Appr. @ 11/2/20 Zoon Mtg.

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

DATE: Monday, October 19, 2020

TIME: 4PM (via ZOOM)
PLACE: Emerson Hall

Fet Vogell

PRESENT: Colin Powell, Chair; Gordon MacArthur & Peter Vogell, Selectboard members; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, Karen Motycka, Finance Officer and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk. PUBLIC: Helen Miller, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Bobby Vagt, Brooke Tenney and Eli Forman of the Castine Patriot.

Colin Powell opened the meeting at 4:00PM. 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.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$178,011.52. Second by Gordon MacArthur. 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 \$30,368.02. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Colin asked for votes. Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0. Gordon MacArthur made motion approve a Disbursement Warrant to the State Motor Vehicle agency in the amount of \$1,827.25. Second by Peter Vogell. Colin asked for votes. Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Disbursement Warrant approved 3-0.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the October 5, 2020 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Oct 5, 2020 Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Colin Powell introduced approving Grant application to CTCL in the amount of \$5,000 for purposes of preparing & running Absentee Voting and the Election due to COVID19.

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

Gordon MacArthur thanked Town Clerk, Sue Macomber for pursuing and securing this grant successfully. Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. CTCL Grant application approved 3-0.

Item 2. Colin Powell introduced approving Election Clerks.

Colin read the list of Election Clerks for the November 3rd Election with authorization to the Town Clerk to appoint any other Election/Ballot clerks as needed.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell.

Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yes to approve (abstained from his appointment). Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Nov 3rd Election Clerks approved 3-0. Town Clerk, Sue Macomber, pointed out that there are more Democrats than Republicans who have volunteered but assured that the Election Day duties will have the proper Democrat/Republican balance in teams.

Item 3. Colin Powell introduced the Town Manager's Report: Shawn Blodgett read his report (see attached).

<u>Disposal of CFRD Old Tanker:</u> Gordon MacArthur made motion to sell the old tanker with proceeds to go into the Fire Department Vehicle Reserve Account. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion. Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yest to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve 3-0 to sell the old Tanker and put proceeds into the Vehicle Reserve Acct.

<u>Town Clean Up:</u> MMA's Environmental Action Club will be doing a town cleanup. The Town will aid by providing trash bags and authorize Town Manager, Shawn Blodgett, to waive the trash sticker fee for this cleanup effort. Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Waiving the sticker fee approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur asked that Shawn pass along the Selectboard thanks to the students for their efforts. Peter Vogell agreed.

Item 4. Other Business as Required: NONE.

<u>Communications:</u> -Request to use the Backshore Beach for a wedding reception/gathering on Friday, 8/13/2021 from Lindsay Scott, property owner at 105 Battle Ave.

They plan to follow all State COVID guidelines; plan on serving alcohol with a licensed establishment to serve alcohol, obtain the necessary permits and abide by State regulations for serving alcohol off-premises; and plan on having a tent situated on the grass area between the volleyball and bocce courts. Peter Vogell made motion to approve as long as all State & Castine

COVID19 guidelines are met if things haven't changed by summer 2021. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Colin asked for votes. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Backshore Beach request approved 3-0.

-Letter from the Spirit of America Foundation thanking the CFRD for their outstanding community service efforts.

<u>Colin acknowledged the public present:</u> -Brooke Tenney said there was dead deer remains near the entrance to the Witherle Wood trails. What can be done? Can we inform hunters to clean up? Brooke ended up getting help from students living across the street to remove. Sue Macomber, Town Clerk, said the Town Office received a phone call reporting what sounds like the same description and called MCHT steward, Caleb Jackson and left a message for him. -Helen Miller asked if there was any truth and/or concerns regarding the rumor of a mountain lion siting. Discussion.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Monday, 11/2 and Monday, 11/16 both at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Wednesday, 10/21 at 8AM - T/G Mtg (ZOOM); agenda item = Spring Semester Plan & Updates.

Colin Powell made 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 4:21PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.

Shawn Blodgett
Town Manager & Code Enforcement Officer
Shawn@castine.me.us

MEMORANDUM

To:

Castine Selectboard

From:

Shawn Blodgett

Date:

October 19th, 2020

Re:

Town Manager Report

1. <u>Infrastructure and facilities update</u>. The lighthouse refurbishment has been completed except for the final internal painting being done on the connecting hallway between the home and the tower and the replacement of the tower window. The window should arrive in the next week and once installed, this project will be completed.

The paving project at Pleasant/Perkins Street intersection started today. Residents should expect traffic disruptions at this intersection for the next few days, but I expect that this project will be completed this week, weather permitting.

The logging contractor who the town hires to grind and haul away our transfer station brush pile will be here next week or early during the following week. Due to the COVID crisis and the biomass market cratering, Castine did not have this operation completed last year, so two years of brush has accumulated at the transfer station. The town has historically budgeted approximately \$5300 for this yearly project, but I am anticipating that the cost for this year will be more than double the historical average. We intend to backfill any shortfalls over our budgeted amount by utilizing transfer station operating funds which should be adequate to pay for the project and ensure that the town remains in compliance with State of Maine Department of Environmental Protection guidelines for organic material accumulation.

Other minor infrastructure items of note. The damaged light fixture on Main Street has been repaired but still needs to be tested. The pole was damaged by contractor equipment and the repair cost will not come from the taxpayers.

2. <u>Disposal of the old tanker truck for the Castine Fire Department.</u> The new fire tanker for the Castine Fire Department has arrived and been placed into service. Castine has a grant mandated requirement that the old vehicle cannot be utilized as a fire service apparatus in the future. Chief Stearns and the Castine Fire Rescue Department have a blueberry farm lined up as a buyer for the old truck for around \$500. The tanker was originally purchased used over two decades ago for just over \$2000. I respectfully request that the Selectboard approve of this sale of town property so that we can safely dispose of this aged piece of equipment. I recommend that the proceeds from this sale go into the Fire Department vehicle reserve account.



- 3. <u>Float Removal at the Town Dock.</u> The floats for the town dock will come out at 07:30 AM on the 26th of October. The town dock restrooms have been largely locked up and we will do some light refurbishment of this building before we winterize it, and finally lock it up for the winter. The dock hands are also now officially done for the season.
- 4. <u>Solar Power for Castine and Power Purchase Agreements (PPA)</u>. In response to the Solar Power agenda item that was discussed during the last Selectboard Meeting, I have scheduled a meeting with members of the Brooksville Selectboard to discuss Brooksville's PPA contract. This meeting is scheduled for the 28th of October.
- 5. <u>Halloween</u>. The Recreation Committee will again host Trunk or Treat on the town common at 4 PM on the 31st of October. For those that wish to have trick or treaters stop by their homes for a social distanced visit, an address list is being generated at Emerson Hall. Simply call or stop by town hall to be added to the list.
- 6. <u>Town Clean Up.</u> The Maine Maritime Academy Environmental Action Club would like to hold a town cleanup next week picking up trash at various places around town. Castine will aid this effort by providing trash bags and I respectfully request that the Selectboard authorize me to waive the usual trash sticker fee for any of the refuse bags collected.
- 7. <u>563 Castine Road.</u> The Town of Castine has dismissed its District Court enforcement matter against the owners of the property located at 563 Castine Road. I would estimate that the Dangerous Buildings Order, which the town levied upon the property owners on May 20th, 2019 has largely been complied with. However, the town's legal counsel advised that it would cost the taxpayers of Castine several more months' time, and two or more thousand dollars to achieve 100% of the criteria contained in the May 2019 order. The property owners have been informed of the case dismissal and also that this property may not be rented or occupied until the building passes a life safety inspection. This inspection must be done by a State of Maine licensed third-party building inspector to certify that the structure complies with all applicable life safety and building codes.