

**Selectboard
Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 21, 2022, 4:00 PM
Emerson Hall**

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PV
CP*

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

Public: Brooke Tenney, Marc Pelletier, Gus Basile, Tom Comiciotto, Josh Adam, David Adams, David Avery for Castine Patriot, Penny Carlhian (Zoom), Bruce Boczkiewicz (Zoom), Roberta Boczkiewicz (Zoom) and Ann Miller (Zoom).

Colin called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. It was verified that a quorum was present by roll call.

Colin asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda. There were none.

Colin asked for a motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$102,811.42. Gordon made a motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount stated. Peter seconded the motion. No questions or discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Colin asked for a motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$14,623.49. Gordon made a motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount stated. Peter seconded the motion. No questions or discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Colin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2022 meeting. Gordon made the motion. Peter seconded the motion. No discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Item 1.

Colin introduced Appointments and Resignations – Boards and Committees. The board had one appointment; Johanna Barrett has volunteered to sit a three-year term on the Tree Committee. Gordon made motion to appoint Johanna Barrett to a three-year term on the Tree Committee. Colin seconded the motion. No discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Wallace Alston submitted his resignation from the Island Name Change Committee. Gordon made the motion to accept Wallace Alston's resignation, with regret. Colin seconded the motion. No discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Item 2.

Colin asked Shawn for the Town Managers Report – See attached report to become part of the minutes.

Gordon made a motion to re-authorize an application to the Maine State Clean Water Revolving Fund Grant in an amount of \$1,420,000. Peter seconded the motion. No discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing for the Municipal Solid Waste Ordinance on Monday, April 4th at 4PM. Peter seconded the motion. No discussion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon made a motion to authorize Shawn to issue a change order for the Perkins, Pleasant, Water St Drainage Project, contingent on Town Meeting Approval, for full street paving. Colin seconded the motion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Item 3.

Under Other Business Colin stated that the Selectboard had just received a Citizen’s Petition, circulated by Jessica Simmons with 50 certified signatures “...to increase the size of the Castine School Committee from three (3) members to five (5) members, and for transition purposes, elect the fourth member for a two-year term and the fifth member for a three-year term at the November 8, 2022 municipal election?” Petitions require signatures of 10% of the number of voters who voted in the last gubernatorial election. In 2018, Castine has 461 voters cast ballots, so 46 signatures are required. Gordon made a motion to accept the petition. Colin seconded the motion. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Communications – Email from US Lighthouse Society asking to bring a group on October 9, 2022 for a Lighthouse Tower tour. Colin made a motion to grant the request. Gordon seconded the motion. It was noted that the date was a Sunday and we would need at least two volunteers to carry out the tour. Colin amended his motion to include, provided getting volunteers. Gordon seconded. Rollcall vote – Gordon voted Yes, Peter voted Yes and Colin Voted Yes.

Approved 3-0.

Acknowledged members of the public to address their requests.

Marc Pelletier asked the date when the Perkins Street Drainage Project would begin. Shawn stated, provided PVC pipe can be obtained, it will begin April 20th. The project will take approximately one month.

David Adams requested if there were any extra funds to pave, that part of Wadsworth Cove Road, where the Back Shore Road intersects be done. David also asked about the county wide broadband project.

Past Actions – there were none.

Selectboard Comments – There were none.

Shawn was going to check on a Town Gown Meeting for Wednesday and would let the Selectboard know.

Schedule next meetings. Public Hearing – Traffic Ordinance (Sidewalk Clearing) – Monday 3/28/22 at 4:30PM, Public Hearing – Municipal Solid Waste Ordinance - Monday 4/4/22 at 4PM with Selectboard Meeting immediately following, Selectboard Meeting Tuesday 04/19/2022 (Patriots Day Holiday on 4/18/22) at 4 PM.

With no other business, Colin asked for a motion to adjourn. 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 4:39 PM.

Minutes by Karen Motycka.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: March 21, 2022
Re: Town Manager Report

1. Maine State Clean Water Revolving Fund Grant (CWSRF). At the last Selectboard meeting, I passed to the Board that we would be applying for \$403,000 in grant money for sewer upgrades on Court Street from Pleasant to Tarratine. Upon further review of the standards applied to the CWSRF grants, we would like to up the amount we are applying for with this grant to \$1,420,000 as stormwater upgrades are also eligible. As I passed to the Board at the last meeting, we are applying for principal forgiveness and the Town will not be under any obligation to provide matching funds. I am not optimistic that Castine will experience a huge monetary gain from this grant, but it can't hurt to apply. I respectfully request that the Selectboard re-authorize this grant application for the increased amount of \$1,420,000.

2. Castine is a Tree City USA. Castine has been named a Tree City USA for the 13th year in a row due in large part to the community's monetary commitment to safeguard, maintain and replant the town's trees.

3. Traffic Ordinance Amendment. As posted on the town website, the public hearing for the proposed traffic ordinance amendment dealing with sidewalk snow removal will take place at 4:30 PM on the 28th of March at Emerson Hall. The draft ordinance amendment is printed up and on the table. We have had problems posting the draft amendment to the town web page with Sue out of the office, but it has been posted on the web page today.

4. Municipal Solid Waste Ordinance. The Castine Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Ordinance has not been updated since it was last enacted in March of 1993. The Ordinance has been re-written as the Castine Municipal Solid Waste Ordinance (MSW) and is currently with the town's attorney for legal review. The substantive changes in the revised version are listed below:

1) Strikes Article 6 from the 1993 version, the annual licensing requirement of commercial solid waste haulers. When enacted, Castine still was an operating landfill and licensed commercial haulers which the town has not done in years.

2) Strikes Article 7 from the 93 version, the portion dealing with the suspension or revocation of commercial solid waste haulers licenses.

3) Strikes Article 8 from the 93 version, which dealt with hearings and appeals of suspended or revoked commercial solid waste hauling permits.

4) Strikes Article 9 from the 93 version, which deals with authorized user permits. In the 1993 Ordinance, this section dealt with a requirement that each user of the transfer station needed a Town of Castine sticker on their vehicles. Since Castine no longer utilizes car stickers, this section has been struck. However, if the town desires to go back to this system in the future, this ordinance is easily amended.

5) The amended version further defines "authorized users" of the transfer station to Castine residents, resident businesses and to contractors conducting business within the boundaries of Castine. Contractor or business waste is only authorized to be deposited at the transfer station if the acceptable waste is generated within the boundaries of Castine.

6) The updated version adds an Article dealing with the suspension or revocation of the privilege to use the transfer station or any other municipal facility, for either failing to adhere to the new ordinance or failure to pay a fine stemming from the same.

7) Adds Article 13 which lays out an appeal procedure if a person or business loses the privilege of using the transfer station or other municipal facility stemming from a violation of the MSW ordinance.

8) A question that still needs to be answered is whether the town wants to continue with monthly contractor accounts. We currently only have around 8 of these accounts and most every contractor requires a receipt from the transfer station attendant. The town finance officer then reconciles the receipts and sends out a monthly bill. We would advocate to require contractors to pay as they go with the attendant and gain efficiency for the Town Finance Officer.

Provided that we receive the legal review in time and if the Selectboard would like to include this revision on the warrant for this year's town meeting, I respectfully request a public hearing on April 4th, 2022 at 4:30 PM at Emerson Hall to discuss this ordinance with the community.

5. Brush Pile at the Transfer Station. The town's contractor who grinds up the brush pile is scheduled to be in town starting this week to get rid of the brush accumulation before we start gathering more during the spring.

6. Street Sweeping Scheduled. Our annual street sweeping will take place during the first week of May. I'll pass more refined dates to the Selectboard as we get closer to that week. Street striping will follow shortly thereafter.

7. Perkins/Pleasant/Water Street Stormwater Drainage Project. We have received and accepted a bid of \$107,590 from Bowden and Son LLC for Phase 1 of this stormwater mitigation project. This portion of the project will be to alleviate the stormwater pressure in the vicinity of 188 Perkins through installing larger pipes, and another catch basin to aid in the flow grade. The Selectboard previously approved this phase utilizing money in the town's capital improvement account which will leave approximately \$412,410 in this account at the completion of this Phase. Phase 2 will add catch basins to the

Pleasant/Perkins intersection and replace the aging stormwater infrastructure running down the hill around the bend to the east on Water Street and tie into the new pipe from the Main Street project. The bid for this Phase is \$197,915. The work is critical, and we have two ways to pay for it. First, we could pay for it through the capital infrastructure account. I recommend against this as the town still has sheet piling work at the dock and the engineering and design work for Court Street from Pleasant to Tarratine to contend with. I respectfully request that the Selectboard places an article on this year's warrant to expend money, not to exceed \$197,915 from surplus to pay for this work. The not to exceed figure is important as this project does qualify for American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding and we have received over \$53,000 of this money so far. If the Selectboard prefers, Castine could defray a portion of the cost of this work using ARPA money. The last issue for this project regards paving. As part of the work and factored into the bids for the two phases are trench paving of roughly half of each street. The lone paving project left undone last year was this section of Water Street and Perkins Street was the focus of effort for this year's paving. I respectfully request the Selectboard's authorization to allow me to execute a change order on these contracts to incorporate full street width repair of the overlay once the stormwater mitigation portion of these projects are complete.

8. Drinking Water Reporting Violations. The Town has received two notices of non-compliance from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services dealing with the reporting of drinking water test results from 1/1/2021 to 06/30/2021. In a nutshell, the tests were being conducted and all results were within safe parameters, but we were unaware that the results should be reported until the second calendar year quarter of 2021. Olver Associates then updated their reporting format and included the test results on the new format. A notice to the public is required for these non-compliance notifications, so a letter describing these violations will be included in the yearly Consumer Confidence Report which will be included in this quarters billing statements.