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

DATE: Monday, September 16, 2024
TIME: immediately following the Public Hearing
PLACE: Emerson Hall

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

PUBLIC: Brooke & Gil Tenney, David Adams, Gus Basile, Tom Comiciotto, Randy Stearns, Dick Read, Scott Vogell, Liz Parish, Pat Bishop, Don Tenney, Amy Gutow, Kate Noel, Kirk Langford, Bev Bishop, Troy Dickens, Jeff Ackermann, and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.

Zoom: Mary Kneisel, Julie Bohan, Brock Muir, Debbie Rogers, Bruce Boczkiewicz and XXXX Billings.

Gordon MacArthur opened the meeting at 4:13 PM immediately following the Public Hearing and verified there was a quorum.

Gordon asked if there were any additions or deletions to the Agenda: Roberta said that MMA S.A.D.D. presentation would be deleted as the faculty member to be present had unexpected travel. The presentation will be postponed until Monday, 10/7 mtg.

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 \$536,117.00. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. Roberta said this warrant covers 47 vendors/81 bills, largest being \$439,000 Debt Service payment for the Main St project.

With no other discussion, Gordon asked for votes: General Fund Warrant approved 3-0.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made a motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$109,659.46. Second by Dan Leader. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Water Warrant approved 3-0.

Abatement: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve abatement to Ted Coladarci/Janet Spector for structure that was destroyed in the January 2024 storms. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: Coladarci abatement approved 3-0.

Minutes: Gordon MacArthur made motion to approve the September 3, 2024, Selectboard Mtg

minutes. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: 9/3/24 Selectboard Mtg minutes approved 3-0.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Item 1. Gordon MacArthur introduced approving annual General Assistance Appendices A-H. Roberta Boczkiewicz made a motion to approve. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Gordon said this was a housekeeping issue with the State sending annual updates for Hancock County which includes housing maximums, food maximums, utility maximums, etc. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: GA appendices A-H – approved 3-0.

Item 2. Gordon MacArthur introduced discussion regarding Revised Municipal Boards & Committees (B/C) Policy. Derik addressed.

This was to discuss/review the draft which has input from the Town's attorney.

The revisions mainly address procedures, public participation and updating on remote mtg format. Derik explained the plan would be to live stream mtg for observance and Zoom would only be used if a B/C member needs to attend remotely. If a B/C member or someone the Town has invited such as a department head, consultant, etc. attends via Zoom, then the public is allowed to attend and participate in Zoom.

Gordon said he would like to change allowing public participation speaking time from 2-minute maximum to 5-minutes unless 5-minutes becomes difficult to manage.

The Board plans to bring to the 10/7/24 Mtg for approval.

Item 3. Gordon MacArthur introduced discussion on Natural Historic Watercourse request from the Castine Planning Board (PB). PB Chair, Tom Comiciotto addressed. He said that in over 14 years serving on the PB he has encountered an issue such as the one involving a natural historic watercourse that originates probably up on Battle Ave at the Golf Club and ends on Water St. There is a problem there that never gets corrected. It disrupts many properties including the Commercial District. The PB is asking assistance from the Selectboard. Water that flows downhill towards Water St involves water leaving Emerson Hall property. Behind Emerson Hall is where it all wreaks havoc all the way down to Water St.

Tom said he did some searching for State grants to help but the Town would need to apply. One potential solution could be getting all properties owners on board to resolve, participate and pay for a trench and drainage solution that affects their property. Don Tenney mentioned other significant natural historic watercourses in Town.

Gordon said that State law says that it is the responsibility of the recipient of the water and it's their problem. Discussion.

Tom said because we are a small community he was hoping to bring everyone together to help with an issue that has been happening for decades. Climate change is only making these issues worse. The Selectboard thought bringing everyone together was a good idea. Roberta suggested the Selectboard should have a week to review, gather information, look at details, etc. and then suggested the PB attend a Selectboard Work Session to talk about options and possibilities. Bev Bishop, PB member, said this was a good plan. She said why bother having a business district if the Town doesn't see a need to help resolve. It is time for some of these types of issues be looked at from the Town aspect. The water flows downhill but goes nowhere; there are no pipes, no direction, etc. It will only get worse.

Dan said he agreed that climate change will only make issues like this one get worse. It is happening all over. Dan said we need a water management plan and agreed that the Town needs to get involved and help address maybe through grants.

Derik said to keep in mind that getting involved will mean drainage easements and the Town maintaining. There are many different matters to iron out and consider. Gordon added the Town would have to resolve for all or none. Roberta said she agreed with Dan and that climate change will make it only get worse and would like to work with the PB.

A Selectboard Work Session was scheduled for Monday, 9/30 at 9AM.

Item 4. MMA S.A.D.D. presentation – Postponed.

Item 5. Gordon MacArthur introduced the Town Manager's Report. Town Manager, Derik Goodine reviewed (see attached).

Item 6. Other Business as Required: Dan said he would like to invite Doug Koos, owner of the trailer park, to a future Work Session to discuss Doug's ideas of a potential workforce housing project at the trailer park property. Dan said he recently toured the trailer park property and was impressed. This is a big discussion with a lot of options. It could result in 18 or more apartments. It is private property, but Doug would like to see if there is any way the Town could work with him.

Dan said he would also like to have Peter Wilcox, who is a designer of small compost systems attend a future Selectboard Work Session.

Roberta updated saying the Town is still waiting to hear back from the State on results for a HCPC Housing grant. Information should be coming very soon.

Communications: a) request from the REC Committee to close off section of Court Street; from Main to Green streets to allow for trunk or treat and other Halloween festivities on Thursday, 10/31 from 4-7PM.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made a motion to approve the request. Second by Gordon MacArthur. With no discussion, Gordon asked for votes: REC Committee road closure request – approved 3-0.

Gordon acknowledged the public present: -Liz Parish asked about an update on the T-Mobile grant and status of proposed story walk and natural trail. Derik said that the State is requiring an archaeological study be done which costs about \$3,500 before anything can move forward. Liz asked if the Library could pay for that study? The answer was yes but Karen Motycka, Finance Officer reminded everyone that a Town vote is required to spend money from the Library endowment.

-David Avery asked about the YouTube channel that Derik mentioned in his TM report. Derik explained the YouTube channel will live stream mtgs and replace Zoom. Zoom will only be used if a B/C member needs to attend remotely.

-Tom Comiciotto updated the Selectboard saying that monthly PB Mtgs are changing to the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 4PM. This change will help with the CEO's new part-time schedule.

-Don Tenney pointed out if some haven't noticed already there is a major project taking place on Windmill Hill at the Golf Course. There is heavy equipment accessing Rt 166/Castine Rd going in and going out. There really should be a "caution sign" posted which he believes is supposed to be going up. Don also said that a bobcat was spotted in Town the other day on the Library property in the middle of the day.

PAST ACTIONS: NONE.

Selectboard Comments: - NONE.

Next Mtgs:

Monday, 9/23/24 - Work Session at 9AM.

Monday, 9/30/24 - Work Session at 9AM. (Mtg will be posted to approve Warrants to pay bills)

Monday, 10/7/24 – Public Hearing at 4PM (11/5 Referendum Ballot).

Monday, 10/7/24 – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg immediately following the Public Hearing.

Monday, 10/21/24 – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg at 4PM.

With no other business, Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to adjourn. Second by Gordon MacArthur. Approved 3-0.

Mtg adjourned at 5:14 PM.

Minutes Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

Town Manager's Report

Monday, September 16, 2024 4:00 PM

- Awaiting Scoring of NBRC Grant to see if invited to next round
- Boards and Committees Policy including Remote Meetings at Lawyers and on Agenda
- Letter to Davis Family about trees sent last week about arborvitae and tree branches/blocking sidewalk and stop signs on Main and Court
- Culvert on Shoreline at Anderson Property at 17 Perkins
- Tree next to pump station needed on Perkins on Mainen Property - A 3 foot Yew or Arborvitae or some other sapling will work. Henry is going to find something.
- 17 Perkins Storm Drain Outfall exposed due to wash out timber retaining seawall. Having Greg Bowden take a look if we should rip rap or not. Property Owner is thinking we might fix whole seawall along our 25 foot easement. We will not. We may put some rip rap on top of and around the pipe but we will not be replacing or putting fill behind the timber wall for the whole 25 foot easement. It is that wide so we can
- Permanent No Parking Signs up for the most part on Perkins
- Wadsworth Cove Paving and culvert replacements and ditching going on this Henry will put some Hay down along this section of road where it is being ditched
- CMP Project on Battle Ave for UMaine Wind Power Project 3 Phase Power needed
- Project Canopy Grant Kickoff -see notes but basically discussed project parameters and set up timeline for data and site inspections and the project overall.
- Discussion with USDA on Grants and Loans, We will definitely only gets loans from any USDA project, but their loans are usually less labor intensive than MMBB bonds. We could use these to help breakup financing costs and funding schemes for sewer and water or public infrastructure projects.
- T-Mobile Grant for Interpretive Garden on Water St has issues of State Historical Department and wanting archeological mapping or something. LIDAR would be \$3,500 including the report. The grant is for \$50,000. We could also apply for Certified Local Government Grant for LIDAR maybe
- RFP For Infrastructure Adaptation Fund Grant (Town Dock Study) Will be working on this this week. But also want to see what comes out of CCP Meeting on 23rd.
- Highway FT Position Interviews will be this Wednesday
- Castine Community Partners Meeting about total waterfront solution on Sept. 23rd at 9am
- *GA Ordinance Updates - These will be approved at this meeting.
- *MMA Delegate Designation Form
- *Municipal Review Committee Board of Directors Nomination Form.
- Historical Society Mutual Aid Letter?
- Noise from Entertainment at Pentecoeat Shawn investigated. They stated that music was off by 10PM
- *Brock Muir Letter Signing
- Floats out at Town Dock on October 28, 2024, 8AM.
- Send MH Demo RFP Language -need contact info. Also trying to catch up with Greg Bowden to ask him a price also.
- Wednesday October 2 and 3 for MMA Convention -Office will be closed
- Sue Macomber Jury Duty which could cause office disruptions during regular office hours.
- Hydro Study Battle Ave Draft preliminary report may be in this week
- Solar Study Update - waiting for this info, maybe have it for meeting
- Possible Grant for Solar on Town Hall **Community Action and Service Provider Grants**
- Working on getting Youtube Town Channel and streaming on Youtube for all meetings and committees. Cords have been an issue, but working towards this.
- Things for the Future Date**
- Meeting with WG and Nancy in November at some point on Round School, and also discussion on an affordable child care program for Castine to attract young families

- Affordable Housing Committee after Comp Plan is approved, perhaps create a housing authority or development corporation?
- Question HCPC about hazard waste day and towns contributing \$500 or more towards fixed costs for future collection events 2025/ 2026 Budget
- Pesticide Policy find Redundancies in Policy and in Zoning Ordinance, Planning Board?, and Utility Board? Need to do this is my "spare time"

Derik Schedule

- BOS Meeting and Public Hearing at Noon.
- Elected Officials Workshop 09-17-24 4:30 to 830PM at MMA Augusta
- Interviews for PW 09-18-24
- Harbor Committee 091824 at 430pm (probably won't be able to attend as have a conflict)
- General Assistance 09-20-24 9-430pm at MMA Augusta
- BOS Work Session on Waterfront 092324 at 9am
- Meeting with Superintendent Derek Perkins 092424 at 9am
- MMA Homecoming Weekend 9-27 to 9-29
- Community Action Grant Webinar 09-26-24 1PM
- Maine Municipal Association Convention in Augusta October 2 and 3, 2024
- Town and Gown at Town Hall 10-04-24 at 9am
- Referendum Public Hearing and BOS Meeting 10-07-24 4PM
- Indigenous Peoples Day/Columbus Day October 14, 2024 Office Closed
- Advanced General Assistance 10-18-24 at MMA Augusta 9-4:30pm
- Derik's Birthday 10-26-24 Bring Cake and Ice Cream, no don't it is a Saturday