

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

GGM  
CP  
PC

DATE: Monday, August 15, 2022  
TIME: 4PM (In-person and ZOOM)  
PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Liz Parish, Scott Vogell, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Anne Blodgett, David Adams, Debbie Rogers, Pam Scott, Helen Miller, Brooke & Gil Tenney, Hans Carlson, Roxanne Coady, Ruth Ann & Bobby Vagt and Castine Patriot, David Avery; ZOOM: Penny Carlhian, Ethan Genter (BDN).

Peter Vogell 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. 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 \$58,509.83; 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. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve.

General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Water Dept Warrant in the amount of \$18,875.41; Peter Vogell 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. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve.

Water Dept Warrant approved 3-0.

Minutes: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the August 1, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Peter Vogell. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. August 1, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Peter Vogell introduced approving for the Library to apply for a Stephan & Tabitha King Foundation Grant. Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Gordon MacArthur said he has concerns over since the Library is a department of the Town and there has been no establishment of who's in charge of the Library grounds and major projects such as \$50,000 for landscaping Library grounds. Gordon said he would like for the Selectboard to meet with the Library Trustees before this project starts and is fully executed. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Library to apply for a Stephen & Tabitha King Grant approved 3-0.

Items 2. Peter Vogell introduced approving for the Lighthouse tower to be open for the Maine Open Lighthouse Day – Saturday, 9/10 from 9AM to 3PM.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Open Lighthouse Day approved 3-0. Volunteers needed will be advertised.

Item 3. Peter Vogell introduced discussions regarding the Island Name Change Committee (INCC) Report. Town Manager, Shawn Blodgett started discussions by introducing Hans Carlson (Vice Chair of the INCC) to address. Hans gave a summary of the INCC final report. The Committee was formed in summer 2021. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time regrouping and researching all angles to bring recommendations to the Castine Selectboard. Hans said the most of the INCC realizes that “negro” can be offensive, but it also represents history. The result is to recommend taking a “Binding Survey” to the community during the time of the November 2022 Election. The choices for names on the survey include:

Suggested Individual Names: Option A - Esther Island & Emanuel Island; Option B – Jackson Island & Pidianiske Island

Collective Names: Option A – Meguntic Islands; Option B – Sikkwenahk Islands

The INCC agreed that renaming the Negro Islands ideally should mark some aspect of the African American historical presence in Castine. Historical research found no direct connection between the islands and any individual African American person or family, despite the island names being recorded in 1785 and 1790 deeds. This research, however, did reveal notable African Americans living in Castine from 1800 on. The INCC also favored using Wabanaki words or phrases as suggested names.

The Committee thanked those who provided their input and participated in the process.

Discussion. David Adams distributed a handout with his suggestions for the two (2) island names. Native American names: 1) Gluskabe Island (a great mythological figure in Penobscot and other Algonquin cultures and languages) and 2) Monimkwehso Island or Woodchuck Island (Gluskabe’s grandmother who raised him from childhood until he was grown, teaching him her entire culture, and endowing him with great mystical powers).

Pam Scott referred to information and research she found resulting to the US Board of Geographic Names (USBGN) policy established in 1967 which changed the word “n\*\*\*\*r” to “negro”. Pam said there is nothing wrong with negro and the USBGN even has a policy noting it.

Hans Carlson said he spoke with Maine Penobscot Nation elder who commending Castine for going through the process of making the change, but the Penobscot Nation did not want to be involved or have the task of putting suggestions for changes onto them.

Hans added that INCC Secretary, Georgia Zildjian is going to post/advertise as community outreach to help the community understand and have definitions of the INCC recommended names.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to accept the INCC Final Report which includes island name change recommendations. Second by Collin Powell.

Gordon thanked the INCC for their dedicated, hard work and seeing it through to the end.

Debbie Rogers pointed out that the “Binding Survey” will allow for property owners not just voters to receive the survey. Karen Motycka, Finance Officer, explained input from Maine Municipal Association legal opinion. A ballot has to be a Yes or No vote and can only go to voters: a binding survey can be formatted with the multiple-choice options and can go to property owners as well.

Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to accept. Colin stated yes to accept. Gordon stated yes to accept. INCC Final Report accepted 3-0.

Item 4. Town Manager's Report: Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager read his report (see attached).

Item 5. Other Business as Required. NONE.

**Communications:** -request from Castine Arts Association (CAA) to have the Youth Summer Theatre Camp rehearsals and performances at the Lighthouse. Rehearsals will be Tues 8/16 – Fri 8/19 with performances on Sat 8/20 and Sun 8/21 both at 5PM. Lighthouse tenant, Tracy Lamayer, is the CAA Theatre Camp liaison and has agreed to host the program pending approval.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the request. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. CAA Theatre Camp request approved 3-0.

**Peter acknowledged the public present for any requests, questions, or concerns:** -Liz Parish asked if the Town had looked at the property going up for Auction on Wed 8/17<sup>th</sup> for an auxiliary Fire Station and what other locations are being considered. Shawn answered that yes, the property in question was considered but due to many elements is not sufficient. Fire Dept personnel say the property does not have enough workable space, buildable situation not suitable and would present traffic difficulties getting in and out of the location. The other locations being considered are:

- 1) Current location with MMA offering a slice of land across the street
- 2) Battle Ave land
- 3) Transfer Station

Roxanne Coady asked if the consultants have supplied a date for when the report will be finalized. Shawn answered no.

**Past Actions:** NONE.

**Selectboard Comments:** NONE.

Upcoming Mtgs:

-Wed, 8/17/22 at 8AM – T/G Mtg, if needed.

Tues, 9/6/22 (Labor Day Holiday) at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

-Mon, 9/19/22 at 4PM - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

-Wed, 9/21/22 at 8AM – T/G Mtg.

Karen asked that a quick mtg be scheduled on or around 8/29/22 to approve bills since there are 3-weeks in between this mtg and the next one (9/6/22).

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

Peter asked for votes: Peter stated yes to adjourn. Colin stated yes to adjourn. Gordon stated yes to adjourn. Approved 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:39PM.

Minutes by Susan M Macomber, Town Clerk.



## MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard  
From: Shawn Blodgett  
Date: August 15, 2022  
Re: Town Manager's Report

1. Water/Pleasant/Perkins Stormwater Mitigation Update. As of this morning, Bowden and Son were working to get the Perkins/Pleasant Street intersection ready for the remaining catch basins to be put into place. These will be the last catch basins to be installed in this area. There is one remaining catch basin to be installed and this one will be emplaced in the vicinity of 91 Perkins street to alleviate another stormwater drainage problem at that location. Once all catch basins are installed, we expect the paving to begin around the 2d week of September. As soon as the catch basins are installed and the area cleaned up and possibly trench paved where needed, we expect the street to open back up until the final overlay emplacement in mid-September.

2. Municipal Review Committee/Hampden Facility Sale Final. On August 10, it was announced the the MRC has closed on the Hampden facility and the sale to the MRC is now final. The MRC has entered exclusive negotiations with Revere Capital for financing and will now move towards re-opening. There have been no further announcements or requests from the MRC regarding membership financing, so I have nothing to pass on this front.

3. Hancock County Registry of Deeds. The 33 Latour Street consent agreement and the UU Church quit claim deed will be filed with the Hancock County Registry of Deeds tomorrow morning.



4. Street Vandalism During Bike Race. Several residents have complained about the street graffiti sprayed on Wadsworth Cove Road during last Saturday's bike race. I have sent a note to the race organizer expressing the unacceptable nature of race fans acting in this way and agreed with them that they should put information in future race packets to highlight that this activity is , costly, juvenile and reflects poorly on the race organizers as well as their fans.

5. MMA Convocation August 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM. MMA will hold their yearly convocation on August 29<sup>th</sup> and have invited the Selectboard Chair and I to take part.

6. Consolidated Communications Notice from Bureau of Parks and Lands. The fiber optic cable installation that is ongoing throughout the Blue Hill Peninsula is ongoing. As part of this, we have received and posted a notice from the State of Maine, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (Bureau of Parks and Lands) that Consolidated will be laying a new cable across the Bagaduce from in the vicinity of 43 Mayo Point Road to Brooksville. Anyone with comments must provide them per the notice to the Bureau before September 11, 2022.