

Approved @ 2/1/21 Zoom Mtg.

Gordon D. MacArthur

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

Peter Vogell

DATE: Tuesday, January 19, 2021  
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: Bruce Boczkiewicz, Liz Parish, Bobby Vagt, Brooke Tenney, Johanna Sweet 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 \$124,906.64; 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 \$7,808.48; 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 for Motor Vehicle report to the State in the amount of \$3,335.95; 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.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the January 4, 2021 Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Jan 4, 2021 Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced Accepting Donated Equipment from the Castine Fire Rescue Volunteer Association (CFRVA). Peter Vogell made motion to accept the donated equipment totaling \$24,769.59 (retail value). Second by Colin Powell.

Gordon MacArthur said he won't read the list of donated equipment as it is lengthy, but copies are available at the Town Office. No discussion. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Acceptance of Donated Equipment from CFRVA approved 3-0. Thank you to the CFRVA.

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

Item 3. Other Business as Required: NONE.

**Communications:** NONE.

**Gordon acknowledged the public present for any requests, questions or concerns:** 1) Bobby Vagt asked if Castine's recycling is going to PERC, if not what facility. Shawn gave a brief update. Currently Castine's recycling is going to PERC, however, there's a new company purchasing the old FiberRight facility and is expected to be up and running in the near future. We do not have any updates from MRC (Municipal Review Committee) as of this time, although, once running, our recycling will go there, as we have a contract with MRC. 2) Johanna Sweet said that the Castine Arts Association (CAA) is planning a Valentine's Day event from 4-6PM which consists of a walk throughout town and hopes that some of the homeowners will participate with having firepits at the end of their driveways for some warmth and socializing. Masks and practicing social distancing will be required. They are aware that fire permits will be needed, and they are outlining that the firepits are expected to be on the participants property (end of driveway; edge of the street), be tended at all times and be extinguished properly after the event. In case of inclement weather, the event will take place the next day (2/15).

**Past Actions:** NONE.

**Selectboard Comments:** Colin Powell said there will be a Bicentennial Committee Mtg on Thurs, 1/21/21 to review where things stand and what 2021 looks like for planning last year's cancelled Bicentennial celebration. Colin will report the Committee's findings.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Monday, 2/1/21 and Tuesday, 2/16/21 (due to the President's Day Holiday) both at 4PM (ZOOM) - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Wednesday, 1/20/2021 at 8AM - T/G Mtg (ZOOM) = CANCELLED, NOT needed.

Colin Powell made motion to adjourn. Second by Gordon MacArthur.

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 4:14PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



## MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard  
From: Shawn Blodgett  
Date: January 19, 2021  
Re: Town Manager Report

1. COVID-19 Update. Since last Wednesday, Hancock County's active case count has went up incrementally by approximately 27 cases. Castine's Fire and Rescue Department is in constant contact with officials from both the Peninsula Ambulance Corps as well as Northern Light Health and vaccinations for Castine's first responders are proceeding as vaccine supply is available.

2. Water Main Break. Since the last Selectboard meeting, Castine experienced a significant water main break on Sea Street. At its peak, the leak was around 60 thousand gallons a day. The leak was discovered on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January and repaired on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Just like the previous two breaks, once the leak was fixed, the pavement was temporarily repaired with cold patch and the town will need to emplace a more permanent fix in the spring as the temperature warms.

3. Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP). Gray and Pape Heritage Management are working on the Fort George HPMP. Patrick O'Bannon PhD., who is the project lead, will be in Castine the first week of February to continue his research for this document. The Castine Historical Society graciously offered Dr. O'Bannon office space for his work.



4. Mold at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Eastern Mold Remediation started the mold remediation project for the WWTP today and should complete their work by Friday of this week. This project will cost \$8903.70, which cost wise was in the middle of the three bids the town received for the project. However, the services provided by Eastern Mold Remediation are much more comprehensive than the other two bids and will fix the problem, vice only cleaning up the mold so I assess that this winning bid is in the best long term interest of Castine.

5. Town Dock. On the 12<sup>th</sup> of this month, the Harbor Committee voted to launch the town dock floats on the 23d of April, 2021. Castine's public works will conduct refurbishment of all of the hardware and any failing wood on several of the floats in conjunction with the float launch. I assess that the total cost of this will be beneath \$4,000 for which we have money in the budget. Members of the Harbor Committee have also recently conducted an inspection of the entire dock area and the anodes are working as intended but the coating of the bulkhead is failing in several places. While this and other work needed at the town dock are not emergencies, we will be getting estimates together for this, and other smaller projects soon. I'll provide updates on future projects as they become available.