

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

CP  
GAM

DATE: Monday, January 6, 2020

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, David Adams, Bobby Vagt, Brooke Tenney and Kelly Sawyer.

Colin Powell opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.

Colin asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: None.

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.

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

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the December 16, 2019 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 3-0.

Item 1. Colin Powell introduced approving renewal liquor license – MarKel’s Bakehouse.

Kelly Sawyer, owner, was present.

No complaints were received at the Town Office over the past year.

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

Item 2. Colin Powell introduced approving for Witherle Memorial Library to apply for grants from: Castine Arts Association, Castine Education Foundation, Castine Touring Company and the Rudman Grant MLA.

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

If awarded, funds from any or all of these grants will be used to help purchase children’s and young adult books and materials for the upcoming Bicentennial. Approved 3-0.

Item 3. Colin Powell introduced approving for the Town to apply for grants regarding Maine 200. Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager addressed. There are a few grants available with deadlines approaching for the interests, needs and local creativity of communities as they plan local commemorations for Maine’s Bicentennial. There is one grant for up to \$500 with no

match required; another up to \$10,000 with a 1 to 1 cash or in-kind match highly encouraged. Both have no strings attached. The State Maine 200 encourages and recommends applying for all that we can.

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

Item 4. Colin Powell introduced the Town Manager's report. Shawn Blodgett read his Town Manager' report (see attached):

Item 5. Other Business as Required: NONE.

Communications: -Wedding request at Fort Madison from Rebecca Fenton for August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 with approximately 100 guests. Her great uncle is Dick Fenton and her uncle is Mark Fenton both are property owners in Castine and she has been visiting Castine since childhood. They will most likely have wedding ceremony and reception on the premises, therefore, Rebecca has been informed of the required permits/licenses needed if reception is held on public property. Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 3-0.

Colin Powell acknowledged the public present: -David Adams pointed out that Wadsworth Cove Road, the stretch from the beach to Castine Road, is in bad shape and requested that that area be added to the list of roads to be considered and budgeted for repaving. He also mentioned at the bottom of Wadsworth Cove Road hill there's an area that needs hot tar application. It is starting to pull apart. Peter Vogell clarified it's a crack sealing process that's needed and Shawn said it is already on the crack sealing list to do.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: Colin Powell said he recently has had an extended stay in Bangor (due to family illness) at EMMC and a walk from Franks Bakery. He said the sidewalks are cleared by a piece of machinery which has made the them very slippery. He noted the sidewalks that were shoveled by hand, were much better. Something he's notice and to keep in mind.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Tuesday, 1/21 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

January T/G Mtg cancelled – will regroup in February.

Monday, 2/3 at 9AM – Budget Work Session.

Monday, 2/3 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:15PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.



## MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard  
From: Shawn Blodgett  
Date: January 06, 2020  
Re: Town Manager Report

1. 563 Castine Road. The property owners were served with district court summons on 20 December, 2019. The property owners now have until the 10<sup>th</sup> of January, 2020 to respond. If the property owners do not respond within the time stated above, or if, after they answer, they fail to appear at any time the Court notifies them to do so, **a judgment by default may be entered against them.**

2. Fire Department Assessment. The Fire Department assessment will begin this month and I have a kick off meeting scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> of January. The Fire Department also re-worked the only bid received for the new tanker truck which brought the revised cost down to \$299,784 which is \$3692 lower than the original price that we received. The Federal Emergency Management Agency grant officials have also approved of our accepting a bid from a single source. Absent objections from the Selectboard, I intend to meet with Assistant Chief Gutow tomorrow to finalize the details and sign the contract to get this truck ordered from Midwest Fire. I expect that the new truck will arrive in October.

3. Street Opening Fees. I have conducted research on our street opening fees and can assess that they are higher than surrounding Towns by quite a bit. Castine's fee is assessed at \$75.00 a Square Yard for cuts in the pavement even though the property owner are also required to pay the contractor for the



work. This construct essentially bills a citizen twice. Maine's Department of Transportation fee represents the upper edge of the median at \$50.00 a square yard. Castine's Entrance and Excavation Ordinance fee schedule can be changed by the Selectboard after being publicly posted for 30 days. In the very near future, I will send you recommendations for discussion.

4. Streetlight Damaged. The Streetlight on upper Main Street which is leaning over was hit by a snowplow. The plow operator's insurance carrier has been notified. We are awaiting an estimate from our light installer to complete the insurance claim to get this fixed.

5. 2020 Infrastructure Projects. I am working on a 2020 infrastructure project list and will forward this to the Selectboard in the very near future.