

Approved @ 12/21/20 Zoom mtg.

Gordon D. MacArthur

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

Peter Vogell

DATE: Monday, December 7, 2020

TIME: 4PM (via ZOOM)

PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Helen Miller, Ann Miller, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Liz Parish, Bobby Vagt, Brooke Tenney, Ann Blodgett, Elizabeth Foote and Eli Forman of the Castine Patriot.

Gordon MacArthur opened the meeting at 4:00PM. Quorum was confirmed with Peter Vogell stating his presence; Colin Powell stating his presence; and Gordon MacArthur stating his presence. Gordon asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: NONE.

Gordon asked for a motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations, excise tax collections.

General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$15,804.60; Peter Vogell made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Colin Powell.

Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Water Dept Warrant in the amount of \$12,843.99; Peter Vogell made motion to approve the Water Dept Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Colin Powell.

Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0.

Disbursement Warrant (November State Reports) in the amount of \$2,878.25; Peter Vogell made motion to approve the Disbursement Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Colin Powell. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Disbursement Warrant approved 3-0.

Colin Powell made motion to approve the November 16, 2020 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. No discussion. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Nov 16, 2020 Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving appointments to various Town Boards/Committees.

Gordon asked for a motion to appoint Roberta Boczkiewicz to the Planning Board, 5-year term, expiring 6/30/2025. Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell.

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

Gordon asked for a motion to appoint Elizabeth Foote to the Tree Committee, 3-year term, expiring 6/30/2023. Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell.

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

Item 2. Gordon MacArthur introduced the Town Manager's Report: Shawn Blodgett read his report (see attached).

#3. Adams School & Emerson Hall: Gordon asked for a motion to authorize the use of Emerson Hall by Adams School if they need the space to adequately account for social distance requirements since the weather is getting cold and winter is setting in. Colin Powell made motion to approve. Second by Peter Vogell. Colin reiterated that the school should coordinate with Town Manager, Shawn Blodgett, to make sure there is proper separation between school, Town Office and Town Office staff.

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

#4. Christmas Eve: Gordon MacArthur asked for a motion to approve Town Office closure on Thursday, December 24th, Christmas Eve, and Town staff will use a vacation day.

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

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

Item 3. Other Business as Required: NONE.

Communications: NONE.

Colin acknowledged the public present: -Ann Miller said she wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone from Town Hall, the community and the Castine Fire Rescue Dept for contributing to a wonderful 100th Birthday Celebration. She especially noted the Fire Dept for the trucks and sirens going by her house in the car parade recognizing her milestone. She received a lot of cards, phone calls and emails too. It was a great day and she thanks everybody who was involved.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments:

Upcoming Mtgs:

Wednesday, 12/16 at 8AM - T/G Mtg (ZOOM), if needed.

Monday, 12/21 at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:15PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



CASTINE MAINE U.S.A.

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

MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: December 07, 2020
Re: Town Manager Report

1. COVID-19 Update. As of a few hours ago, Hancock County's active COVID case number has risen to 122 cases. However, Castine seems to be doing well and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of the town for their flexibility and gracious compliance with the litany of mandates and work arounds we have put into place to keep the town healthy.

2. Historic Properties Management Plan. We sought requests for proposals from over 25 firms for the development of a Historic Properties Management Plan for Fort George. Lisa Simpson Lutts, representing the Castine Historical Society, Jimmy Goodson representing the Friends of the Fortifications and I, reviewed the two responses we received and are pleased to announce to the Selectboard that the firm of Gray and Pape from Providence, Rhode Island will be the firm we will contract with for the development of the Fort George HPMP. We have received concurrence from the Maine State Historic Preservation Office on the selection of Gray and Pape. Though the firm is from Rhode Island, the project lead is local to this area and lives on Islesboro. This project will largely be funded by Certified Local Government grant money, but augmented with some funds from the Friends of the Fortifications along with \$4400 of town money that has already been budgeted for this project. The project will be broken down into five (5) essential tasks.



Task 1: Conduct Background Research and Context Development. The intent of this task is to place Fort George and the Castine Peninsula in context of both the Penobscot Expedition as well as the development of pre-European contact historical contexts.

Task 2: Archeological Review and Assessment: Gray and Pape will review previous archaeological investigations that have been conducted at Fort George and its immediate surroundings. Gray and Pape will assess the completeness of the archeological record and prepare recommendations for future archeological research.

Task 3: Identification of Known and Anticipated Impacts: This task will accomplish the development of a tabular management tool to mitigate past, present and future impacts to the Fort George site and surrounding area.

Task 4: Identification of Potential for Interpretation: This portion will identify a series of historical themes that can be readily interpreted for the interested public using the existing cultural resources that constitute Fort George and the Bagaduce fortifications.

Task 5: Develop the Historic Properties Management Plan
It is estimated that this project will be completed in late May to the end of June, 2021. Due to COVID, this timeline is an estimate.

3. Adams School and Emerson Hall. With the coming of winter and the worsening of the weather, some of the Adams School classes that have been predominately held outside are being forced indoors and the Adams School may need more space to increase social distanced learning. Emerson Hall would provide a perfect venue for this extra space as Town Hall is only open to the public by appointment, and both the upstairs gym and basement meeting room are self-contained, easily cleaned, have their own restrooms as well as multiple egress routes. If the Adams School needs the space, the students and staff will be segregated from town staff. I recommend that the Selectboard pre-authorize the use of Emerson Hall for this purpose should this eventuality become a requirement.



4. Christmas Eve. With the Selectboard's approval, I intend to close Emerson Hall on Christmas Eve and authorize the town staff to collectively take a vacation day on December 24th.

5. Castine Fire and Rescue Department. With the recent storms and power outages, I would like to take a moment to commend the Castine Fire and Rescue Department. While most of us were at home, comfortable, and riding out the storms, the Castine Fire and Rescue Department went out and continued to provide essential service to our community.

6. December 7, 2020. Even in this age when the COVID pandemic is afflicting our country, I believe that we would be remiss if we didn't pause to remember that 79 years ago today, Pearl Harbor was attacked leaving more than 2400 Americans killed and another 1100 wounded. This attack marked the entry of the United States into World War II and began a war, which by its conclusion would claim more than 400,000 American lives.