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Selectboard
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 31, 2023, 9:00 AM
Emerson Hall

Present: Colin Powell, Chair; Gordon MacArthur and Roberta Boczkiewicz, Selectboard; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager and Karen Motycka, Finance Officer.

Public: None.

Colin called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. It was verified that a quorum was present.

Item 1.

Colin asked for a motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$48,608.84. Gordon made a motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in that amount. Roberta seconded the motion. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

Colin asked for a motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$8,938.12. Roberta made a motion to approve the Water Warrant in that amount. Gordon seconded the motion. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

Item 2.

Colin introduced Appointments to Boards and Committees. Letter from George Trinovitch expressing interest in being appointed to the Castine Historic Preservation Commission (CHPC) and email from Daniel Gardner expressing interest in being appointed to the Recreation Committee. Gordon made a motion to appoint George Trinovitch to the CHPC. Colin seconded the motion. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3 – 0.

Roberta made a motion to appoint Daniel Gardner to the Recreation Committee. Gordon seconded the motion. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3 – 0.

Item 3.

Colin introduced approval of the FY23-24 Tax Commitment. Karen gave a review. All property values were increased by 16% to closer represent sales prices. Karen's Finance Officer's report in the Town Report had stated that she believed if the budget was approved as written, tax amounts would increase by approximately 6%. She suggested setting the mil rate at 11.8, which

would increase tax bills just under 6% from last year. Roberta made a motion to approve the FY23-24 Tax Commitment with the mil rate set at 11.8. Gordon seconded the motion. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3 – 0.

Item 4.

Colin introduced approval of FY2024 Sewer Budget as recommended by the Utility Board. Gordon made a motion to approve the FY2024 Sewer Budget in the amount of \$573,594. Colin seconded the motion. It was noted that this budget was 3% higher than last year. Discussion on financing of Sea Street Pump Station and Court St sewer portions and timing before other bonds are paid off. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3 – 0.

Item 5.

Colin asked if there was Other Business. At the last Selectboard Meeting discussion about the increased number of Penobscot Motor Vehicle and Inland Fisheries transactions. Recently both Blue Hill and Orland stopped doing transactions for other Towns, so now Castine in getting a greater number and it is taking up a lot of office time. Karen and Natalie pulled numbers for the last 6 months on Penobscot transactions. Discussion on options. Colin will speak with the Penobscot Selectboard Chair and Karen will offer suggestions to Penobscot.

Gordon is concerned with the number of Golf Carts on the streets of Castine. He wondered if we could get the word out that it is not legal to drive on the streets. Options on how to get the word out included inserts with tax or utility bills, ask the Golf Club to send out email to their membership or ask Hancock County Sheriff to step up enforcement.

With no other business, Colin made a motion to adjourn. Roberta seconded the motion. Colin called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

The Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Minutes by Karen Motycka.