

G.B.M.

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

Roberta J Boczkiewicz
(Zoom)



(Zoom)

DATE: Monday, March 6, 2023
TIME: immediately following the Special Town Mtg
PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Gordon MacArthur – Acting Chair, Colin Powell (ZOOM), Roberta Boczkiewicz (ZOOM), Selectboard members; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Marc Pelletier, Brooke & Gil Tenney, Scott Vogell, Josh Adam, Justin Cooper, Ruth Ann Vagt, Ann Blodgett, Karen Koos, Pat Bishop, Penny Carlhian, Lisa Haugen, Gus Basile, Matt Powell, Kate Noel, and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.

Zoom: Bruce Boczkiewicz, Alicia Anstead, etc.

Gordon MacArthur opened the meeting at 5:13PM.
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; Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$54,467.84. Second by Colin Powell. Roberta pointed out that \$20,000 of that was to pay for sewer operations and all things needed for winter, maintaining roads, etc. Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Colin Powell made motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$100,945.14. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Water Warrant approved 3-0.

Disbursement Warrants: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve a 2/27/23 disbursement warrant to pay State Motor Vehicles in the amount of \$1,431.56. Second by Colin Powell. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin Powell stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. 2/27/23 Disbursement Warrant approved 3-0. Colin Powell made motion to approve a 3/6/23 disbursement warrant to pay State Agencies; Motor Vehicles, Inland Fisheries & Wildlife & Animal Welfare for February reports in the

amount of \$2,036.25. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin Powell stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. 3/6/23 Disbursement Warrant approved 3-0.

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving Renewing Liquor & Amusement Licenses = The Pentagoet Inn & Wine Bar.

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

Matt Powell, Owner, was present.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin Powell stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Renewal Liquor & Amusement Licenses approved 3-0.

Item 2. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving NEW Amusement License – The Elms at Castine.

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

Justin Cooper, Owner, was present. Colin asked if this was for their end of March music event.

Justin said yes. The event scheduled for Fri, 3/24 and Sat, 3/25 are sold out. With no other discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. NEW Amusement License approved 3-0.

Item 3. Gordon MacArthur introduced the Town Manager's Report. Shawn Blodgett read his report (see attached):

#2 Fort George Update: Mtg on 3/13/23 in Augusta for a hearing held by the State Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Committee to discuss the LD791 bill. Shawn plans on testifying.

Gordon MacArthur said he would check and see if he could attend. Colin Powell said if Gordon couldn't make it and it's available on ZOOM, he would make a point to attend.

#2 Town Dock: It looks like Bowden & Son, LLC can repair damage at the Dock from the 12/23/22 windstorm which will consist of paving around Acadia dock side. The cost is about \$13,000. This does not include the deck planking repair that is needed which will likely be done by Public Works. Shawn needs the Selectboard to issue a procedural waiver per the Town's Purchase Agreement Policy as the contractor has done many jobs for the Town and time is of the essence.

#3. CFRD Grand Request: addressed and approved at the last mtg.

#4 Tree City USA Administrative Cleanup: 2022 Arbor Day Proclamation was never taken to the Selectboard for approval. State approved for it to be back dated to 12/31/22. All Selectboard members agreed to approve and back date the 2022 Arbor Day Proclamation.

Item 4. Other Business as Required = NONE.

Communications: -Request from Karen Koos & Pat Bishop, 2023 Bastille Day organizers, to use Town facilities, i.e., Court Street for the Picnic En Blanc & Town Common for the Band who wants to return this year, etc. Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve. Second by Colin Powell. Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to approve. Colin Powell stated yes to approve. Gordon stated yes to approve. Bastille Day events approved 3-0. Karen Koos also said they understand that their request for \$5,000 from the Town was reviewed at a Selectboard Budget Work Session and that the Selectboard felt that with increase pricing for almost everything along with the long list of needed infrastructure projects adding Bastille Day to the taxpayers would not be prudent. Karen Koos asked if there was any monies set aside for the Bicentennial? If so, how do they request using some of those funds? The answer was they would have to go to the Steering Committee. Pat Bishop said she feels that Bastille Day is an asset to the Town and at some point the Town recognize it, contribute and support it more financially. Gordon MacArthur said it was a good idea and suggested that information and maybe a presentation to support the event in the future could help with taking it into consideration. And help the voters.

Gordon acknowledged the public present: -Josh Adam asked Shawn about influent testing verses the effluent. Shawn said the influent testing PFOA is same as effluent. Josh also pointed out a recent publication regarding Fire Dept gear and that many departments are getting rid of turn out gear because of PFA's in them. He said he wonders if that would occur in Castine. Shawn said he wasn't sure if the industries have caught up on that yet but would check into it.

PAST ACTIONS: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtg:

Tuesday, 3/7/23 (next day) at 1PM – T/G Mtg.

Monday, 3/20/23 - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg at 4PM.

Colin Powell made motion to adjourn. Second by Gordon MacArthur.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Roberta stated yes to adjourn. Colin stated yes to adjourn. Gordon stated yes to adjourn.

Approved 3-0. Mtg adjourned at 5:40PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: March 06, 2023
Re: Town Manager's Report

1. WWTP PFAS/PFOA Influent Testing. We have received the results back from our first round of influent testing at the WWTP. Of the 27 PFA compounds tested for, we received non-detects on 17. Of the 10 positive results, only one was over the states non-binding drinking water standard of 20 parts per trillion coming in at 22.4. The remaining 9 "hits" range from 13.4 to 1.09 parts per trillion. This roughly corresponds with the effluent testing which has already been tested 4 times. As far as what this means, I will need to consult with Olver Associates to help interpret the data. However, we have tested our drinking water and found that we have not had any detectable PFA compounds in our drinking water when the tests were run properly. My assumption is that the WWTP results are driven by what residents are putting down their drains, but I'll consult with Olver Associates and report back at a later meeting.

2. Fort George Update. I have another meeting with local State elected officials on the 10th of March to discuss dedicated funding for the Fort as well as updating our long out of date contract with the State. The appropriation bill (LD 791) amount has been increased by Senator Grohoski to 1 million, but this number is a place holder as more assessment needs to be completed before even a planning number can be generated which is reasonably accurate. On March 13, the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee will hold a public hearing in Augusta to discuss the bill and I will plan on testifying but



will also coordinate others to testify if the option is presented to us. Question to the Selectboard is whether any of the Board wish to join this hearing.

3. CFRD Grant Request. The CFRD would like to apply for the MSA and DuPont's Globe Gear Giveaway Program to procure helmets and turnout gear. There is no match required to apply and I respectfully request the Selectboard's approval for this grant submission the the CFRD's behalf.

4. Tree City USA administrative cleanup. I failed to put an Arbor Day proclamation in front of the Board in 2022. I have spoken with the State and they agree with me that Castine demonstrates the tenets of Arbor Day through its actions on a yearly basis. As an example, one of the criteria for being a tree city is that a community spend \$2 dollars per capita on tree maintenance and planting. Castine averages around \$30 in public funds once volunteer hours are factored in and much more than that once donations are taken into account. The State told me that they are fine with the Selectboard back dating a proclamation. It is in front of the Chair.

5. Casella Rate Increase. As a result of LD 1639 which was passed by the legislature last year Castine's WWTP sludge disposal costs will increase by between \$61.49 and \$73.88 a ton which will equate to an operating increase of around \$7,500 a year for the Sewer Department. A handout has been printed out and included with this report.



TREE CITY USA
An Arbor Day Foundation Program

*** OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION ***

WHEREAS in 1872, the Nebraska Board of Agriculture established a special day to be set aside for the planting of trees, *and*

WHEREAS this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, *and*

WHEREAS Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, *and*

WHEREAS trees can be a solution to combating climate change by reducing the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cutting heating and cooling costs, moderating the temperature, cleaning the air, producing life-giving oxygen, and providing habitat for wildlife, *and*

WHEREAS trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and countless other wood products, *and*

WHEREAS trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, *and*

WHEREAS trees — wherever they are planted — are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, We The Selectboard of the Town of Castine, Maine, do hereby proclaim _____ as **ARBOR DAY** In the Town of Castine, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, *and*

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

DATED THIS 31st day of December, 2022
Chair: Erin M. M. O'Neil