pay the Town's portion of \$607.33.

Mr. Webster questioned where the MMA gets the money to make such grants; and asked the Manager to look into it.

2. The Council discussed the Animal Control budget which is currently overspent by \$576.00. The Animal Control Officer handles the kennel inspections, dog bites, and abuse situations; the on duty police officers have been handling stray dog calls.

On a motion by Mr. Webster, seconded by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, it was unanimously voted to transfer \$2,000 from the undesignated general fund to the Animal Control account #4231 to cover the cost of Animal Control and associated wages and benefits.

Council Member Comments

1. Mr. Burke:

- Thanked the Council for making his job as Chair an easy one.
- Stated that he had received complaints about the speed of cut-through traffic on Jewett Avenue.
- Asked for the names of the people that complained about the flags. Mr. Ellsworth stated that he did not feel it appropriate to disclose the names. He added that now that he is aware of the history of the flag situation he would speak with the people involved.
- Made note of the Rotary Clubs annual turkey dinner at the Community Center on November 21st.
- Commented that the Council needs to discuss several issues such as cemeteries and the rescue squad.

2. Mrs. Demetracopoulos:

- Welcomed Mr. MacPherson and Mr. Webster back to the Council.
- Encouraged the public to access the website that is streaming the school board meetings. She recommended that the Council check it out and consider using it for its meetings. The School Board is paying \$150 per month which covers 4 meetings.
- Commented that a workshop for cemeteries is overdue.
- Asked for the status of the Efficiency Maine grant. Mr. Ellsworth stated that the funds will be expended prior to year end.

3. Mr. Webster:

- Thanked Councilor MacPherson for stepping up to the Chair.
- Commented that a great job was done on the Great Hill Bridge; a big improvement.
- Stated that he was humbled by being re-elected.

4. Mr. Kareckas:

- Congratulated Mr. Webster and Mr. MacPherson on their re-election. He also thanked Mr. Burke for serving as Chairman.
- Commented that he had the pleasure of serving as the Pie Judge at the Youth Center Penny Sale. He added that it was nice to talk with Louise Anderson. Mr. Ellsworth added that a workshop is being scheduled to discuss the Youth Center.
- Stated that he attended a couple of the Veterans' Day celebrations. The Middle School did a great job as usual.**
- Stated that a workshop on cemeteries should be scheduled.

5. Mr. MacPherson:

- Commented that the Veterans' Day celebration at the Middle School gets bigger and more professional each year.** He added that the event at the Great Works School was also very good.

-**Stated that he appreciated everyone's support in being elected as Chairman.** He also thanked the residents for re-electing him for another term.

-Commented that the cemetery issue must be kept in the forefront; it will eventually become the **Town's.**

-Commented on the fact that the election signs for Council and winning referendums have been removed. He **added that he couldn't understand why groups can put out hundreds of signs but can't seem to get back to remove them after the election.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. On a motion by Mr. Webster, seconded by Mr. Burke, it was unanimously voted to enter executive session at 7:26pm pursuant to 1MRSA §405.6D to discuss the Professional Employees Union negotiations.

The Chair reported the following to the Clerk:

On a motion by Mr. Kareckas, seconded by Mr. Webster, it was unanimously voted to end the executive session at 8:40pm.

2. The Council did not vote to enter the second executive session as listed on the agenda.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Demetracopoulos, seconded by Mr. Burke, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm.

Attested:

Barbara Bennett, CCM

TOWN OF SO. BERWICK
CHECK REGISTER

Check Number	Account	Date Paid	Amount
00029394	189999 REFUNDS	11/22/2011	2.00
00029395	189999 REFUNDS	11/22/2011	126.96
00029396	010285 ADMIRAL FIRE & SAFETY INC	11/22/2011	85.48
00029397	010336 AGGREGATE RECYCLING CORP	11/22/2011	2,328.96
00029398	020790 APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECH	11/22/2011	31.56
00029399	020075 BACK CHANNEL CANVAS INC	11/22/2011	285.00
00029400	020225 BAKER & TAYLOR	11/22/2011	165.00
00029401	021375 H T BERRY COMPANY INC	11/22/2011	223.31
00029402	021510 TOWN OF BERWICK	11/22/2011	14,375.54
00029403	022300 BOWS AND BALLOONS BY BRINA	11/22/2011	55.00
00029404	030500 CENTRAL MAINE POWER/CREDIT,COLL	11/22/2011	231.42
00029405	030510 CENTRAL MAINE POWER	11/22/2011	3,679.05
00029406	030725 CITIZENS BANK (CHG)	11/22/2011	12.97
00029407	030800 CIVIL CONSULTANTS INC.	11/22/2011	8,196.00
00029408	030920 CLEAN-O-RAMA	11/22/2011	48.16
00029409	031230 SW COLE ENGINEERING, INC.	11/22/2011	375.00
00029410	031350 COLLINS SHEET METAL INC.	11/22/2011	70.00
00029411	031430 COMCAST	11/22/2011	95.00
00029412	033900 W.S.DARLEY & CO	11/22/2011	147.25
00029413	040105 DAYTON SAND & GRAVEL	11/22/2011	1,124.00
00029414	040530 DEDE DIONNE	11/22/2011	21.96
00029415	041365 DUSTON'S BAKERY	11/22/2011	52.40
029416	00029417 042002 EARTHLINK BUSINESS	11/22/2011	1,131.56
00029418	060100 HOWARD P FAIRFIELD INC	11/22/2011	1,176.82
00029419	141000 FAIR POINT COMM	11/22/2011	135.67
00029420	060260 FASTENAL COMPANY	11/22/2011	36.75
00029421	060765 FISHER-JAMES CO INC	11/22/2011	225.00
00029422	010525 G&K SERVICES	11/22/2011	1,105.07
00029423	070200 P GAGNON & SON INC	11/22/2011	1,763.57
00029424	070210 GALL'S INC	11/22/2011	1,182.48
00029425	070385 WIB GOINS	11/22/2011	138.20
00029426	071086 GREAT WORKS FAMILY PRACTICE	11/22/2011	150.00
00029427	071050 GREAT FALLS CLEANERS	11/22/2011	265.50
00029428	191330 HANNAFORD'S	11/22/2011	95.60
00029429	080248 HANSCOM'S TRUCK STOP INC	11/22/2011	10,998.49
00029430	080501 BRUCE HASTY'S PLUMB/HEATNG	11/22/2011	145.02
00029431	080500 BEVERLY HASTY	11/22/2011	118.77
00029432	080638 M HIGGINS & SONS OIL	11/22/2011	349.90
00029433	087000 IAAO	11/22/2011	175.00
00029434	090375 INTERNATIONAL SALT	11/22/2011	6,985.14
00029435	090460 INTERSTATE BATTERY/MAINE	11/22/2011	314.85
00029436	100150 JANETOS MARKET	11/22/2011	109.78
00029437	100162 JCJ ARCHITECTURE	11/22/2011	8,051.08
00029438	100185 JENSEN BAIRD GARDNER & HENRY	11/22/2011	125.00
00029439	110495 TOWN OF KITTERY	11/22/2011	124.94
00029440	141367 KONE INC	11/22/2011	192.05
00029441	131660 MAINE ASSN/ASSESSORS	11/22/2011	30.00
00029442	131700 MAINE CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOC.	11/22/2011	37.50
00029443	133375 MAINE ENERGY RECOVERY CO.	11/22/2011	2,139.86
00029444	133195 MAINE TURNPIKE AUTHORITY	11/22/2011	3.00
00029445	133285 MARKET BASKET	11/22/2011	99.72
00029446	133358 W.B.MASON	11/22/2011	177.99
00029447	132200 MAINE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOC.	11/22/2011	100.00
00029448	133795 MICK BODYWORKS	11/22/2011	116.47
00029449	133800 MICK CONSTRUCTION CORP	11/22/2011	46,878.00
00029450	134300 MAINE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES	11/22/2011	3,531.51

