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**Selectboard  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 22, 2024, Immediately following 9:00 AM Work Session  
Emerson Hall**

**Present:** Gordon MacArthur, Chair and Roberta Boczkiewicz and Dan Leader (Zoom) Selectboard; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager and Karen Motycka, Finance Officer.

**Public:** Bobby and Ruth-Ann Vagt, Gil and Brooke Tenney, Marc Pelletier and David Bos.

Gordon called the meeting to order at 9:24 AM. It was verified that a quorum was present.

**Item 1.**

Gordon made a motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$38,917.91. Roberta seconded the motion. Roberta mentioned that there were 15 vendors, paying for such items as storm damage, Fire Department vehicle repair, employee benefits, etc. Gordon called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon asked for a motion to approve the Water Department Warrant. Roberta made a motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$1,483.36. Dan seconded the motion. No discussion. Gordon called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

**Item 2.**

Gordon introduced approval of the Hancock County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution. This is updated annually to lessen the impacts of disasters by having all the municipalities in Hancock County work together. Roberta made a motion to approve the Hancock County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution. Dan seconded the motion. With no discussion, Gordon called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

**Item 3.**

Gordon introduced approval of the January 29, 2024 Special Town Meeting Warrant. The Town needs to schedule a meeting quickly to approve funding for storm damage recovery. Gordon read the warrant in its entirety. Roberta made a motion to approve the January 29, 2024 Special Town Meeting Warrant. Dan seconded the motion. With no discussion, Gordon called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

Roberta asked to discuss the Push Notification Project. Sue and Natalie have reached out to several vendors about setting up a system to text notices to residents. The TextMyGov vendor seems to be the best fit for Castine and has offered to waive the \$1,000 set up fee if we commit before January 31, 2024, just paying the \$2,000 annual fee. Karen discussed how to finance. There is currently money in the Hardware/Software Capital Account, although not a whole lot. If the Selectboard approves to sign up now, Karen suggests that \$2,000 extra be budgeted this coming year to replace. Gordon liked the idea of push notifications, especially for the winter parking ban. He felt the Town could lift the overnight parking ban from November to May and replace it with push notifications for storms. He also felt that if this happens, ticket pricing for overnight parking during a storm should be increased a fair amount. These items would need to be taken up in a Public Hearing to change the Traffic Ordinance. Dan also advocated for push notifications. With no further discussion, Dan made a motion to approve moving forward with the Push Notification project. Roberta seconded the motion. Gordon called for a vote.

Approved 3-0.

Gordon asked for any public comments. Bobby Vagt, as part of Castine Area Relief Fund (CARF) and Castine Community Partners (CCP) brought up the storm relief. He would like a clear outline of the approval process, etc. Shawn said Ina Schonberg had just been brought on as a grant writer using the ARPA Funds approved at the May 2023 Town Meeting. One of her first projects will be to develop guidelines for this. Discussion on who would make up the group to consider applications. Dan Leader volunteered to be the Selectboard member to work with the group.

Marc Pelletier commented about the rebuilding of the Town Dock area. Currently the Harbor Committee seems to be the lead on this, and their main concern is with boats and docking. Marc said there is a bigger picture, which includes economic development. Roberta said she felt that the Comprehensive Plan Implementation would be part of this. It was noted that our current Harbor Committee members have an immense amount of knowledge of Marine activities.

Brooke Tenney asked if the push notification company (TextMyGov) shared cell numbers. She commented that none of us need any additional calls or texts from people we don't know. Karen said she would have Sue and Natalie find out before committing.

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

Approved 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Minutes by Karen Motycka.