

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2017
Harpswell Town Office
Approved October 12, 2017

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Richard A. Daniel, Kevin E. Johnson and David I. Chipman

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator; Mark Eyerman, Planner

1. Paper Roads: Mark Eyerman, Planner, stated the Planning Board's recommendation regarding paper roads was presented to the Board at the last meeting. The Board tabled the matter to allow the Marine Resources Committee to review the list. Mr. Eyerman stated a paper road is a street/road shown on a recorded subdivision plan that has not been constructed or used as a way, has not been vacated, and has not been accepted by the Town as a public, utility or recreational easement. The only right the Town has in paper roads that were not vacated is the right of incipient dedication. This means the Town has the right to accept the paper road as a public road or to accept something like a utility or recreational easement in the paper road. While the Town's right of incipient dedication remains in effect, the owners of lots adjacent to the paper road cannot claim ownership of the paper road right-of-way or make use of it for private purposes. The Town's incipient right does not change any personal rights someone may have. If the public's right goes away, there is a process abutters can take to claim ownership. Mr. Eyerman stated he attended the Marine Resources Committee meeting last night and the Committee voted without discussion that any paper road that can potentially provide access to water should be retained. Mr. Eyerman stated the document he provided the Board shows three lists – one of paper roads to be vacated, one of paper roads to be retained another twenty years as recommended by the Planning Board and one of paper roads to be retained another twenty years as recommended by the Marine Resources Committee (these roads were on the Planning Board's list to be vacated). The Board reviewed the Marine Resources list and moved some to the list of paper roads to be vacated.

Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve Appendix A - Paper Roads Retained by the Town for recording at the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds tomorrow; motion passed 3-0.

2. Adjournment: At 4:45p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator

Attachments: Paper Roads Retained List