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**TOWN OF CASTINE  
SELECTMEN/ASSESSORS & OVERSEER OF THE POOR  
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday, March 26, 2024

TIME: 10AM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Gordon MacArthur, Chair, Roberta Boczkiewicz, Dan Leader (ZOOM), Selectboard members; Shawn Blodgett, Town Manager, Karen Motycka, Finance Officer; and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Marc Pelletier, Scott Vogell, Bobby & Ruth Ann Vagt, and Michael Dickerson (Castine Patriot). ZOOM: Brooke Tenney and Penny Carlhian.

Gordon MacArthur, Chair opened the meeting at 10AM. Quorum was confirmed.

Agenda:

- 1) Gordon MacArthur introduced discussions and decisions regarding updates for the Town Dock.

Gordon said that water levels are higher than in the past and appears to be ongoing. The Harbor Committee has recommended that the Town Dock does not get elevated by 14". Scott Vogell, Harbormaster, said the Harbor Committee's opinion, and he agrees, is that elevating the dock by 14" would be worse than to leave at current height. Having wave action above the pier is better than below. Scott said the current plan is to fasten down underneath bracketing to the main 12'X12' beams. Brackets are being welded into the joists to hold them together. When completed it will be all one piece. He said he is convinced it is the right plan to do. Belfast did the same. If the elevation is not at least 4ft then do not go higher at all.

Roberta Boczkiewicz asked when the Town does go up higher in elevation in the future should it be 4 ft or higher? Scott said that from what he hears processes will be in place to elevate by 2050, mandated by 2041 to prepare for sea level rise. He said that we should know more in the next few years as the Harbor Committee continues to research but suspects Castine's future will see docks out further instead of going higher.

Dan Leader asked if any of the materials will be able to be repurposed for future planning and reuse. Scott said he sees the current dock with repairs and improvements will be a long-time, not a two-year plan, but it could possibly have a repurpose within the future plan.

Marc Pelletier asked if the cable railing will be reinstalled? Scott said it is the plan but does

not know if it'll be in the budget. Shawn said the dock repairs is the priority then see where the cable railings fall. Scott said he has the cable railing system and installing it being priced out. Gordon said it is the intent to install cable railing but only if it financially can allow. Karen Motycka also pointed out that the supply chain could be a factor. We must have some sort of railing in place for safety.

Marc Pelletier asked about decking. Will permeable decking be used throughout?

Harbor Committee recommended using permeable decking for partial portion.

Discussion.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to accept the Town Dock plan as recommended by the Harbor Committee to repair at the same height prior to the storm damage and use flow-through decking throughout. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes. Approved 3-0.

Gordon said if for some reason there is a problem getting the flow-through decking or it takes weeks to get then the Selectboard need to be notified as soon as possible.

Discussion about a backup plan.

Gordon added to his original motion to use original decking material if there is a problem getting the flow-through product and/or if there are major delays getting the flow-through product. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes. Approved 3-0.

Discussion about possible signage needed to warn people of the slat gap in the flow-through decking. Gordon suggested that once we get it and it is installed, it can be determined if signage is needed.

Marc Pelletier asked about the gazebo that was completed demolished by the storms. Will it be rebuilt?

Dan Leader suggested installing sails for shade. Similar to the one Dennett's Wharf had on their deck. Gordon said he preferred seeing the gazebo rebuilt.

Discussion.

It was determined that more seating and shade is preferred. The gazebo was used regularly. It was agreed that more picnic tables and umbrellas was needed especially for this 2024 summer season. We can see how it goes. The picnic table/umbrellas could provide more seating than the gazebo did.

Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the General Fund warrant in the amount of \$2,038.48 for employee retirement payment. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes. Approved 3-0.

Dan Leader said with comments from the Public Hearing last night he agreed that it is a good idea not to allow food trucks at the Backshore area.

Roberta acknowledged the Backshore is a special place and agreed that it would likely be best to eliminate food trucks in that area.

Gordon pointed out that back in the day there were several establishments in the Backshore area, including selling fish products. He said his only concern was prohibiting one recreational area but not for other recreational area that might be important to other community members. We should all think more and be clear before the final step.

Shawn Blodgett said the Fire Dept has another grant, with no match, they would like to pursue. It is for technology packages for each vehicle, specifically the engines. It would be tied into the vehicle to allow them to broadcast notifications. If awarded, the first two years subscription is free. After that the cost is \$1,500/year. It is possible the State will defray cost for another 3-5 years but that is not guaranteed at this time. It is a nice step forward for safety control. Society moving forward and being interconnected.

Bobby Vagt thanked the Selectboard and Town Manager for fast reaction on filling potholes after it was mentioned at a recent Selectboard Mtg.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve for the Fire Dept to apply for the free fire equipment/technology. Second by Dan Leader.

With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes. Approved 3-0.

With no other business to address, Gordon MacArthur made motion to adjourn.

Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. Gordon called for votes to adjourn: Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.