

Approved @ 5:17 PM Zoom Mtg.

Gordon B. MacArthur

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

Peter Vogell



DATE: Monday, May 3, 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: Bobby & Ruth Ann Vagt, Helen & Ann Miller, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Hans Carlson, Liz Parish, Brooke Tenney, Ann Blodgett, 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.

Warrants: 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 \$29,153.34; 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 \$215.42; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the Water Dept Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Peter Vogell.

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 monthly State Reports in the amount of \$4,737.00; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the monthly State Report Disbursement Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Peter Vogell. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Monthly State Report Disbursement Warrant approved 3-0.

Minutes: Peter Vogell made motion to approve the April 20, 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. Apr 20, 2021 Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving for the CFRD to apply for CAFS Backpack Giveaway. Colin Powell made motion to approve. Second by Peter Vogell.

Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, said there were no matching funds to this giveaway. Gordon called for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Apply for the CAFS Backpack Giveaway approved 3-0.

Item 2. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving appointment to the Hancock County Planning Commission (HCPC) Executive Committee. Shawn Blodgett addressed. Castine resident, Hans Carlson, was contacted about serving on the HCPC Executive Committee but appointment can only be done by the Selectboard. Castine has not had representation. Responsibility of the Executive Committee is overseeing the HCPC. Gordon called for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Hans Carlson appointed to the HCPC Executive Committee approved 3-0.

Colin Powell thanked Hans for his willingness to serve.

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

#4 Exercise Classes at Emerson Hall: Brooke Tenney asked if there would be any problems if Nancy Watson wanted to start up her weekly yoga classes at Emerson Hall. Shawn said there should not be any problems. We will just need to coordinate, area used will need to be wiped down and sanitized and the upstairs is the appropriate space to use at this time.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve for Exercise Class to use space in Emerson Hall. Second by Peter Vogell. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Exercise Classes in Emerson Hall approved 3-0.

#3 Adams School Science Project: Peter Vogell made motion to approve for the Adams School science class to use Fort George to launch low level rockets. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Use Fort George for Adams School rocket launching approved 3-0.

Item 4. Other Business as Required: NONE.

Communications: NONE.

Gordon acknowledged the public present for any requests, questions, or concerns:

1) Ann Miller said she would like to revisit turning section of Perkins St from Main St to Pleasant St to one way. It is hard to make turns in that area with parking on both sides of the street and it is dangerous for pedestrians and children on bikes, etc. Discussion.

This suggestion would have to be an amendment to the Castine Traffic Ordinance which requires a Public Hearing.

2) Scott Vogell, Harbor Master, said he had a ZOOM mtg with representatives for American Cruiselines. They will create procedures and protocol for how to evacuate a passenger with COVID. This will be a necessity for American Cruiselines to visit Castine this summer. There will be placards installed on the Town floats but should not be a big deal. The Town will have to approve.

Past Actions: Maine Fishermen Support Letter – Gordon MacArthur read the proposed letter and said now that he understands it better, he is willing to send a letter of support. Gordon made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell. Brooke Tenney asked about the mention of wind power, etc. The original letter mentioned that and Right Whales but Castine’s letter of support only supports the fishermen and the industry. Peter Vogell also said, as a fisherman himself, he understands that there have been no whale deaths due to the lobster industry and lobster gear. The lobster industry has made several changes in gear to accommodate and help protect the whales. Fishermen Support Letter approved 3-0.

Selectboard Comments: Gordon MacArthur thanked all the volunteers who helped with the recent Green Up Day clean-up efforts. The Town is clean and better than it has been in years. A job well done by organizers and volunteers. Peter Vogell agreed and thanked everyone involved. Upcoming Mtgs:

Wednesday, 5/5/21 at 2PM (ZOOM) – Budget Work Session.

Saturday, 5/8/21 at 8:30AM – Town Mtg at MMA Fieldhouse.

Monday, 5/17/21 at 4PM (ZOOM) - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Wednesday, 5/19/2021 at 8AM - T/G Mtg (ZOOM), if needed.

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 4:30PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: May 03, 2021
Re: Town Manager Report

1. Call for Volunteers for the Castine Comprehensive Plan. Castine continues to advertise for volunteers for the Comprehensive Plan Committee. The deadline for expressing interest is 08 May 2021. I expect to provide a list of prospective committee candidates to the Selectboard immediately following town meeting.

2. 2021 Street Sweeping, Striping and Crack Sealing. Castine's streets will be swept tomorrow, the 04th of May starting at approximately 0530 AM. Main Street will be swept first and should be completed well before the preponderance of activity on this street. Crack sealing will be taking place in town from the 05th through the 07th of May with the priorities being to complete Battle Avenue, then Pleasant Street followed by Court Street from Main Street to Water Street.

3. Adams School Science Project. The Adams School science teacher, Mr. Josh Snow contacted me requesting the use of Fort George to launch low level rockets as the capstone project for his students' science projects. The request is for June 8th with a backup date of June 11th. Mr. Snow will be using a metal launch pad and will moisten the surrounding grass. In addition, he will have two fire extinguishers on site. The rockets should launch to no higher than 200' and require a 50' X 50' safety area around them. I have checked with the Fire Department and Assistant Chiefs Spratt and Gutow were both familiar with the type of rocket they will use and had no issues with their use at Fort George. I request that the Selectboard authorize this event for the Adams School.

4. Exercise Classes at Emerson Hall. I have been contacted by a group of about 5 people that would like to start utilizing Emerson Hall again for exercise classes. Historically, these classes have taken place in the basement, but I



think for social distancing purposes, it would be better in the near term to hold these classes upstairs. Distancing town staff from the exercising activity will not be an issue, much like when the Adams School uses the upstairs court for gym class in inclement weather. I request that the Selectboard authorize this use of Emerson Hall.

5. Fence Repair at the Battle Avenue Water Treatment Facility. Castine has been approved for a grant of \$7300 from the Maine Drinking Water Program to repair the 9 sections of broken fence we have at the Battle Avenue facility.

6. Historic Property Management Plan. I spoke with the contractor we have hired to develop our Fort George Historic Property Management Plan. We are still on track and should receive tasks 2-4 by the end of May and be on schedule to receive a draft copy of the final plan by early July.

7. Town Meeting Preparations this Friday. The town staff will be preparing the Maine Maritime Academy Field House for town meeting this Friday. Expect that the Emerson Hall office will be closed this Friday afternoon as we will be at the field house. If anyone is unable to attend town meeting, but would still like to watch it, contact Emerson Hall and we will send you an electronic invite.