

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

GM
PV
CP

DATE: Monday, May 2, 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 and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Joe & Jane Slocum, John & Liz Parish, Gil & Brooke Tenney, Marcia Mason, Scott Vogell, Tony Politano, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Mac & Peg Patterson, Ruth Ann Vagt, Bob Friedlander and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.

ZOOM – Ann Miller, Sonja O'Donnell, Debbie Rogers & Bruce Boczkiewicz.

Peter Vogell opened the meeting at 4:16PM (following the Public Hearing). 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 \$30,043.61; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount stated. 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. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Water Dept Warrant in the amount of \$4,229.07; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the Water Dept Warrant in the amount stated. 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. Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0.

General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$5,750.00; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount stated. 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. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Minutes: Peter Vogell made motion to approve the April 19, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes. 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. April 19, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Peter Vogell introduced approving possible Traffic Ordinance amendment.

Peter Vogell suggested holding off from approving any changes especially due to the current State LD#2003 and what it will do to the Town. This law could affect all kinds of aspects for Castine including parking, traffic flow, etc. Gordon MacArthur and Colin Powell agreed.

Discussion. It was suggested that for the time being a "No Parking from Here to Corner" sign be installed at the corner of Main/Perkins Street to help aid having clearance for traffic flow. All agreed.

Item 2. Peter Vogell introduced the Town Manager's Report. Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager read his report (see attached).

#2. LD #2003 Signed into Law: Tony Politano said that the new law cannot possibly negate existing traffic and parking regulations. Shawn said he is not sure. We still have to learn more and how it will affect Castine. It does not seem like it would overrule those types of regulations, but it will change Zoning. Discussion. Gordon MacArthur said this is not a good law. It is taking municipality control away which is not a good way to address the issues they want to. Peter and Gordon both said they've contacted and spoken to State Representatives, and they acted like they did not want to hear from the Towns. Shawn predicts Castine will also need to take a hard look at short-term & long-term rentals and create an Ordinance with teeth to control.

Shawn added that the annual Street Sweeping will be here next week if our Public Works has the streets ready. Public Works is finishing up on town dock float work then will go to street preparation. The Street Stripers will be here the following week.

Item 3. Other Business as Required. NONE.

Communications: 1) Peter Vogell said that Green Up Day clean up went excellent. He said there were a lot of volunteers and thanked them all for cleaning up our community. Peter also said that Saturday, May 14th Town Mtg is coming right up and the Selectboard needed to decide on whether to recommend mask wearing. There is no State mandate in place, but we will have a sanitize station set up and strongly recommend wearing masks. Everyone agreed.

Peter acknowledged the public present for any requests, questions, or concerns: -Tony Politano, Castine Merchants Association (CMA) Co-President, announced that today a worthy candidate had accepted CMA's job offer for the Visitor Center Director position. This is great news and CMA is very excited. Tony outline some of the job description tasks but mainly this

person will be overseeing and coordinating the Visitor Center and volunteer help for running the Visitor Center. Tony also said the Town Mtg Warrant does not outline two (2) significant issues; 1) increases for legal expenses and 2) costs for snow removal enforcement if that article passes. Where are the funds going to come from?

-Liz Parish said she has concerns how to deal with the Lighthouse Lease. She said it is not anything to do with the current tenant, but it is known the tenant is not staying there full-time. How is the Lighthouse to be used? The Town should have someone living there full-time. Shawn Blodgett said there will be a stipulation in the upcoming Lease that requires the tenant live in the house full-time year-round.

-Joe Slocum thanked Gordon MacArthur for doing the Main Street / Perkins Street traffic study.

Past Actions: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: None.

Upcoming Mtgs:

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.

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

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 4:45PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: May 02, 2022
Re: Town Manager Report

1. Booster Clinic Request for Emerson Hall. This is only a reminder that Northern Light Healthcare will conduct a COVID vaccination booster clinic at Emerson Hall on May 6th from 9 AM to Noon.

2. LD 2003 Signed into Law. The amended version of LD 2003 has been signed into law. 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 as long as setback requirements are met. A significant amount of analysis on this bill will be required before I can accurately encapsulate all of the changes that this bill will mean for Castine, but below are a few:

- Castine's Zoning Ordinance will need to be re-written in multiple ways.
- All Single-Family residential parcels may now have multiple Accessory Dwelling Units (up to three, possibly four).
- Castine will not be able to enforce off street parking standards beyond what is required for a single-family residence. It is unclear at this time how that will impact snow removal or public safety on congested streets.

3. Memorial Day Weekend. The Veterans of Castine will hold the annual Memorial Day commemoration on 30 May, 2022 beginning at 9:00 AM on the Common. Details on the commemoration will be published at a later date on the Town of Castine web page.

Also on Memorial Day weekend, the Garden Club will be holding their annual sale in the basement of Emerson Hall and the Castine Arts Association will hold a Ukranian Relief Sale in the upstairs of Emerson Hall on the 28th of May.

4. Municipal Review Committee (MRC) Update. The MRC has not yet published its business plan should the MRC seek to buy the Hampden (formerly Fiberite) facility, but the MRC did provide some very rough numbers in their latest meeting. I am not going to run through the numbers as these figures are based off several tiered assumptions of how many of the 115 member communities sign onto the purchase; and before the MRC has published their financial plan for communities to analyze. If any Castine Resident would like to watch the April 20th MRC meeting, it is posted on the MRC homepage at mrcmaine.org. The financial estimates start around 18 minutes into the video.