

The Arrowsic Arrow

Vol. 15, No. 1

Arrowsic, Maine 04530

Jan / Feb 2000

Wishing you all the best in 2000

From the Selectmen

Pat Harcourt, Chair, 442-8122

Greg Guckenberger, 442-8020

Larry Wilson, Selectman and Reporter, 443-6970

Fire Department Workshop #2

Time: Wednesday January 19th. 6 pm til 7:30 pm

Place: Town Hall

Agenda: Address issues raised at workshop #1 (see Workshop # 1 report below). Determine additional information, resources and questions that need answering in order to write the five-year fire department plan.

Fire Department Workshop # 1 Report.

Held December 2, 1999. Topics covered were Mutual Aid, Volunteers and Training

Mutual Aid

1. Mutual aid is defined as sharing limited resources with neighbors.

2. Arrowsic's responsibility to mutual aid is a local decision.

3. Reed Fulton, Georgetown Fire chief, says they are happy with response received from Arrowsic. However, Chief Fulton also says that "Georgetown covers Arrowsic, but not from Arrowsic, because we can't get our engine into your station and you don't have restroom facilities for our firefighters."

4. Don Skillins, Deputy Chief from Woolwich, says that he "has been a firefighter for 27 years and know Arrowsic very well. During the ice storm Woolwich got hammered pretty darned hard and the one town that immediately came to our aid was Arrowsic. They assisted us in several ways one was giving us generator support. The same thing is true with Woolwich we respond to Arrowsic needs with whatever equipment that we have.

There is one thing to keep in mind and that is our first priority is Woolwich. We have the same problem as Chief Fulton in that our truck will not fit in your station and when it is 10 degrees out that presents us with a problem. It would be nice if Arrowsic had a class A pumper and a brush truck. Any town that is involved in mutual aid is always looking for another piece of equipment."

Arrowsic Fire Chief Brian Scott said "Part of the responsibility we have for mutual aid is to have the ability to handle any minor situation ourselves such as stove fires, chimney fires, trash can fires. When it gets bigger than that such as room content fires and beyond, we

are going to call some one else for support. Not only for support on the scene but to cover us if another call comes in while we are responding to a call."

Chief Scott also said "what I see Arrowsic needing to support mutual aid is an engine with standards of water amount, pumping capability and adequate brush attack capability. We are working very well with what we have now. I would rather have two units, a mini pumper and a brush truck. Manpower wise we are scratching to man the three units but are ok with the two units."

Answer to Audience Questions:

Woolwich and Georgetown would like to see Arrowsic increase truck water capacity from the current 750 gallons to 1500 gallons. They would also like to see our truck pumping capacity (Gallons per Minute) match their truck's pumping capacity.

It was also agreed, by the chiefs, that adequate fire protection means that equipment is no farther away than five miles from a fire when the a call comes in.

Used equipment from Maine is usually "handed down" from one community to another and is usually worn out. Equipment from larger towns is too big to travel our fire lanes.

State of Maine in case of a brush fire requires a town to pay 1/2 of 1% of town value before the state will assist. That means Arrowsic, with a value of approximately \$39,000,000, would have to spend Approximately \$200,000 per brush fire before getting any aid from the state.

Volunteers:

Neil Courtney reported that although the population in Maine is continuing to grow we are not getting the recruits and those we do get we don't retain.

Georgetown's fire department is a private corporation, not part of the town government. However, the town pays firefighters by the hour when on call and their insurance. The amount of pay is set at the town meeting. Georgetown fire department manages to pick up about \$50,000 to \$60,000 per year through various fundraisers, such as auctions, food sales etc.

Georgetown has about 20 volunteers, but they are not all in town all the time. Chief Fulton said, "when we get a call I never know who will respond and I worry everytime I go to a fire".

Woolwich's Dan Skillins said they get volunteers, but when the volunteers find out how much training is involved they quit. Out of ten recruits they keep two. Woolwich is a municipal fire department and are supported by the town. Woolwich volunteers are paid for fire calls and training.

Woolwich also has problems recruiting. Sometimes they will get several recruits and other times few if any. The younger recruits tend not to stick it out.

Chief Scott said that Arrowsic has historically been down in the number of volunteers. "We currently have five members from Arrowsic. Beside myself I have two ladies that joined this year and are active and two other adults that are not active. All our other personnel, 20 some odd, are all out of town. Arrowsic doesn't pay anything to the volunteers".

Last year Georgetown appropriated \$6,000 for fire and \$6,000 for ambulance and didn't use it all. Woolwich appropriates about \$12,000 per year. Accidents on Route 1 take a large percentage of the appropriation. The Woolwich volunteer pay averages about \$3.00 per hour.

Training:

A question was asked about the number of hours needed to train a recruit? Chief Scott said that if a recruit has mechanical ability he could be operating a truck with 4 to 5 hours of training. However, to qualify as a Fire Fighter 1 it takes 120 hours and Fire Fighter 2 takes an additional 100 hours and it takes 16 hours for HAZMAT (Hazard Materials)

Neil Courtney stated that the basic reason we train is to keep our firefighters alive. Laws and regulations make our states fire departments a regulated business. An example of these new regulations is a rule that is know as 2 in 2 out rule that is going to have huge implications. Its labor intensive and costly. Statistically, over the last 20 years we have killed an average of 200 firefighters per year today that number is down to about 100. It is important to note that regulations are not going away.

From the Arrowsic School Committee

Eloise Vitelli, Chair, 443-4660
Nancy Brown-Stump, 442-7527
Jody Jones, 443-3697

School Scholarship Meeting

Time: Feb 14, 2000

Place: Arrowsic Town Hall

Agenda: To form a small group of Townspeople to discuss the issues involved in setting up the Arrowsic Scholarship Fund

To date, \$2000.00 has been donated to the Arrowsic Scholarship Fund (established at Town Meeting last June). We would like to encourage many more (tax-deductible) contributions. Checks may be made out to The Town of Arrowsic Scholarship Fund and mailed to the Town Hall (HC 33, Box 228) or given to any School Committee member. We will mail you a receipt for your taxes.

If you are interested in being part of a small group of people which will make decisions about the fund, please contact any of the School Committee Members at the numbers listed above.

From the Town Clerk

Phine Ewing, 443-9795

Dog Licenses must be paid no later than Jan 31, 2000, or a late fee of \$3.00 may be imposed. Please take time to take care of your pet's legal responsibilities so s/he won't be embarrassed in front of her or his friends.

From the Recycling Committee

Paul Schlein, Chair, 443-3209

As of August, 1999, Craig Rogers became our trash/recycling contractor. If you have paid T & R extra money to pick up your trash and recycling at your driveway, you should call them and get a refund. Craig Rogers has been picking it up since August for free.

From the Town Property Management Committee

Jim Arsenaault, Chair 443-1510

The Town Property Management Committee is currently examining the use of space in the Town Hall and is seeking the help of anyone with experience in space planning who might be able to provide suggestions, sketches, etc. The Committee's next meeting is on Tuesday, January 18th. Interested parties should contact Jim Arsenaault at 443-1510.

Deadline for the next Arrow is February 25

Please leave submissions in the Arrow box at Town Hall

Or email to paolds@javanet.com.Thanks.

Physical Fitness Department

Men's Basketball is on at the Georgetown School as long as there is interest, Thursday Evenings at 7. There is a \$1.00 fee. For more information, please contact Wilfred Thibodeau at 371-2638

Beginning Yoga Classes start this week at the Bath Danceworks, Thursdays at 6:30 pm and Fridays at 8:30 am. For more information, or to register, contact Susan Lubner at 442-7131.

Public Records:

We are still missing some public records from the years 1995-1999. If you know of any other births, deaths, or marriages in these years, please contact the Selectmen (Pat Harcourt, 442-8122) or Phine Ewing, Town Clerk, 443-9795. Thank you vey much.

The following are records that we have:

Births

Jacqueline Elizabeth Burt	7/18/95
Clare Beatrice Tolan	8/11/95
Michael Christopher Grill	2/14/96
Mathew James Bradbury	2/12/96
Franklin Eugene Markle	5/31/96
Balthasar Lloyd von Huene	7/30/96
Megan May Pinette	6/21/97
Taylor Aaron Shaw	1/29/99
Abigail Lynn Rogers	2/19/99

Deaths

Herepsene Helen Dube	10/26/95
Enid J.W. Nicol	11/16/95
Fred Frances Moore	8/6/96
Alan E. Algie	2/9/98
Howard Henry Carlton	12/8/98

Marriages

Kenneth Leroy Basset / Kristee Carr	8/5/95
Jeffrey Alan Stoebe / Sarah Watson	10/14/95
Alexander Bridge / Clare Laemle	10/5/96
Harold Alfred Eames III / Kim Marie Thomas	2/7/97
Jason Clark Duell / Karen Beth Petroski	8/1/98
William Neilson Brune / Josephine Grasseli O'Brien	10/24/98

From the Tax Collector

Liz Rollins, 443-3658

The following registrations are due in January:

AL'S P.H.E. INC	JONES, ANNMARIE G
ATER, ANN	KENTY, DIANE E
CARLTON, CELIA M	LEASK, ANNE MARIE
DAVIS, SHELDON K	LELIEVRE, MARK R
FITZHERBERT, MELC	LUM, KENNETH M
GAILLARD, MICHELE	MORGAN, MILDRED E
GILES, SAMUEL D	OBRIEN-BRUNE, JOSEF
GRILL, CHRISTOPHE	ROSS, WILLIAM L
HALICA, JOHN	SHULTZ, ROBERT E
HEWLET, LOIS M	VONHUENE, ANDREAS
HEWLETT, HERBERT	WARNER, DORIS E
HIGGINS, RICHARD	

please note: since all trailer registrations are due in February, the list was too long to publish - please check your registrations!

Electric Competition

On March 1, 2000, the electric industry changes in Maine. You will be able to decide who you want to supply your electricity. On November 29, 1999, final awards were made (following a 3 month bid process) naming CMP as our area's "standard offer" supplier. This means that if you do not choose an alternate supplier, as of March 1st CMP will be appointed your supplier. CMP will offer our area electricity for 4.1 cents per kwh. This price is good for 2 years.

If you get calls from other potential supplier, you can compare to what CMP is offering. Eric Bryant, Senior Counsel in the Office of the Public Advocate, advises you to make sure any companies seeking your service has a license from the Public Utilities Commission. You can call the PUC at 287-3831 or view a current list on the Web at janus.state.me.us/mpuc/Electric%20Supplier/licenses.htm. For further information regarding electric restructuring, please see both or either of the following web sites: www.pucfact.com, or janus.state.me.us/meopa/serv01.htm, or call 1-877-PUC-FACT or the Public Advocate's Office at 287-2445.

As promised, here are a few excerpts from replies we got in regard to future Arrow delivery. As you will notice, there were some enthusiastic voices for an Arrowsic email list. If you would like to be on an email list, you can email me at paolds@javanet.com, or email Larry Wilson at lwilson@gwi.net. Tell us you'd like to be on the Arrow list, also tell us if it is OK to use your email address for other Town communications.

Some of your thoughts:

"We agree that the Arrow should remain a device for free expression of public opinion. We would like to sponsor at least one month's issue and are forwarding a check for \$61.00 via snail mail...we think the Arrow should remain a paper of the people, by the people (volunteers) and for the people..."

"The Arrow is well worth \$5.00 a year...can there be a pickup box at the Town Hall?"

"No doubt in my mind that this (email) is the way to go...can't we build a mailing list from our Tax Database? And then mail only to those who aren't on an email list..."

"I don't have a strong preference for the mechanism—treating it as an independent organization to be funded at Town Meeting, or whatever—but I do want to see the Arrow continue...I think Larry's accounts of meetings and explanations about taxes are well done and helpful...my experience with trying to support newsletters by subscription is that the response will be very low, even among people who read it if it is sent to them...Is the Maine Community Foundation a possible source for this support?"

"Let's look at the clear benefits of email delivery: 1) It costs nothing to receive or send email or post something on the website; 2) No postage costs; 3) No paper (trees) is consumed to produce it; 4) There are no printing costs or usage of ink; 5) Less environmental impact to produce; 6) Instant delivery (at the touch of a keyboard); 7) Creation of an Arrowsic emailing list to use for other communication purposes..."

"I would hate to see the end of the Arrow and will support any plan that seems do-able..."

"...It would be nice if we could avoid subscriptions and send it to all residents..."

"...What if you gave us the option of subscribing for no charge, \$5, \$15, \$25, \$50...let's see what the response will be then decide how to go..."

"...I would guess that at least half of Arrowsic residents have email...for the remainder, how about simply putting a pickup box outside Town Hall (and maybe a "billboard" visible from driving by which states the date of the most current issue available for pickup..."

From Billie Todd, publisher of The Georgetown Tide:

"...Of course charge for mailed copies but give folks the option of picking up free copies at the Town Hall (when it is open). We used to use the Post Office, but the new incumbent said it could no longer be on the table, and the window sill gives hardly room for more than 25 copies. It is still distributed for free at Round the Bend, Town Office and Country Store. Local people like having it mailed because then they are sure to get it "right off the presses" We only charge for postage and handling: \$6.00 a year.

As we get closer to Town Meeting, we'll keep you posted on the latest thoughts about funding The Arrow. Meanwhile, **thanks to you, Dear Readers**, we have enough funding to get us through into the summer.

Food For Thought

What will it cost the world to provide for a U.S. born New Year's baby? The following lifetime calculations are based on the latest available data from the US Census Bureau and the World Resources Institute:

4,905 pounds of beef; 1,123 pounds of fish; 18,046 eggs; 13,653 pounds of vegetables; 688 pounds of coffee; 3,728 pounds of potatoes; 80,598 gallons of petroleum; 41,289,000 gallons of water; 280 pounds of pesticides; 290 pounds of coal; and 5,777 cubic feet of wood.

ARROWSIC SELECTMEN'S MEETING Nov. 22, 1999

Present

Selectmen: Greg Guckenburg, Larry Wilson, Pat Harcourt Others: Richard and Alice Higgins, Scott Stuart, Patty Olds (briefly); Jean Kane, David Foster (6:30), Phine Ewing

- Elections Funding: Jean Kane is concerned about funding for elections clerks. We have an extra election this year, which wasn't taken into account when the budget was drawn up for the year. The Selectmen said that funding

will be found to pay the clerks.

- Old Computer is for sale. Should it be advertized through the Arrow? It has very little memory and may have Y2K problems.

- Dave Foster and Larry Wilson met with a forester at the Flinks' land. The forester's opinion is that there is not enough topsoil to plant trees with a root ball. Therefore the Selectmen should only require the Flinks to plant 3'-4'

trees instead of the 6' trees the Selectmen had previously requested. Also, deer are eating the young hardwood trees,

so the Selectmen should have them plant pines instead of mixed hardwood and softwood. The Selectmen will have Eliot write to the Flinks concerning these changes. The new requirements will be for the Flinks to plant 40-45 softwood trees 3'-4' in height, nursery stock, planted by an arborist. The consent agreement needs to be signed now, and a deadline set for the trees to be planted. NOTE: Dave Foster received, after this meeting, a revised set of conditions from the forester that recommend the trees be bare root not root ball.

- Zoning Board of Appeals Greg nominated Lois Hewlett for the ZBA. She has agreed to serve. The Selectmen voted 2-0 (one selectman absent) to appoint her.

- Y2K Manual has been completed by Bill Schumaker and distributed to most of the town. Larry expressed for the record that he is very impressed by the manual, and all the work that went into producing it

- Property Committee meeting was attended by the Selectmen. There are two segments to the committee's responsibilities, maintenance and management. Their discussion was mostly about maintenance. The management piece they are willing to tackle, but first they need a directive from the Selectmen and a budget. They are currently concentrating on the Town Hall and how to improve utilization of space currently available.

- Newcomer's Manual has been compiled by Larry. It includes: - Copy of the Annual Report - List of Committees and Officers - Minutes of a Selectmen's meeting - Solid Waste and Recycling schedule and info. - Naturally Better Food Co-op information - Lighthouses \information sheet Zoning Ordinance In addition, Larry would like to add something on the Fire Department, Historic Society, and permits.

- Conservation Commission is short a member, and Phine reported that Roger Heard would be willing to serve on the committee and be a link between it and the Planning Board. Larry will speak to Roger about being on the Conservation Commission.

- Stonetree Scott gave the Selectmen a copy of a letter from Stonetree's lawyer responding to the Higgins proposal. The Higginses complained that there are too many issues being brought into the set-back debate by the Stonetree proposal, whereas their (the Higgins') first proposal dealt only with the one issue, shortening and widening the common land to fix both setback problems.

Dave expressed the opinion that this is a civil case between abutters. When neighbors sign a document saying something is true to the best of their knowledge, when a survey later shows it is wrong, it is for the neighbors to sort out, not the town. A long discussion of the two violations (house and dock) followed. Greg made a motion to table the discussion while tempers were so hot. This was done.

- Cleaning Town Hall Alice Higgins has offered to clean the Town Hall once a week for free, but the Selectmen have not responded yet. They will be in touch with her when the hot water heater has been installed.

- Overboard Discharge The town has received bids for four systems - More Stonetree Richard Higgins had written a letter to the Selectmen asking about several zoning violations in the Stonetree subdivision. Dave Foster's response:

Bret Gillian's house is 75' from the road, according to Dave Foster (Higgins maintains it is only 74', a 1' violation), and yes, Bret Gillian's change in lot configuration is reflected in a new deed. The Bealer's house is only 70' from Stonetree Road, but it was put in just after the ordinance change. The Tolans' house does not have a setback requirement from Stonetree Road, but from Route 127 (by a quirk of zoning laws).

DON'T MISS THE Total Lunar Eclipse on January 20
Begins: 9pm, Half-way: 10pm, Total: 11-11:43pm

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Nov. 8, 1999 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT Selectmen: Pat Harcourt, Larry Wilson, Greg Guckenburg Others: David Foster, Scott Stuart, Patty Olds (briefly), Richard Higgins, Alice Higgins, Phine Ewing

1. Stonetree Scott Stuart gave a little historical background to the present zoning troubles at Stonetree. He said that John Wood (surveyor and then Planning Board member) helped pace off where the dock would go, and the location, chosen so that the dock could be pinned to bedrock, was on the boundary of the common land. The Planning Board required that Stonetree get permission from Richard Higgins, which they did. (In retrospect, this should have been sent to the ZBA at the outset, Selectmen said.)

Scott expressed the opinion that settlement of the dock violation and the right-of-way dispute is being held up by Richard Higgins until the Association agrees to upgrade its road.

Stonetree has a proposal which includes changing the boundaries of the common land so that the dock is in compliance with zoning regulations, and alterations in the right-of-way and in the road. Residents at Stonetree have agreed verbally to this proposal, but getting all the landowners' written agreement is difficult; one party lives in Germany, and Piper Reilly's estate is in dispute.

The Selectmen said that as long as they see progress being made, they are satisfied. At this point Richard and Alice Higgins arrived. They were informed that they will have Stonetree's counter-proposal within the week.

Richard Higgins gave his perspective on the story of the placement of the dock. He denied having any hand in finding the site for the dock, and said that written permission for its placement was obtained after the dock was installed. He then asked about the other Stonetree violations that he had outlined in his letter. Dave Foster replied that they are not all violations, but that he is still looking into the matter.

After Scott and the Higgins left, there was a brief discussion of what the Selectmen will do next if Stonetree's proposal is rejected.

2. Zoning Board of Appeals needs one more member plus an alternate. The committee now consists of Grace Stone, Bart Chapin, Mona Schlein, with Jim Arsenaault as alternate. Several candidates for the position were mentioned. The Selectmen will pass this list by Grace for her opinion. The possibility that the Stonetree dispute may come to the ZBA means that they need a full compliment of members.

Larry suggested that the Selectmen write a note to new committee members thanking them for agreeing to work for the town.

3. Ambulance Care Pat talked to Lois Skillin about medical care with ambulance service. She said that Georgetown service has two nurses trained in critical care. They are intermediate between EMTs and Paramedics. She feels Georgetown is well covered. Bath does not want to take on ambulance service for outlying towns. Mid-Coast Hospital might take it on, in which case they will probably ask each town for more financial support. They may charge us per-run on the paramedic, which the Selectmen figure could cost the town about \$5000 per year. Medicare covers ambulance calls.

Web Sites for 2000

coopamerica.org

Our home site with handy tips and information on social investing, 'unshopping', better shopping and 'how-to' information for conscious consumers and investors.

greenpages.org

Our most popular site listing 10,000 products and services with easy-to-use search engines make finding what you need a snap. Free offers and discounts.

socialinvest.org

The Social Investment Forum brings you a wealth of practical advice and news. Up-to-date performance on loan funds and mutual funds, money markets, CDs, IRAs and checking accounts.

woodwise.org

Discover how to make purchasing decisions that protect ancient forests. Tips on sustainable wood use, paper, junk mail, clothing and home improvements with plenty of links.

sweatshops.org

Our hands-on consumer guide on the sweatshop issues and removing sweatshop and child labor from your purchases — from jeans and t-shirts to shoes.

greenpagesstore.com

Soon to be the largest store on the Web for the conscientious shopper. Building on the *National Green Pages*, the store already advertises 600 green products from furniture to toilet paper. New products are added daily.

The Arrowsic Arrow
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