

GBM
CP

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

DATE: Monday, November 7, 2022
TIME: Immediately following the Public Hearing
PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Roberta & Bruce Boczkiewicz, Don Tenney, Kate Noel, Ann Blodgett, Brooke & Gil Tenney, Bob Scott, Bob Beske, Scott Vogell, Gus Basile, Ruth Ann & Bobby Vagt, Mark Morgioni, Ruth & Ken Scheer, David Adams, Bob Friedlander, Marc Pelletier, Bente Hartmann, Josh Adam, Luke Prescott and Alexandro Rojas (both MMA students) and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.
Zoom: Liz Parish, Merissa Roessiger-Rogers, Mary Kneisel, Penny Carlhian and Helen Miller.

Peter Vogell opened the meeting at 4:22PM (following the Public Hearing).

Peter Vogell verified that there was a quorum with Colin Powell (ZOOM, Gordon MacArthur, and himself present in person.

Peter asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: None.

Peter Vogell asked for a motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations and excise tax collections; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$74,053.77. Second by Colin Powell. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$13,849.31. Second by Peter Vogell. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Water Warrant approved 3-0.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the October 17, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. October 17, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Peter Vogell made motion to approve the October 26, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Gordon MacArthur. No discussion. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve.

Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. October 26, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Item 1. Peter Vogell introduced approving amendment(s) to the Castine Traffic Ordinance. Peter Vogell made a motion to leave Ordinance as is at this time. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Gordon suggested revisiting the issue for changing the overnight parking ban until a later date. It is not fair to change now when tickets have already been issued to violators. Discussion regarding posting signs reading "No Parking from Here to Corner" on dangerous corners that do not currently have signage or line striping. Scott Vogell, Parking Ticket Officer, said there are several corners that need markings. Marc Pelletier said many intersections have stop signs so adding the No Parking sign to those posts seems reasonable and could save on costs. Gordon requested that the Town Manager post the necessary signage needed. It was noted that Federal Highway Administration regulations prohibit adding additional signs to stop signs. Merissa Roessiger-Rogers pointed out, that while researching the MDOT website she found that a posted sign is not required. Vehicles cannot park on a public way at least a width of 10ft from a stop sign to allow free passage for other vehicles. Drivers should know this, just as they know not to park in front of a fire hydrant. The Selectboard said that amendments to the Traffic Ordinance including the overnight parking ban review will be revisited in April / May 2023.

Item 2. Peter Vogell introduced approving appointment(s) / Resignation(s) to various Castine Boards/Committees (see list). Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve Mark Morgioni appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Second by Peter Vogell. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. ZBOA appointment approved 3-0. Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve Johanna Barrett resignation from the Tree Committee. Second by Peter Vogell. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Tree Committee resignation approved 3-0.

Item 3. Peter Vogell introduced discussion regarding ZOOM Mtgs per community member request. Liz Parish requested that all mtgs be held via ZOOM. Liz said it's nice to be able to attend mtgs if your unable to attend in person. She added she thought Castine should make ZOOM mtg available all year round to allow more community members to participate. Shawn Blodgett addressed. The Town has a Remote Participation Policy that was implemented by the State during the pandemic for all Boards/Committees to continue operate Town business if Board/Committee members could not be physically present and not for public participation. The Town needs to check about amending the policy to allow public participation when all Board/Committee members are physically present. Shawn said link information cannot

be posted on the Town's website for security reasons. Gordon pointed out that ZOOM participation at many mtgs in the past were difficult to deal with and were disruptive. He said he hopes there can be a way around that. Gordon suggested the Town look into the possibility of amending the Remote Participation Policy to allow community participants and adopt a procedure outlining on how to conduct ZOOM mtgs. Scott Vogell said the Town should also include in the policy that the Town is not held responsible for Town or anyone else's equipment failure including poor or interrupted internet service.

Item 4. Peter Vogell introduced the Town Manager's Report: Shawn Blodgett read his report (see attached).

#3 Election Day & Time Off for the Staff: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve to close the Town Office on Wed, 11/23 and allow a day off compensating the staff for November 8 Election Day work. Second by Peter Vogell. Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Peter stated yes to approve. Close Town Office on 11/23 approved 3-0.

#2 British Canal Sign: Gordon suggested leaving the year off and just post "British Canal", therefore, there would be no error or difference of opinions of what year should be posted. Discussion. The Selectboard all agreed.

Item 5. Other Business as Required = None.

Communications: -Email from John Marples, Penobscot resident, pointing out many Backshore Beach concerns regarding excessive parties, broken glass, burned furniture remnants, and blatant disrespect for a place that many others like to utilize and enjoy. Gordon suggested contacting HCSD and request they patrol the beach area as often as possible.

Peter acknowledged the public present: -Kate Noel announced that the Castine Comprehensive Planning Committee will be hosting a Public Informational Mtg on Wed, 11/16 at 6PM to review chapters the Committee has been working on thus far. The Mtg will be available via ZOOM.

-David Adams said he thought the None of the Above option on the INCC Survey is confusing. Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, read the survey language of explanation. Discussion. Taxpayers and voters have been getting the survey by request, through Absentee Voting and they will be available during Election Day.

PAST ACTIONS: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtg:

Monday, 11/21/22 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

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

Peter asked for votes: Colin stated yes to adjourn. Gordon stated yes to adjourn. Peter stated yes to adjourn. Approved 3-0.

Mtg adjourned at 5:13PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: November 07, 2022
Re: Town Manager's Report

1. Perkins/Pleasant/Water Street Stormwater Project and Paving Update. The entire area has been prepared for paving which will begin tomorrow to complete this project.

Trench paving has been emplaced to provide a good base and a top overlay of roughly 1.5 inches of asphalt will be emplaced for the driving surface.

Additionally, we will emplace a layer of 1.5 inches of new overlay over the existing surface on the Western 325' end of Court Street where it terminates at the Tarratine intersection. Simply put, this section of our town could no longer wait until we conduct a complete reconstruction of the area and our fear was that the road was so rough that a snowplow would catch an edge over the winter and roll up the entire remaining driving surface. I'm not happy about this as we know that this section of the town will be re-worked in the near term, but we don't have better options headed into winter. This leaves a rough patch on Tarratine not completed this season. We will be patching this area with perma-patch to get us through the winter and re-address this and a rough patch on Battle Avenue in the spring.

Also, at the end of next week, or early the following week, the Hatch Cove subdivision will be conducting a paving project of their own which will necessitate the residents of this portion of town parking on eastern Court street. We will cone off the area for safety, but I ask all residents to be on the lookout for these cars.



2. British Canal Sign. The British Canal sign will be re-made over the winter, but it has been brought to my attention that the previous sign was not historically accurate. See the attached maps. The first is from the British in 1779 and the second was generated by the Colonial Army in the same year. Neither show the British Canal built at that point in time. However, the third picture clearly shows that the canal was constructed by the British upon their return to Castine in 1814. Based upon the evidence submitted, I would suggest to the Selectboard that when the sign is re-constructed, it is re-made with the correct date of either 1812, to signify the War of 1812 or 1814 when the construction on the canal would have started.

3. Election Day and time off for the staff. Sue and Karen will be working pretty late into the evening tomorrow night. I respectfully request that the Selectboard authorize them a compensatory day off on the 23d of November, the day before Thanksgiving.

4. Island Name Change Committee survey tabulation. As a reminder, as part of election day, the town will conduct a binding survey tomorrow on the island name change initiative. To not muddy the waters and provide Sue and Karen with extra work on election night, a representative from the Selectboard and the Island Name Change Committee as well as myself will tabulate the survey at 12:00 noon on Wednesday. All who wish to attend and observe are welcome to do so.