

**Town & Gown Mtg NOTES**

**Friday, February 21, 2025 9AM in Emerson Hall**

Attending: Roberta Boczkiewicz and Dan Leader, Selectboard members, Derik Goodine, Karen Motycka, Sue Macomber, Craig Johnson (MMA Interim President), Peter Stewart, Michael Dickerson.  
Public: Bill Corbett (HC) and Andy Webster (Castine Patriot).  
Zoom: Rachael Cotroni and Zander Parker.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**RESOLUTION/CONSENSUS**

Call to Order	Roberta opened the mtg – Quorum confirmed.
Traffic Calming	<p>Dan Leader reported that at a recent Public Listening Session there was a lot of brainstorming and community input. Ideas received from MDOT for traffic calming include: center line road striping, speed tables, digital speed signs, and updating stop signs. The Town has a digital speed monitor which we are working on getting it up and running. It will collect data on how many cars are speeding and where.</p> <p>Dan said the Town has contacted the Hancock County Sheriff's Dept (HCSD) for more details and has expressed serious interest in increasing police coverage in Castine but would like to know whether MMA could help with cost sharing. A 3-year HCSD contract is going to be expensive. Dan said MMA is connected to this issue due to student drivers. Craig mentioned summer traffic as well. It is not just the students. All agreed.</p> <p>Discussion on: Wadsworth Parking problems - The Selectboard thanked Craig for help getting the word out to students about parking violations in that area. This area has become a public safety concern. Vehicles cannot get through; the traffic lane is not passable due to the parking on both sides of the street which is a violation.</p> <p>Parking Bans – MMA Peter Stewart suggested a different format for snow event Parking Bans. The students are not going to pay attention to no parking courteous requests on Town streets when there is a day snowstorm. They will pay attention to bans, therefore, it may be considered to place parking bans in effect for any snowstorm day and/or night.</p>
MMA Pier Improvement Project Updates	<p>Craig updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 14 pilings complete. Noise has been minimal; pleasantly surprised. No complaints received at MMA or the Town Office.</li><li>• Summer project traffic. There may be an extra barge or two. Lights will likely need adjusting on the water.</li><li>• Reed &amp; Reed and Colliers have been doing an excellent job and have helped establish a good relationship with the Town regarding the MMA Pier project.</li><li>• Estimated project completion date = sometime in 2027.</li></ul> <p>Bill Corbett (HC) asked about the MMA's bulkhead. Due to testing the Town will need to prioritize and make some serious decisions for the future and whether to use sheet pilings. MMA is using sheet piling for their bulkhead. They are using a floating wave continuation as well. It was asked if this could work on the Town side. MMA said they could ask if this system is feasible for the Town. The Town expressed interest in doing a better job at coordinating the two waterfront projects and coincide with MMA where possible. The Town is playing catch up so appreciates any information MMA can supply.</p>

Possible Police Enforcement Increases & MMA Participation	Possible police enforcement increases, and MMA participation was already talked about earlier, but Dan Leader said the Towns timeline is tight and needs to know for budgeting. If there is any way MMA can find out about cost sharing the Town would greatly appreciate. Craig said their budget needs to be finalized by April 1 <sup>st</sup> , therefore, they should be able to get an answer soon. Dan said he felt it would be more palatable to the Castine residents with MMA assistance.
General Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MMA will be working on a Facilities Master Plan which will soon be going out to bid. This will be a huge project. There are several MMA buildings near their life's end including Curtis Hall which is currently under renovation. Andrews Hall at MMA waterfront will be part of the Master Plan with a big focus. It has been on everyone's wish list for years. There is also a goal for decarbonizing MMA's waterfront as well. Discussion. Dan Leader said it would be nice to see if there is a way to create commercial space on MMA's waterfront.</li> <li>• The Town has posted a Community &amp; Economic Development Director (CEDD) job advertisement. Applications are due by March 21<sup>st</sup>, with interviews to follow. The Town will keep MMA in the loop.</li> <li>• MMA Senior banquet will be held in Castine this year; Senior cookout with parents the night before; The annual Homecoming is a good event to involve the Castine community.</li> <li>• REC Committee is working on a summer movie night; maybe potential to work with MMA to have at MMA waterfront.</li> <li>• Castine Arts Association (CAA) sponsoring a summer Film Festival and utilizing MMA Delano Auditorium.</li> <li>• Castine community members are using MMA Dining Hall.</li> <li>• There were more student adoptees this year compared to last year. The program tripled.</li> <li>• Students working at the new Castine Market; students have a job board at MMA which community members can get names/numbers for odd jobs.</li> </ul>
Public Comments/ Future Meeting Dates	<p>NONE.</p> <p>Town will contact MMA to discuss March's mtg date to be held at MMA.</p> <p>Roberta Boeckiewicz made motion to adjourn. Second by Dan Leader. Approved 2-0. Meeting Adjourned at 9:31 AM.</p>