

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

GM
PC

DATE: Monday, October 18, 2021
TIME: 4PM (In-person; broadcast 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: Liz Parish, Brooke Tenney, Bobby Vagt, Marc Pelletier, Scott Vogell, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Bob Friedlander, Tony Politano, Josh Adam, and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.
ZOOM – Helen Miller.

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 \$74,442.28; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount stated. 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. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Water Dept Warrant in the amount of \$66,483.60; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the Water Dept Warrant in the amount stated. 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. Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0.

Minutes: Peter Vogell made motion to approve the October 4, 2021, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin abstained (absence from mtg). Gordon stated yes to approve. October 4, 2021, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 2-0.

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving appointment to the Board of Appeals. Colin Powell made motion to appoint Bill Lyons (Alternate member, 1-yr term, expires 6/2022) to the Board of Appeals. 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.

Appointment to the Board of Appeals approved 3-0.

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

Shawn added that the flagpole at Fort George is broken. Public Works, Henry Erhard will be making another this winter season. Shawn also said that flags are at ½ mast until 10/22 in honor of Colin Powell's (Former US Secretary of State) passing.

Marc Pelletier asked if sidewalks were going to be incorporated in with the 188 Perkins Street project? The current schematics/budget are dealing with just drainage issues.

Item 3 (out of order). Gordon MacArthur introduced discussion regarding Bid for the storm drainage issue located at 188 Perkins Street area.

Since this topic was discussed in the Town Manager's Report, Gordon MacArthur made motion to postpone drainage work until Spring 2022. Second by Colin Powell.

Discussion. This decision is mostly due to piping being backordered and the expected delivery date is 5 months out. It was asked if we are in a situation that things in that area could get worse by delaying. Shawn said there is no greater danger than there has been already.

Gordon asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Storm drainage at 188 Perkins Street area postponed until Spring 2022 approved 3-0.

Item 4. Other Business as Required: Nov 2nd Election Clerk approval (see attached).

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the Election Clerk list and added authorizing the Town Clerk to add clerks if needed. Second by Colin Powell. Nov 2nd Election Clerks approved 3-0.

Communications: NONE.

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

1) Josh Adam asked if the PFAS testing results were in. Shawn said the Battle Ave site test is completed, although, Spring Street, British Canal and Wadsworth Cove (the Town's other water source areas) results are not in yet. Result numbers for all locations will be released together. However, Battle Ave results were well below State and Federal regulations.

2) Marc Pelletier said the new Sidewalk Committee has met twice since the last Selectboard Mtg and they have another one the next day (10/19 at 5PM). He said the Committee is in hopes to have updates, recommendations, and an interim plan to the Selectboard soon.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Mon, 11/1/21 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Mon, 11/15/21 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Wedn, 10/20/21 at 8AM - T/G Mtg (ZOOM = CANCELLED. NO AGENDA ITEMS.

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

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 4:19PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Castine Selectboard
FROM: Susan Macomber, Town Clerk

RE: November 2, 2021 Election/Ballot Clerks

October 18, 2021

Please approve Election/Ballot Clerks for the November 2nd Referendum Election and authorize the Town Clerk to appoint any other Election/Ballot Clerks as needed:

Republicans

Scott Vogell
Kathy Eaton
Kelly Gualtieri

Democrats

Robin Mass
Ray Nualla
Ingrid Scott
Theresa Kudlak

Independent

Alicia Anstead



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: October 18, 2021
Re: Town Manager Report

1. COVID Update. Hancock County remains in the "High" category for community transmission along with every other county in Maine. Mask wearing continues to be recommended for everyone by the State of Maine CDC. As of yesterday, October 17th, Maine had a combined antigen and molecular daily positivity rate of 6.4% which is about the same as it was at the time of my last report.

2. Infrastructure and Maintenance and Operations Update. Due to weather delays, we were not able to complete any paving projects this past week. However, with good weather projected for this week, I expect that the remaining four paving projects we have for this season should be completed by Friday of this week to early next.

-Public Works is continuing to make progress on refurbishing dock floats. I expect that one or two will be completed by Thursday and the third shortly thereafter. Our hope is to get four or five completed in this off season. Following float refurbishment, Public Works will complete the re-roofing of the town Salt Shed.

3. 188 Perkins Street. We solicited bids from three known contractors to fix the stormwater drainage issue at 188 Perkins Street. One contractor declined due to lack of availability and two contractors attended the pre-bid meeting on



the 7th of October. Bid opening was set for the 14th of October but only one contractor submitted a bid, which was Bowden and Son LLC. In consultations with Olver Associates, the bid received is right in line with expectations even though an additional storm water catch basin installation was added as a change order. The entirety of this project has now been split into two phases. Phase 1: Installation of new stormwater pipe and a new catch basin in between 188 Perkins Street and Dresser Lane. In addition, we intend to install another catch basin on the South side of Perkins Street in the vicinity of Latour Street to help with stormwater drainage issues in this area as well. For this Phase, the bid received was **\$110,688. This bid also includes \$9,270 in temporary pavement repair so that we can finish this project this season.**

-There is a problem for this phase in that there isn't any 12" PVC available from vendors to put in the ground and the lead time for ordering is around 5 months. We do have a way we can get the PVC from another contractor, but this would require installing close to \$10,000 in temporary pavement through the winter and rip up this same pavement in the spring. I know this has been a long lingering problem, but I recommend to the Selectboard that we wait on this project until a proposed start date of April 4th, 2022 with a projected completion date of May 19, 2022.

Phase II: This phase is designed to catch more water emanating from Pleasant Street before it gets to the problem area of 188 Perkins. This Phase would incorporate properly placing and installing catch basins at the Pleasant and Perkins intersection. There is a problem with this Phase as well as when the engineering and design work was being completed, we found that the stormwater drainage pipes headed South down Water Street were old and rusted out galvanized steel. The Main Street project emplaced a new stormwater system as far out as just past the Arts Annex/Payson Hall. In effect, if we execute the plan as it currently stands, we will install new and effective catch basins at the Pleasant/Perkins intersection only to dump that



water into rusted out pipes beneath the pavement. Added to this, the catch basins on the eastern side of Water Street going around that corner underwent emergency repair around 4 years ago. The repair was not supposed to be permanent but 4 years later, we are still using it. I would propose expanding this Phase to incorporate the running of new and upgraded pipe from the Perkins/Pleasant intersection and to tie this into the new pipe from the Main Street project in the vicinity of the Arts Annex along with effecting a permanent refurbishment of the catch basins down Water Street. This change will obviously increase the cost, but to me it doesn't make much sense to have a contractor on site and to leave this downstream section of our infrastructure untouched.

4. ARPA Funds Update. The Town has received its first installment of \$52,385.44. To our knowledge, only the interim final rules on what municipalities can spend this money on have been issued and we are aware of an attempt being made to alter these rules. However, at the current time, below is what the money can go toward:

- Climate change resilience/Green Projects
- Sewer
- Water
- Broadband
- Community and Economic Development

The first report on expenditures is due back to the Federal Government on April 30th, 2022 but this date has already shifted once and it should not surprise anyone to see it shift again. After consulting with Maine Municipal Legal regarding ARPA and how to legally expend this money under the Town Meeting form of government, the Selectboard or designee can accept the money, but cannot authorize expenditure without a town vote. So, unless the expenditure reporting shifts again, we should expect to need to hold another special town meeting to vote on how to utilize these dollars. I'll be working



up a baseline to start the community conversation on what to do with these funds this week.