

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

PV
CP
GM

DATE: Tuesday, April 19, 2022

TIME: 4PM (In-person; broadcast via ZOOM)

PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Peter Vogell, Chair; Colin Powell & Gordon MacArthur, Selectboard members; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager; Karen Motycka, Finance Officer and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Cassie Vogell, Ingrid Paronich, Josh Adam, and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.

ZOOM – Ann Blodgett, Helen Miller & Brock Muir.

Peter Vogell opened the meeting at 4:00PM. Quorum was confirmed with Peter Vogell stating his presence, Gordon MacArthur stating his presence and Colin Powell stating his presence. Peter asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: NONE.

Warrants: Peter 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 \$65,665.31; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Water Dept Warrant in the amount of \$16,889.31; Colin Powell made motion to approve the Water Dept Warrant in the amount stated. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0.

Minutes: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the April 4, 2022, Public Hearing minutes. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. April 4, 2022, Public Hearing minutes approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the April 4, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. April 4, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the March 28, 2022, Public Hearing minutes. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve.

Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. March 28, 2022, Public Hearing minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Peter Vogell introduced approving new Liquor License – Dennett’s Wharf (new applicant: Max Katzenberg). Cassie Vogell and Ingrid Paronich, Managers, were present.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell. No discussion.

Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. New Liquor License – Dennett’s Wharf approved 3-0.

Item 2. Peter Vogell introduced discussion regarding LD#2003.

Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, updated. An amended version of LD#2003 has been approved the Maine House of Representatives and is now headed to the Senate. LD#2003 mandates all municipalities to allow up to three (3) multiple accessory dwelling units on every single-family residence zoned parcel without regard to minimum lot size if setback requirements are met.

This will require significant changes to Castine’s Zoning Ordinance and will have sewer ramifications applying to septic systems. Maine Municipal Association has recommended against the passage of this law.

Discussion. Peter Vogell and Gordon MacArthur both said they are reached out and spoken to our State Representatives with grave concerns.

Item 3. Peter Vogell introduced the Town Manager’s Report. Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager read his report (see attached).

#1. Booster Clinic Request @ Emerson Hall: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve request from Norther Light Healthcare to use Emerson Hall for a COVID19 Booster Clinic. Second by Peter Vogell. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. COVID19 Booster Clinic @ Emerson Hall approved 3-0.

#2. Arntzen Wedding @ Fort Madison: Gordon MacArthur made motion to oppose granting permission for fireworks request at Fort Madison after the Arntzen family wedding reception. Second by Peter Vogell. Castine follows the current State law requires getting permission from property owners and does not allow after 10PM. Castine does not allow fireworks on any Town property. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to oppose. Gordon stated yes to oppose. Colin stated yes to oppose. Fireworks permission @ Fort Madison opposed 3-0.

David Avery asked if any funds have been paid to MRC already that would be allocated towards MRC purchasing the facility if needed. Shawn said Castine has not. Karen Motycka, Finance Officer, said Castine pays approximately \$100/month quarterly fee.

Item 4. Other Business as Required. NONE.

Communications: 1) Request from CAA Johanna Sweet asking to use upstairs of Emerson Hall on Saturday, May 21 from 10AM to 2PM for a Ukraine Relief Fair. There are no conflicts for the space. Peter Vogell made motion to approve the request. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Ukraine Relief Fair @ Emerson Hall approved 3-0.

2) A resident has asked if the Town will allow free brush disposal for spring clean-up. For several years the Town has not allowed due to the grinder and removal costs the Town has for getting rid of the brush. Peter Vogell made motion to oppose free brush disposal for spring clean-up. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to oppose. Gordon stated yes to oppose. Colin stated yes to oppose. Free brush disposal opposed 3-0.

3) Monthly HCSD report.

Peter acknowledged the public present for any requests, questions, or concerns: NONE.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: Gordon MacArthur said that he conducted a one-way study on section of Perkins St from Main to Pleasant Streets (Gordon is a retired Traffic Engineer who was employed with the State of Vermont). Brock Muir said he had requested at a previous mtg that the one-way option be extended to include Pleasant and Water Streets. The study has been completed for the Perkins St portion mentioned above only at this time for consideration. Gordon MacArthur made motion to schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, 5/2 at 4PM for discussions to amend the Traffic Ordinance. Second by Peter Vogell. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Public Hearing for Monday, 5/2 approve 3-0.

Gordon pointed out and wanted noted that if the amendment is enacted, the Town holds Gordon harmless, which was agreed to.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Wedn, 4/20/22 - T/G Mtg at 8AM; coffee hour for MMA President, Bill Brennan's, retirement.

Mon, 5/2/22 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Sat, 5/14/22 at 8:30AM – May Town Mtg in MMA Alexander Fieldhouse.

Mon, 5/16/22 at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Colin Powell made motion to adjourn. Second by Peter Vogell.

Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to adjourn. Gordon stated yes to adjourn. Colin stated yes to adjourn. Approved 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:27PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: April 19, 2022
Re: Town Manager Report

1. Booster Clinic Request for Emerson Hall. Northern Light Healthcare would like to conduct a COVID vaccination booster clinic at Emerson Hall on May 6th from 9 AM to Noon. I request the Selectboard's authorization to allow this use of town hall.

2. Arntzen Wedding at Fort Madison. I have received a request from both the Arntzen's, their wedding planner and a fireworks firm to allow them to end their August 6th reception with fireworks. It is my understanding that the Selectboard has not previously granted such requests but wanted to affirm this with the Board.

3. Perkins Street Stormwater Mitigation Project Phase I. Phase I will begin on or around Wednesday of this week with test pits being dug on Perkins Street. The project will take place in the vicinity of 188 Perkins Street. I would like to remind all Castine residents that this project may result in periodic road closures in the vicinity of the work site. One note on this project is that as expected, asphalt is much more expensive this year leaping from around \$140 an emplaced ton to upwards of \$175, so we should not expect to get as much paving done this year.

4. Battle Avenue Water Treatment Plant PFAS Test Results. Castine has re-tested the Battle Avenue water treatment facility water and this time the

results are that there is no detectable PFAS in Castine's water after treatment but before being introduced into our system at the Battle Avenue facility. There could be several reasons for the new results. The first is that recently, guidance has been published dictating how water treatment facilities should test for PFAS. When Castine first tested for PFAS, we were not aware that testing should be conducted from taps that do not have Teflon/PTFE pipe thread on them. With labs measuring in parts per trillion, simply having this tape on a tap could lead to a reading. Another possibility is that due to Castine's earlier reading being so low at 2.1 parts per trillion that a shift of just over .1 parts per trillion could lead to a non-detectable level as 2 parts per trillion is the cutoff of what the lab can find.

Finally, this sample was collected after all water treatment. While the existing treatment at Battle Avenue is not designed to remove PFAS, it is possible that if these compounds are present in the raw water, the filters could remove it at the same time with other particulate matter being taken out. As a reminder, the Federal Drinking Water Advisory is 70 parts per trillion and the State of Maine's is 20 parts per trillion.

5. LD 2003 Update. An amended version of LD 2003 has been approved by the Maine House of Representatives and is now headed to the Senate with only a few more days in this session. As a reminder to Castine residents, LD 2003 will force all Maine municipalities to allow multiple accessory dwelling units on every single-family residence zoned parcel in each town without regard to minimum lot size if setback requirements are met.

6. Municipal Review Committee (MRC) Update. The MRC held a special meeting on the 14th of April and is continuing to move forward on a "stalking horse" bid to purchase the Hampden facility (formerly Fiberite) should another buyer not present themselves before the end of June. There will be a town hall meeting this week to discuss any progress on all fronts. If no buyer for this facility can be found by the end of June, the MRC will seek to utilize their

stalking horse bid and buy the facility. In the case of this eventuality, the MRC will then seek to generate start up and initial operating capital from the 115 members of the MRC of which Castine is one. A business plan for the MRC purchase of the facility is expected to be published in the coming week or so I should have a better estimate of what Castine's portion would be before the next Selectboard meeting.