

RJB
GAM

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

DATE: Monday, September 18, 2023

TIME: 4PM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Liz Parish, Brooke Tenney, Marc Pelletier, Gus Basile, Tom Comiciotto, Josh Adam, Judy & Doug Fitzsimmons, Tony Politano, Charles Pearce, Joe Slocum, Ruth Ann & Bobby Vagt, Kirk Langford, David Adams, Allen Kratz of Peninsula Tomorrow and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.

Zoom: Bruce Boczkiewicz, Julie Bohan & Dan Leader, Penny Carlhian, Brock Muir, Rick Hightower and Mary Kneisel.

Gordon MacArthur opened the meeting at 4PM. Gordon 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 \$94,617.65. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. Roberta pointed out that this warrant covered 56 bills, the largest ones paid for Library books, Fire Dept vehicle maintenance, and energy bills.

With no other discussion, Gordon asked for votes: General Fund Warrant approved 2-0.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$16,636.62. Second by Gordon MacArthur. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes:

Water Warrant approved 2-0.

Minutes: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the September 5, 2023, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: 9/5/23 Mtg minutes approved 2-0.

Old Business:

- 1) Update on Backshore Survey: Roberta said the online survey is now closed. 77 people participated and the top three (3) priority interests were:
 - Increase pond maintenance

- Trash cans
- Permanent restrooms

This issue and survey results will be discussed further in the future.

- 2) Update on LD791: Roberta gave some background. The State Legislative and Senate Committees passed the bill for funds to go to Fort George. The Appropriations Committee did not pass it. Roberta encouraged citizens to write letters to Governor Mill's office expressing interest to fund. Roberta has been told that if we get these funds into the Governor's budget it will be funded. Submit your letters! Discussion.

New Business:

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced updates from Board/Committee Chairs or Members present; 1) Utility Board.

Kirk Langford, Utility Board Chair, gave brief update. He said not a lot has changed from his last report a month or two ago. Kirk said the Town lost a lot of water on Court St a few weeks back which attests the need to address Castine's infrastructure.

Kirk said the use of chemicals on the Golf Course has been a big topic and is being monitored and addressed. There is recovery to do. Kirk said he feels strongly that contractors need to be regulated since some homeowners are absent in participation or knowledge.

The Selectboard thanked Kirk for the updates.

Item 2. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving Resolution to Seek Funding for Coastal Flood Community Science through Peninsula Tomorrow.

Roberta addressed. Other peninsula communities have signed. Peninsula Tomorrow can receive up to \$10,000 from the Onion Foundation to help track climate change. Allen Kratz, Peninsula Tomorrow, said he runs monthly forums. He said this funding would assist volunteers to observe, track and record climate change. Discussion.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to execute and sign the Resolution to Seek Funding from Coastal Flood Community Science. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 2-0.

Item 3. Gordon MacArthur introduced discussions regarding Weir Consent Agreement.

Shawn addressed. Originally it was the Schneper Consent Agreement dated back in 1995 for property located at 47 Dyce Head Road. The 1995 Consent Agreement was entered into because of an unlawful expansion to a non-conforming building located on the property. The Weir Trust is the current owner, purchased in 2016 and has requested a modification to the Consent Agreement. It is requested to consider amending paragraph #3 of the Agreement to the number of bedrooms in the renovated structure be limited to the number of bedrooms the subsurface wastewater disposal system is designated to treat. The system on the property as of

this date is designed to treat three (3) bedrooms. All remaining provisions of the original Consent Agreement remain in full force and effect. Shawn recommended approval of the amended Agreement.

Liz Parish asked why the Agreement happened in 1995 in the first place. Shawn said he is not sure, but it may have been due to the septic system. Back then it may have been a system for 2-bedrooms, but it now has a system for 3-bedrooms. Discussion.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the amended Consent Agreement. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 2-0.

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

#6 Town Manager Search: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve entering into a contract with Maine Municipal Association for conducting a Town Manager Search. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. Approved 2-0.

Shawn said that Maine Maritime Academy dropped off a State BYOB permit application for their Homecoming events located at the end of the football field in area of practice field. This is the same as last year. The Selectboard and/or the Town Manager can sign off for municipal approval, but Shawn wanted to make everyone aware. The Selectboard agreed for Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, to sign.

Shawn read email from Johanna Barrett, Bookstore Owner on Main Street, regarding parking. Marc Pelletier said this business owner is obviously expressing frustration. Are there any solutions? Can we try to regulate? Why can't Maine Maritime Academy use a shuttle service? Discussion.

Item 5. Other Business as Required = NONE.

Communications: a) Thank you letter from Lifeflight Foundation for the Town's contribution.

Gordon acknowledged the public present: -Scott Vogell asked for any updates regarding eliminating Town Office services to other town residents? Discussion. Gordon said that Colin was working on the matter but due to Colin's absence he would look into taking action to have it stopped.

-Bobby Vagt announced on behalf of the Castine Community Health Clinic (CCHC) an invitation to the Selectboard and community for a Farewell Gathering honoring Dr. Marjorie Olivari on Tuesday, October 3rd at 5PM at the Clinic.

PAST ACTIONS: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: NONE.

Upcoming Mtgs:

NO WORK SESSION ON MONDAY, 9/25/23 DUE TO NO QUORUM.

Monday, 10/2/23 and Monday, 10/16/23 - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg both at 4PM.

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

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: approved 2-0.

Mtg adjourned at 4:59PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.



MEMORANDUM

To: Castine Selectboard
From: Shawn Blodgett
Date: September 18, 2023
Re: Town Manager's Report

1. Paving. As of Friday afternoon, the Tarratine Street patch was completed, and I re-opened the road Friday evening. Paving now moves to three patches on Battle Avenue and a patch on Perkins Street. After these four areas are patched, we will be complete with paving for this season and keep the rest of the money that the town approved for this purpose for Western Court Street in the spring.

2. Lighthouse Days. On September 9, volunteers gave tours of Dyce's Head Lighthouse to over 200 visitors to town. A special thanks to Peter Vogell, Pat Irving, Mark Hurvitt, Tracy Lemeyer and Will MacArthur and Sam Buchanon for providing Fire/Rescue Department presence throughout the event.

3. Hurricane Lee. Although not the stormeggodon that many in the media were predicting, another special thanks to the Castine Fire and Rescue Department for being ready and patrolling the town looking for problems.

4. CFRD Soils Testing. We have received the DRAFT results of the Fire Station soils testing. The firm hired to conduct the testing utilized the residential exposure scenario and Remedial Action Guidelines as a more conservative metric evaluation of the site. Since receiving the report late Friday afternoon, I have been working to set up a meeting the the Sevee and Maher principle to run me through the results. It is a good report with all "hits" reported well



below the State of Maine Remedial Action Guidelines. Though I'm sure this will fall on deaf ears, I would ask for a little time to make more sense of the 128 page report before releasing it publicly.

5. Parking. Castine has a drumbeat and like every fall, parking is a nightmare. Over the past two weeks, over 40 parking tickets have been issued. MMA has been made aware of the issue (again) and will work to modify student behavior. Soon, we will have students coming to see us asking why the Town of Castine is targeting them and in equal measure residents complaining as to what we are doing to regulate students. For those that care, it isn't just students. Of the tickets handed out, a good number were Castine residents. I received this missive just this week. Read the email.

6. Town Manager Search. I spoke with the person in charge of municipal employee searches with Maine Municipal today. The cost to contract with MMA will be \$6,400 which is only up from \$5,500 last time. The process takes 3.5 months to complete. We can expect another \$1,000 for advertising and additional costs for candidate travel. As MMA has handled the last 3 searches by the Town of Castine and is the most cost effective option for the town, I recommend going with them again.