

**Selectboard
Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 3, 2022, 4:00 PM
Emerson Hall**

CP
GM
Peter Vogell
(Zoom)

Present: Gordon MacArthur, Chair; Colin Powell (Zoom) and Peter Vogell (Zoom), Selectboard; and Karen Motycka, Finance Officer.

Public: Bruce and Roberta Boczkiewicz, Jim Bernard, Bobby Vagt, David Avery for Castine Patriot, Liz Parish (Zoom), Helen Miller (Zoom), Brooke Tenney (Zoom), Marc Pelletier (Zoom), Penny Carlhain (Zoom) and Sue Macomber (Zoom).

Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM. It was verified that a quorum was present by roll call.

Gordon asked if there were any Additions, Deletions or Corrections to the Agenda. There were none.

Gordon made a motion to approve a General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$85,086.70. Peter seconded the motion. No questions or discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon made a motion to approve a Water Warrant in the amount of \$16,770.92. Peter seconded the motion. No questions or discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon made a motion to approve a second Water Warrant in the amount of \$9,596.34. Peter seconded the motion. No questions or discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the December 20, 2021 Selectboard Meeting. Peter made the motion. Colin seconded the motion. No discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Item 1.

Gordon read Shawn's Town Managers Report – See attached report to become part of the minutes.

Gordon asked for a motion to approve donation of equipment to Castine Fire Department for a total value of \$11,902.86 from Castine Fire Rescue Volunteer Association. Colin made motion to accept donation. Gordon MacArthur seconded the motion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Item 2.

Gordan asked if there was any other business. There was none.

Communications – there were none.

Acknowledged member of the public to address their requests.

Bobby Vagt thanked the Selectboard for installing the Children at Play signs on State Street on either side of the Community Childhood Learning Place.

Marc Pelletier let the Selectboard know that there was a Sidewalk Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting scheduled for the next afternoon at 5 PM. The Committee will be considering a letter to go out to homeowners asking them to shovel abutting sidewalks to their property. They will also look at costs associated with either having Town employees clear sidewalks or a sub-contractor clear sidewalks. Marc wanted to know if the Selectboard had anything else they would like added to the agenda. At this time, the Selectboard did not. Liz Parish wanted to know if she should have the sidewalk cleared in front of her property from Perkins St to the Property line of T&C Market. At this point in time, the Town's sub-contractor for street plowing is putting all the snow from Main St on to that side in order to keep the business side cleaner and easier to clear of snow. Marc thanked Liz for asking, but for the time being, there is no need.

Brooke Tenney asked about the fees that DEP was putting into place January 1, 2022 and what effect it would have on the Town. Karen answered that just under 50 tons of sludge had been taken from the sewer plant to Casella Organics during 2021. Based on that number, the Town would pay \$500 a year at the \$10/ton cost.

Marc Pelletier asked how he could find Gas Detectors, that are required in rental housing, effective January 1, 2022. Peter answered that he had purchased two at Lowes. Both Karen and Bobby Vagt said they were available on Amazon.

Past Actions – there were none.

Selectboard Comments – there were none.

Schedule next meetings. Tuesday 1/18/22 (Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday on 1/17/22) at 4 PM. Town Gown Meeting – Tentatively, Wednesday, 1/19/22 at 8 AM (Zoom).

With no other business, Gordon made a motion to adjourn. Peter seconded the motion. Rollcall vote - Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Minutes by Karen Motycka.



CASTINE MAINE U.S.A.

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

MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: January 03, 2022
Re: Town Manager Report

1. COVID Update. Hancock County remains in the "High" category for community transmission along with every other county in the rest of Maine. Mask wearing continues to be recommended for everyone by the State of Maine CDC.

As of December 29th, Maine had a daily positivity rate of 14.4% which is a significant increase from my last report.

The Federal and State CDCs have provided new guidance on quarantine periods, lowering the duration to five days. People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter. The new guidance stems from science showing that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmissions occur early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

2. Septage Fees Increasing. Maine has enacted Public Law 2021 Chapter 478 which is entitled, An Act to Investigate Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Contamination of Land and Groundwater. This law requires the Maine Department of Environmental Protection to develop and implement a program to evaluate soil and groundwater for PFAS/PFOS chemicals. The rules for the implementation and utilization of the new program have yet to be written or published by MDEP, but the fee increase of \$10.00 per ton of



septage or sludge began with the New Year and the cost will be passed back to users of municipal sewage systems.

3. Castine Fire Rescue Volunteer Association (CFRVA) Donation. Through fundraising throughout the year, the CFRVA proudly announced that their organization will donate equipment purchases in the amount of \$11,902.86 to the Town of Castine. I respectfully request the Selectboard to authorize town officers to accept this donation.