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(1/17/23
Zoom)



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

DATE: Tuesday, January 3, 2023
TIME: 4PM
PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Gordon MacArthur – Acting Chair, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Selectboard member (Colin Powell absent); Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, Karen Motycka, Finance Officer & Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.
PUBLIC: Scott Vogell, Josh Adam, Anne Blodgett, Helen Miller, Bob Friedlander, Joe Slocum and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.
Zoom: Bruce Boczkiewicz, Liz Parish, Mark Pelletier, Penny Carlhian and Ginny Foote.

Gordon MacArthur opened the meeting at 4PM.
Gordon MacArthur verified that there was a quorum.
Gordon asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: None.

Gordon MacArthur asked for a motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations and excise tax collections; Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$76,488.66. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Roberta pointed out that the bulk of this warrant was expenses for fire protection and library books. Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. General Fund Warrant approved 2-0.
Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$14,762.08. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Water Warrant approved 2-0.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the December 19, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. December 19, 2022, Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 2-0.

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced the Town Manager's Report: Shawn Blodgett read his report (see attached).
Shawn also extended a big thank you, on behalf of the Town to the Castine, to the Castine Fire Rescue Dept and the surrounding Depts who assisted Castine with the recent December 23,

2022, tragic house fire. The house was a complete loss and because of the weather conditions the Fire Dept had to stay on site all night. In addition, because of the major windstorm that day/night the Fire Dept also had been conducting tree clean up, traffic control and community wellness checks that lasted into the next day (Christmas Eve Day). It is often overlooked at the extent of time and dedication the volunteers on the Fire Dept give and what it takes to run the Dept and respond to incidents. We thank all that serve and are grateful. The Selectboard agreed wholeheartedly. There are not enough words.

#4 Wastewater Treatment Plant Boiler: Gordon MacArthur asked if the boiler was cast iron or steel? Shawn answered he believed it was cast iron. Gordon said he hoped the new boiler is cast iron. He added one would think a cast iron boiler would last more than 20 years. Shawn and Karen agreed but said the Wastewater Treatment Plant is a corrosive environment. Karen said the ability to even get a new boiler right now is a struggle. At the end of the day today, it looked like FW Webb had one boiler in stock so with any luck that will be the route to take. Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the acquisition for a new boiler at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no further discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Wastewater Treatment Plant new boiler approved 2-0.

Item 2. Other Business as Required = None.

Communications: -NONE.

Gordon acknowledged the public present: -Scott Vogell handed documents to the Selectboard consisting of a few requests. He asked that these be a part of the record of this meeting. His requests: 1) to have Anne Robinson (AKA Anne Coyle) be removed as a ZBOA member and 2) A Stop Work Order be issued to 26 Water St, Nomadic Notions, LLC (owners) immediately. Scott said he would like an answer and direction from the Town by the next meeting. Gordon said the Selectboard should have a full board present to address this type of issue. Gordon and Roberta both agreed that a good start would be to review the matters at the upcoming Selectboard Work Session on Monday, 1/9/23 at 9AM. Scott clarified that their Work Sessions are open to the public but with no public participation. The answer was yes.

-Bob Friedlander asked if there was an update regarding Fiberoptics installation. He said they were digging up Mayo Point Rd now. Discussion. Shawn said he would check around and send Bob the link the Town has.

-Helen Miller said she would like to reiterate Shawn's thanks and gratitude to the Fire Rescue Dept overall but especially due to the recent December tragedies. Helen said Castine always comes together in tough times like these. Let's hope for a happy and safe 2023.

PAST ACTIONS: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtg:

Monday, 1/9/23 at 9AM – Selectboard Work Session.

Tuesday, 1/17/23 (due to the Martin Luther King Jr Day Holiday) at 4PM –
Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to adjourn. Second by Gordon MacArthur.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to adjourn. Gordon stated yes to adjourn. Approved 2-0. Mtg adjourned at 4:18PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: January 03, 2023
Re: Town Manager's Report

1. Community Resiliency Partnership Update. For lighting, we have received one bid so far from a vendor incorporating the Efficiency Maine Incentives and have a meeting scheduled with another vendor tomorrow. For lighting alone, the estimate I have received is that the town will realize an approximate energy savings worth \$4,000 yearly spread across three buildings.

2. Hancock County Emergency Management. We have been in touch with Hancock County Emergency Management to ascertain what, if any, recovery assistance we can gain from external agencies stemming from the recent windstorm. Hancock County has a threshold of just over 225 thousand dollars in damage and the State just over 2.25 million. If the assessed damage tops these figures, the State can petition the Federal Government for a disaster declaration.

3. Town Dock Food Vendor Facility. We have received interest from two prospective vendors thus far. There has been some press interest in this with a recent article done by Channel 7 out of Bangor, so we expect more. We will continue to advertise and as a reminder the due date for proposals is the 14th of February.

4. Wastewater Treatment Plant Boiler. We have been struggling for months to get a contractor in to re-build our boiler at the WWTP. We were informed today



that two of the five boiler sections in the boiler are bad. The boiler is over twenty years old. If replacement parts can be procured for the old boiler, the re-build cost will now be over 10 thousand dollars as opposed to the earlier re-build estimate of approximately \$6,000. To emplace a new boiler, it will cost just over 40 thousand. To cover this cost, the Sewer Department will need to "borrow" this money from the town. This "borrowed" money will then be repaid back to the town over time being covered by our recently increased sewer rate. Our contention is that it makes little sense to put 10 thousand into a boiler that is over 20 years old, so I respectfully request that the Selectboard grant me the authorization to have this aged piece of equipment replaced.