

Approved @ 9/18/20 Zoom Mtg

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



Gordon S. MacArthur
Peter Vogell

DATE: Monday, August 17, 2020

TIME: 4PM (via ZOOM)

PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Bobby Vagt, Brooke Tenney, Liz Parish and Eli Forman of the Castine Patriot.

Colin Powell opened the meeting at 4:09PM. Quorum was confirmed with Peter Vogell stating his presence; Gordon MacArthur stating his presence; and Colin Powell stating his presence. Colin asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: NONE.

Motion was made to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations, excise tax collections.

Colin Powell made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$95,229.76. Second by Peter Vogell. Colin asked for votes.

Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the Water Dept Warrant in the amount of \$337.31. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Colin asked for votes.

Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the August 3, 2020 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. No discussion. Colin asked for votes.

Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. August 3, 2020 Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the August 11, 2020 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. No discussion. Colin asked for votes.

Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. August 11, 2020 Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Colin Powell introduced the Town Manager's Report: Shawn Blodgett read his report (see attached).

Item 2. Other Business as Required: NONE.

Communications: -Blue Hill Tree of Life letter of thanks for the Town's \$200 donation (Colin read the letter).

Colin acknowledged the public present: -Bobby Vagt asked if the next day's T/G Mtg has specific agenda items or if it will be general discussions. Colin said the Town & MMA will be reviewing the Academy's Back to School Plan. MMA has been sending correspondence outlining their Plan but everyone thought it would be good to have a mtg to review.

T/G Mtg is scheduled as a Zoom Mtg at 9AM, 8/18/2020.

-Liz Parish asked what the Absentee Ballot process will be for upcoming November 2020 Election. Town Clerk, Susan Macomber, reviewed saying the process will be the same as always. Anyone wanting an Absentee Ballot can apply online at Maine.gov; contact the Town Office to request over the phone or stop by the Town Office to request in person. Once we receive the ballots they will be mailed to the voter. The Town Office should be receiving ballots by the end of September so anyone wishing to vote in person at that time can do so or also request to take the ballot home to vote.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Tuesday, 9/8 at 4PM (due to the Labor Day Holiday) – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Monday, 9/21 at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Tuesday, 8/18 at 9AM - T/G Mtg.

Colin Powell motion to adjourn. Second by Peter Vogell.

Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yes to adjourn. Peter stated yes to adjourn. Colin stated yes to adjourn. Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:22PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: August 17, 2020
Re: Town Manager Report

1. Infrastructure Update. This past week, ditch maintenance was conducted on Wadsworth Cove Road, Spring Street, Battle Avenue, Perkins Street and Madockawando Road. The Madockawando Road section of ditch maintenance was done in preparation for the paving projects on both Madockawando Road and Latour Streets. The paving projects on these two streets will begin on Monday, the 17th of August and be going on all week. I estimate that these two streets will be completed by the 21st of August. Residents of these two streets should expect traffic disruptions. A traffic disruption notice has been placed on the Castine Website and I have delivered these same notices electronically and door to door to impacted homes. Through the duration of this project, residents are invited to park on either Perkins Street or Battle Avenue. Another request for proposals was sent out last week for the refurbishment of the intersection of Perkins and Pleasant Streets as well as the upgrade of the storm water catch basins running on the East Side of Pleasant Street from Stevens to Court Street. This will be the last major paving project to be completed this season and I anticipate holding the rest of the remaining infrastructure money in reserve until the spring. The Dyces Head Lighthouse Keeper's house has been scheduled to be painted and the refurbishment of the storage shed is ongoing. Due to a scheduling conflict, the refurbishment of the shed will pause for a week. I anticipate that this project will be completed during the week of August 24th through the 28th.



2. Emerson Hall Fire Alarm System. We have had a series of erroneous fire alarm calls for Emerson Hall. We assessed that several of these were historically tied to water intrusion from the leaking cupola but that has been fixed. The most recent one is due to aging sensors on the ceiling of the gym upstairs in Emerson Hall as the sensors running through the center of the ceiling were emplaced in 1986. We will be setting up staging today in anticipation of Maine Fire returning on Tuesday to switch our aging sensors with new ones. The estimated cost of this work will be around \$2060.00 which will come from the Emerson Hall Maintenance Account..

3. Census Response Rate. We have been in contact with the U.S. Census Bureau to find ways to increase Castine's response rate. On the 25th of August from 12-4 PM, the Census Bureau will have a table set up in front of Emerson Hall and possibly in front of the Post Office for in person filing. If any Castine resident has yet to respond to census questionnaires, this is a great opportunity to help out the community..

4. Keep ME Healthy Grant Submission. Last week, I was contacted by Maine CDC informing us that we have been approved for \$6770.00 in grant funding for COVID 19 related education and awareness activities. This week, I will write a position description to contract with a member of the Castine Fire Rescue Department on a part time basis to act as Castine's COVID 19 education coordinator. I anticipate this position to be no more than a 12 hour a week position and lasting through the end of October.