

POALH Board of Governors
Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. by President Gail Grzegorzczak at the home of Deborah Smith, 16 Jeremy River Drive, Colchester. Board members in attendance were Cari Eckert, Gail Grzegorzczak, Jason Griffing, Gary Petersen, Deborah Smith, Bob Sudell and Bonnie Sudell. Also attending were Ed Bader, Tax Collector and Lee Griffin, Treasurer.

Minutes: The minutes of the March 14, 2015 Board Meeting were accepted as amended.

Financial Reports:

Treasurer: Lee Griffin's report was accepted as presented.

Tax Collector:

Delinquency Collections: Ed Bader reported that, of the twenty-one delinquencies sent for collection, nine homeowners have paid in full. Since our last board meeting another \$12,000 has been collected, bringing the total collected to \$22,235.

It was brought to our attention that in the past some homeowners have overpaid their taxes. There are 3-4 property owners who have overpaid their taxes for the past year. These credits will be offset against the 2015-16 property tax bill. One taxpayer asked to pay their 2015-16 tax in advance and we agreed to do so. In the future after these credit balances have been dealt with any new overpayments will be refunded to the property owners and not carried forward as a credit.

Billing Service: Ed reported that the software licensing and tax billing system proposal from Quality Data Services, Inc. (QDS) would be approximately \$2,650 for the 2015-16 year. This covers the cost of the software license and tax bill preparation. There will be other costs including return envelopes for property owner convenience. A motion was made, seconded and passed to engage the services of QDS.

\$50 Lots: Ed reported that, by law, if taxes are not paid or short paid, we are forced to lien. He expressed concern that some lots are not being taxed. Research will be done with East Haddam's assessor records and tax records to identify possible lot owners who are not being taxed. This is a late spring/summer project.

Mill rate: Ed suggested to the Board that we should consider reducing the 2015-16 mill rate because of the collection of delinquent taxes. This subject will be considered at the May 2015 Board meeting when we have more information.

Lien Fees: Ed reported that he has resolved the issue of the Town overcharging us for the placement and release of liens. We have been charged \$53 when placing a lien and \$53 when releasing a lien. We should be charged \$12 for placement and \$12 for release. This new fee schedule will apply to all new liens filed and released.

Communications:

Sandra Brown: Correspondence from Sandra Brown was received and circulated among Board members. Ed Bader will speak to our attorney and determine whether he has received a copy of Mrs. Brown's correspondence. (Note: It was later confirmed that the attorney had received a copy and so Ed returned the original to Gail.)

Garbage issue: Correspondence related to overflowing garbage cans being left at the curb seven days a week was addressed. Requiring covered containers as a solution was discussed. No resolution was reached.

President:

Budget Committee: Gail will contact potential Budget Committee members, including Roland DePratti, Kim Jonah, William Wamester, Dave Edgington, Steve Nelson and Ed Bader.

Town Hall: tabled

Porta potties: Porta potties will be at each beach from May 1st to October 31st. They will be cleaned twice a week during June, July and August, and once a week during May, September and October.

Hospitality:

Newcomers: Board members were asked to help identify a person to take over the job of making baskets for new homeowners and welcoming them to the community.

Memorial: Donations will be acknowledged in our weekly newsletters.

Public Works: Bob Sudell and Gary Petersen are working on a strategy to get the Town to take over Glimmer Glen as a Town road.

Public Safety:

Patrols and recent complaint: Bonnie Sudell has submitted requests for Private Duty Assignments to Officer Mansfield. She has also advised him of recent car break-ins on Lake Shore Drive.

Reliable Towing: Bonnie met with Reliable and gave them copies of the parking permits that are acceptable and encouraged them to periodically drive through the area to check for cars not displaying the current permit. The Board agreed, at the July 19, 2014 Board Meeting, that enforcement of parking rules would be year round, including special events (e.g. bands). Ice fishermen will be directed to park at the State boat launch next winter. Bonnie will ensure that this information is in the first newsletter.

Replacement Tags and Missing Packets: One homeowner contacted Gail because he did not receive his spring packet. Four packets were returned as the addresses were not correct, but his was not among them. A new packet and new parking permits will be hand delivered to him. The four parking permit numbers from his original spring packet have been noted so we will know if someone else is using them. As stated in the spring packet, replacement parking passes will be \$25 each.

Stop Sign Down corner of Glimmer Glen/Lake Shore: Gail will contact the Town.

Secretary-Clerk Voter Registration Campaign: Bonnie has received a dozen voter registration forms to date. She will have them available at the Town Hall and the June Meeting. She will also contact the Town to obtain a copy of their registered voter list. A copy will also be in the first newsletter, which will be delivered the day before the June Meeting.

Risk Management: Bob reported that we are getting a \$5,155 refund on our Worker's Compensation package. He asked our agent to market the Worker's Comp.

Properties: Gary Petersen provided copies of the four Lawn Maintenance bids received. There was discussion regarding insurance and licensing requirements. Gary received clarification in writing from the State that a license is not required to mow. Gary will award the contract to the low bidder provided he shows evidence of insurance premium payment, maintains that insurance (as evidenced by the carrier notifying us if coverage is cancelled) and provides a certificate of insurance before commencement of work.

Events: There was general discussion regarding what was being planned for this summer. Gail volunteered to take on more responsibility in this area after her term as President ends.

Open Space: The idea of putting properties in open space will be revisited at a later date. It was suggested that if we are not going to do anything with the ball field, it should be open space.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the home of Gary Petersen, 76 Wildwood, East Haddam.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Sudell
Recording Secretary