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GM

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

DATE: Monday, December 2, 2019

TIME: 4 PM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Scott Vogell, Helen Miller, David Adams, Liz Parish, McKee & Peg Patterson, Kay & Rick Hightower, Bobby Vagt, Ann Miller, Brooke Tenney, Marcia Mason, Johanna Barrett, Alice Alston and Monique Labbe of the Castine Patriot.

Colin Powell opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

Colin asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: Colin added two items:

- 1A. Approve opening a Maine 200 Savings Account to allow online donations; and
- 1B. Approve & sign Maine 200 Fundraising Coordinator contract with Helen Miller.

Colin asked if there was a motion to approve warrants and abatements; review Budget vs. Actual, Trial Balance Sheets, Bank Reconciliations and Excise Tax Collections.

Peter Vogell made a motion to approve Warrants and Reports. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the November 18, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the November 20, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Colin Powell. Approved 2-0 (Peter absent from Mtg).

Item 1. Colin Powell introduced Maine 200 Update.

Helen Miller was present to address. The Steering Committee has been meeting regularly. They are developing what vessels will be here for the event; there are several speakers, tours, exhibits, music and dinners also in the works (hoping to incorporate a traditional Maine Bean Dinner and then the annual Bastille Day festivities as well); the website for Maine 200 should be up and running soon; donations will go to the Town Office; MMA has been instrumental with logistics regarding the waterfront, vessels and space needed; to date \$30,000 of the \$100,000 year end goal has been received, with another \$50,000 requested; the 100th year Women's Right To Vote recognition has been factored in as well with numerous women donating and donations to come because of the recognition; Merchant's Association is donating \$5,000;

focusing on establishing a 501 3-C; the willingness and support for the event has been incredible. Discussion.

Peter Vogell asked about the Eagle and expressed his support for the Eagle to visit Castine. Helen said the Eagle visiting Castine is not entirely out of the plan but they do have back-up if the Eagle doesn't make it. She said they have gone to every possible level of power to get the Eagle to Castine.

Item 1A. Colin Powell introduced approve opening a Maine 200 Savings Account to allow online donations. Colin Powell made motion to approve. Second by Peter Vogell. Colin reviewed saying that Paypal will be set up on the website for donations. It should be an easy process for setting up and for people donating. Karen Motycka said that a Savings Account will be open and keep a \$100 balance to prevent bank fees. It will be set up to sweep into the Town's General Fund Castine's Maine 200 Account.

Approved 3-0.

Item 1B. Colin Powell introduced approving & signing a Maine 200 Fundraising Coordinator Contract with Helen Miller. Colin Powell made motion to approve. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Colin said this is a formality as things are progressing.

Approved 3-0.

Item 2. Colin Powell introduced the Town Manager's report. Shawn Blodgett read his Town Manager' report (see attached):

2) David Adams was present to give more details regarding Baron de Saint Castin documentary. He said he received notice before Thanksgiving that Roger Cantin & Alain Dagenais got the funding needed for the project. First on the list will be to have a phone conference with Town Manager, Shawn Blodgett next week. David reviewed some Baron de Saint Castin history and how he started in Quebec and arrived to Castine in 1670.

3) Peter Vogell made motion to approve the annual Boy Scout Klondike Campout at Fort George on 1/31/20 to 2/2/20 with approximately 100 scouts attending. Second by Gordon MacArthur.

Approved 3-0.

Item 3. Other Business as Required: NONE.

Communications: -Elaine Gardner has concerns regarding vehicles parked on lower Main St or other steep hilled streets in Town and that they do not "curb" their wheels. She is concerned that someday an accident could happen because of a runaway vehicle.

-Johanna Barrett, Compass Rose Bookstore and Goody-B Wiseman, Gallery B, wish to have a firepit located within a couple open parking spaces in front of their businesses on lower Main St

on Wednesday, 12/11 from 5-9PM as part of their holiday celebration and shopping attraction. They plan to have constant supervision and monitoring of the firepit. They have been told they will need to get a burn permit from Randy Stearns, Fire Chief. Randy said he is okay with it if the Selectboard approve. Discussion.

The firepit is a metal, contained and has a mesh lid.

Johanna also said they would need permission to block off a couple parking spaces.

Gordon MacArthur said he assumes that measures would be taken to make sure there is no damage to the pavement and/or lines. Johanna said they would set-up the firepit up off the ground. Colin Powell said he really liked the "outside the box" thinking as part of their festivities.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the request allowing a firepit on lower Main St and blocking off a couple parking spaces located in front of Compass Rose Bookstore and Gallery B. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 3-0.

Colin Powell acknowledged the public present: -Brooke Tenney asked if there has been any solar energy developments or plans for the Town. The Selectboard said there has not been any progress on the issue but not ignored.

-Johanna Barrett asked about possible ways to keep sidewalks going up/down Main St cleared now that we are in the snow season. She said we should encourage people to walk even in the winter rather than driving downtown and the Town spent a lot of money on sidewalks but they are useless in the winter covered with snow and/or snowbanks. Johanna said she learned recently that MMA has a piece of machinery to clear their sidewalks on campus. Is there a way to approach them to see about using their machine for Town sidewalks? We need to have our sidewalks clear for economic reasons, safety, etc. Discussion.

Gordon MacArthur said the Town has nothing in the budget for sidewalks. Colin Powell added that piling the snow into the streets is a problem or can be a problem for plowing.

Scott Vogell said he has mentioned before and suggests when plowing and/or removing snow from sidewalks on the west side to push it over to the east side. The east side from Perkins St down to Water St "no one is home" so it won't bother anyone to pile it up there. Karen Motycka & Peter Vogell both said that the Town's plowing contractor started pushing the snow over to the east side of lower Main St last year. We can check to make sure they continue to do that and do it more this season. Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, said he would look more into the sidewalk matter.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Monday, 12/16 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Wednesday, 12/18 at 8AM – T/G Mtg in Emerson Hall (check for cancellation).

Karen Motycka pointed out needing a quick mtg at the end of December to pay bills.

All agreed to aim for 12/30 or 12/31, Karen will coordinate and mtg will be posted.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to adjourn. Second by Peter Vogell. Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: December 02, 2019
Re: Town Manager Report

1. Risk Management Assessment. On November 13, we were visited by Dan Whittier from Main Municipal Association to conduct a risk assessment of the Water Department and Public Works. We have five areas of concern, but all are easily corrected.

2. Baron de Saint Castin. Through David Adams, we have been contacted by two Canadian documentary filmmakers, Roger Cantin and Alain Dagenais. They have just been given the green light to produce an 8 hour documentary on Baron Castin. They will be filming in town for up to two weeks this summer. David and I will conduct a teleconference with them next week to begin the coordination.

3. Klondike Campout at Fort George. I have been contacted regarding a proposal to hold a Boy Scout Klondike campout at Fort George from 31 January to 02 February, 2020. The local coordinator of Sea Scout Troop 1941 estimates that there will be around 100 scouts in attendance. I request the Selectboard's approval for this proposal.

4. 2019 Infrastructure Projects. With the completion of the Tarratine / Perkins Street intersection, the Town is complete for the year on large infrastructure projects. We have spent approximately \$100,760 of the proposed \$103,302 budget.