

TOWN OF CASTINE  
SELECTBOARD, ASSESSORS & OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
MEETING MINUTES

PV  
CP  
GBM

DATE: Monday, October 7, 2019

TIME: 2 PM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Peter Vogell, Chair; Colin Powell, Gordon MacArthur (arrived late), Selectboard members; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager; Karen Motycka, Finance Officer and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Liz Parish, Brooke Tenney and Scott Vogell.

Peter Vogell opened the meeting at 2:00 PM.

Peter asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: NONE.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations and excise tax collections. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0 (Gordon MacArthur not present).

Abatement: Peter Vogell made motion to approve an abatement in the amount of \$34.20 to Wells Fargo Vendor Finance Service, LLC. Second by Colin Powell.

Karen Motycka, Finance Officer, explained that a personal property bill was issued in error because Wells Fargo qualified for a Business Equipment Tax Exemption through the State of Maine. Approved 2-0 (Gordon MacArthur not present).

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the August 21, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0 (Gordon MacArthur not present).

Gordon MacArthur arrived.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the September 16, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 2-0 (Colin Powell absent from Mtg).

Colin Powell made motion to approve the September 30, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 2-0 (Peter Vogell absent from Mtg).

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the October 1, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 2-0 (Colin Powell absent from Mtg).

Item 2. Peter Vogell introduced accepting a Planning Board resignation. Peter Vogell made motion to accept the resignation. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0. A thank you letter will be sent to Par Kettis for all his years of dedicated service on the Castine Planning Board.

Item 2. Peter Vogell introduced the Town Manager's report. Shawn Blodgett reported:

- 1) 563 Castine Road Dangerous Building Order update: There has been some progress. Another building is down and has been taken away.
- 2) 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks: we've been contacted by the vendor who does our annual fireworks display. The cost of fireworks will increase by 15% due to tariffs. They would like us to sign a 3-yr contract, however, we cannot commit to this because of our fiscal year. With negotiating, right now we are good with the understanding that Castine will "reserve" a spot.
- 3) FEMA Assistance to FireFighters grant: working on the award paperwork.
- 4) Recycling program update: we recently learned at the Maine Municipal Association Convention, by speaking with a rep at the FiberRight booth, that the glass we now have to dispose of in solid waste is being recycled at FiberRight's facility and they are working with Canada on a possible market.
- 5) Town & Acadia floats: scheduled to be removed on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting.
- 6) Paving update: due to the weather and an injury (Contractor, Greg Bowden) we are behind on the paving projects. There are hopes to start again the third week of October.
- 7) LED Light Switch out: no update as of yet. The linemen are back from Florida/Hurricane Dorian clean-up efforts but now another dilemma is holding things up. The State requires two linemen and a supervising electrician be present during LED work.

-Gordon MacArthur asked if we have checked with other vendors about glass recycling. Karen pointed out that Castine has a contract with FiberRight.

Item 3. Peter Vogell introduced approving the October 15<sup>th</sup> Special Town Mtg Warrant. Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, reviewed two drafts warrants.

Draft 1 – includes article asking if the voters will authorize to raise and appropriate \$10,000 from Surplus to contribute towards the planning and organizing of Castine's Maine 200<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

Draft 2 - includes an article asking if the voters will authorize to raise and appropriate \$10,000 from Surplus to contribute towards the planning and organizing of Castine's Maine 200<sup>th</sup> Celebration; and a second article to see if the voters will authorize the Selectboard to accept and disburse funds for the Castine's Maine 200<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

The goal is that a 501 C (3) organization will take on this role but this has not happened yet. Draft 2 is a safe guard and a back-up plan. Discussion.

Colin Powell said he favors Draft 2 because of the flexibility it offers. Gordon MacArthur said he agrees that it would be best for an organization to step-up but a safe guard is probably needed. Brooke Tenney asked if a 501 C (3) can be formed? Shawn answered yes but it takes time to do so.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve & sign Draft 2 of the October 15<sup>th</sup> Special Town Mtg Warrant. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 3-0.

Item 1. Peter Vogell introduced approving the November 5<sup>th</sup> Municipal Officials ballot. Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0 (Peter Vogell abstained as he is listed on the ballot).

Item 5. Other Business as Required: None.

Communications: -Letter from Scott Vogell, owner of property at 21 Main St.

Scott Vogell addressed and reviewed the basement flooding issue and the timeline for attempting to find the problem since about April. Within his letter, Scott requested a reimbursement in the amount of \$800 from the Town for work he paid for to do the first attempt to locate the problem per direction from the Town, Olver Associates and the Main St Project "As-Built" Plans.

Discussion.

Liz Parish asked if Olver Associates be responsible? Shawn said he was not sure how to answer that since it was before his time but could look into it.

Scott pointed out that the "As-Builts" may not be accurate. He said that after experiencing what he has at his property he is concerned for what problems could come up in the future on Main St. Colin Powell agreed that he has concerns about that very same point.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve Scott Vogell's request to be reimbursed \$800. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0 (Peter Vogell abstained).

Karen Motycka, Finance Officer, said if the Selectboard made a motion to add it to the General Fund warrant she could pay it now rather than waiting until the October 21<sup>st</sup> warrant.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to add \$800 payable to Scott Vogell to the October 7<sup>th</sup> General Fund warrant. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0 (Peter Vogell abstained).

Discussion.

Gordon pointed out that it would be a good idea to check with Olver Associates on a warranty period.

Scott added another "As Builts" mishap that he was aware of. At the time of the Main St Project in area of the Fonner property on upper Main, a pipe was about 40' off where it should have

been and when they finally found it, it was crushed. They fixed it.  
Colin said he would like to have an explanation of why the "As-Builts" are so far off.  
The "As Builts" should have been updated and corrected by inspector during the whole Project process.

Peter Vogell acknowledged the public present: NONE.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard's Comments: Gordon MacArthur apologized for being late to the meeting. He forgot to change the time from 4PM to 2PM.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Monday, 10/21 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mg.

Wednesday, 10/23 at 8AM – T/G Mtg in Emerson Hall.

Monday, 11/4 at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mg.

Monday, 11/18 at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mg.

Colin Powell made motion to adjourn. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.