

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

PV  
GJM

DATE: Monday, September 16, 2019

TIME: 4 PM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Peter Vogell, Chair; Gordon MacArthur, Selectboard member (Colin Powell absent); Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Liz Parish, Ann Miller, Bobby & Ruth Ann Vagt, Alice Alston, Hope McNally, Kay Hightower, Susan Adam, Bob Friedlander, Dottie Sherling and Monique Labbe of the Castine Patriot.

Peter Vogell opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

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

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations and excise tax collections. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 2-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the September 3, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 2-0.

Item 1. Peter Vogell introduced approving the annual General Assistance Appendices A-D & Appendix H (2019-2020).

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve. Second by Peter Vogell.

This is an annual process. The State sets the household maximums per County. Approved 2-0.

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

- 1) Quote for roof repairs at Emerson Hall is around \$10,000 from a Bangor contractor. We are waiting for a quote from a local contractor.
- 2) The Dangerous Building Order at 563 Castine Road is still ongoing. Our Attorney is working on a resolution. Updates will be reported as soon as we hear.
- 3) Olver Associates was here again on Friday, 9/13 to research possible drainage issues at 15 Main St owned by Tony & Bonnie Politano. The investigation did not find any evidence that the Main Street project was at fault.

- 4) Met with Tim Cote of the Hancock County Sheriff's Dept (HCSD) on Mon, 9/9. They have a full complement of officers now, therefore, Castine could get another detail a week if needed. Currently we are receiving 8 hours a week, plus incidental patrolling. The HCSD has been patrolling Fort Madison area for fireworks but say, due to State law, they won't come out on a report just for fireworks.
- 5) The next paving & road patching will begin again the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October. The intersection of Tarratine/Perkins St will involve taking the island out, narrow the neck and improve storm water runoff. Estimated cost is \$20,500.
- 6) Town Office will be closed on Wed, 10/2 and Thurs, 10/3 due to the staff attending the annual Maine Municipal Association Convention. All agreed to close the office.
- 7) The LED light installation is behind schedule due to linemen being called away to Florida in response to Hurricane Dorian. It is expected that the installation will now start around Fri 9/20 or Mon 9/23 and should take about 7 days to complete.
- 8) Port City Architecture will be asked to reassess their proposal and costs for Castine Fire Rescue Department Feasibility Study. Once this is complete, we will regroup with the subcommittee to review and discuss. -Kay Hightower asked what this was for? Shawn said it's an evaluation on the Fire Department and Station. This evaluation could tell us whether the current Station needs to be renovated or rebuilt, use of the equipment, etc. It will evaluate present status plus 5, 10 and 20 years from now. The current Station meets building code, at this time, but we have 4 trucks that are fit into 3 bays.  
Discussion.  
-Bobby Vagt asked what the legal fees amount is that the Town is responsible for regarding the 563 Castine Road property. Shawn explained. By State Statue the Town costs regarding this matter are to be reimbursed by the property owner even if it means the Town has to put a lien on the property.  
-Ruth Ann Vagt requested that a walkway at the bottom of Tarratine/Perkins Street be considered since the work is coming up. Shawn said it was a good idea but needed to see if it's feasible and what the costs are.
- 9) Maine's 200<sup>th</sup> Celebration updates and details are due to be addressed at the next Selectboard's mtg – October 1<sup>st</sup> at 4PM (approve warrants).

Item 4. Other Business as Required: None.

Communications: NONE.

Peter Vogell acknowledged the public present: -Ruth Ann Vagt asked about broadband in Castine. Selectperson, Colin Powell is the best person to address. This can be addressed at an upcoming mtg when Colin is present.

-Liz Parish said that the Selectboard need to be aware of and careful of requirements especially regarding quorums and making decisions.

Liz also asked if anyone knew it to be correct that you need permission before spreading ashes at sea. It was found on the internet that no permission is required.

-Kay Hightower asked about the truck located at the corner of the Castine Road & The Shore Road. It is an eyesore and is it legal to be there? This matter has been brought up before. Gordon MacArthur pointed out that State law allows up to 3 unregistered vehicles on a property. Discussion.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard's Comments: Gordon MacArthur said he has not forgotten the parking issues. He said he liked some of the ideas brought up at the July 15<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing and the Selectboard is considering increasing the parking ticket fee to \$50/ticket.

Hope McNally commented that it's unfortunate that Fort George parking, right now, is basically not available to visitors or tourists.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Wednesday, 9/18 at 8AM – T/G Mtg in MMA Leeward RM.

Monday, 10/7 and Monday, 10/21 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Shawn added one last item. There will be a large crane coming on Wed, 9/25 to the Town Dock for maintenance on the State of Maine Training Ship. It will require vacating parking spaces to allow the crane to maneuver to the ship.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to adjourn. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.