



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

DATE: Monday, August 4, 2025

TIME: 4:00 PM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

PRESENT: Roberta Boczkiewicz, Chair; Dan Leader, Amy Gutow, Selectboard members; Derik Goodine, Town Manager and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC: Bobby Vagt, Brooke Tenney, Gus Basile, Tom Commiciotto, Ina Schonberg, Liz Parish, Lewis Cohen, David Modesett, Don Tenney, Brock Muir (arrived 5:13PM) and David Avery of the Castine Patriot.

Roberta opened the meeting at 4:01 PM and verified there was a quorum.

Agenda: None.

Warrants: Roberta Boczkiewicz asked for a motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations and excise tax collections; Dan Leader made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$37,745.26. Second by Amy Gutow. Roberta said this warrant covered normal bills and included items from tarps to lumber purchases. Roberta called for votes: General Fund Warrant = approved 3-0. Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$1,826.71. Second by Dan Leader. No discussion. Roberta called for votes: Water Warrant = approved 3-0.

Minutes: Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the following: July 28, 2025, Selectboard Mtg minutes; July 28, 2025, Selectboard Work Session minutes; and July 21, 2025, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Dan Leader. No discussion. Roberta called for votes: Mtg minutes listed above = approved 3-0.

Old Business: Sue Macomber, Town Clerk, updated from last mtg Planning Board appointment to Charles Hodgkins who chose to become a regular member.

New Business:

Item 1. Roberta introduced discussion regarding Ordinance Review Committee.

Derik addressed. Derik sent a draft to the Selectboard. If no one had anything else to add he would email it to the Town's attorney for review. Amy Gutow said she had a few comments/questions and would get with Derik or email them.

The plan is to have a member from each Town B/C that oversees an Ordinance to serve on this Committee along with CEO, Town Manager and possibly two (2) other community members. Communication and a directive process will be extremely important.

Discussion.

Dan Leader asked what the process would be if the Committee has legal questions? Derik said we would tap into MMA Legal and the Town attorney where needed.

Item 2. Roberta introduced awarding the Community Park Bid.

Ina Schonberg, CEDD, addressed. Adventure Yards was the low bidder. On Fri 8/1/25 they visited Castine and the site, reviewed with Ina and feel comfortable on their end. They can start the project around 8/15. Ina said she checked references as the Selectboard requested and received glowing reports. Adventure Yards has worked directly with municipalities and specializes in making trails and ADA accessible trails. Ina also reviewed with them on where to park machinery. Ina recommends awarding the bid to Adventure Yards.

Dan Leader made motion to award the Community Park Bid to Adventure Yards to do the Storywalk trail project. Second by Amy Gutow.

Roberta called for votes: Award Community Park Bid = approved 3-0.

Item 3. Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced the Town Manager's Report: Derik Goodine read his report (see attached).

Dan Leader asked if MMA typically had a Town representative attend Convocation to address speeding concerns, etc. Amy Gutow responded that yes in years past the Chair would be that representative. Convocation is the last Monday in August.

Dan also confirmed that the two (2) tests done recently on the same well came back with a non-detect for PFAS. Derik said yes.

Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) Work Study Paperwork: Dan Leader made motion to authorize Derik Goodine, Town Manager, to sign MMA Work Study paperwork. This is mainly for MMA students who volunteer/work for the CFRD. Second by Amy Gutow.

Roberta called for votes: Authorize TM to sign MMA Work Study paperwork = approved 3-0.

Item 4. Other Business as Required: Derik reviewed parking signs and gave update from legal on new parking law going into effect at the end of September 2025.

Summary: the law is vague and does not specifically reference roads/streets for requiring parking violations fine amounts to be stated. The belief is that the law is aimed at parking lots/parking garages. MMA Legal is looking into it further and hopes to offer more guidance to municipalities. In the meantime, it was advised the Selectboard could attach little decals with violations on them if they wanted to. Roberta reminded Derik that new signs are needed for the Town Dock bathrooms.

Communications: None.

Roberta acknowledged the public present: -Lewis Cohen, Wadsworth Cove Rd resident said there are no speed limit signs on that road and there needs to be. Speeding is out of control. He suggested installing speed bumps not speed humps/tables. Derik said he has two (2) speed limit signs on his list to be posted on Wadsworth Cove Rd.

Discussion. Dan Leader said the Selectboard has a strong effort on traffic calming with many signs being issued out to property owners from the Town Office. The speed monitor/trailer should be ready to go very soon and can be used in this area. It was also mentioned to contact HCSD and have them patrol that area for speeding when they are in Castine. Lewis said police presence is welcomed.

-Don Tenney said there are two (2) significant potholes on Battle Ave approaching Pleasant St/opposite Fort George. Derik said they were on his radar.

-David Modesett asked about downed trees and debris on the Ft Sherbrooke property the Town owns. He said he has done a lot of cleanup on his own property which abuts the Town's and is quite concerned about the condition of the Town property and fire hazards it could pose. The Town and other Blue Hill peninsula towns have been working on a Wildfire Prevention Study plus MMA is having student volunteer work to create a 15ft fire barrier on either side of the trails in Witherle Woods that parallels Battle Ave. If this is deemed successful maybe this could expand to other needed areas eventually. David Modsett said he is happy to help. Community mtg on the Peninsula Wildfire Study efforts is taking place in Castine, tomorrow, 8/5 from 6:30-8PM. Ina Schonberg said the Fort Sherbrooke Town lot was not on their radar so it's good to know. David Modesett also asked about erosion control on Water St. Is there something identified? Derik is working with FEMA & MEMA and is in the middle of that process.

-Liz Parish said that the historic sign (on Battle Ave by the boulders) is crocked and back too far in the woods. Needs attention.

-David Agnew, Spring St resident, said he was interested in Water St changing to a one-way street and the Water St erosion concerns. Roberta explained the barriers were put in place on Water St for public safety reasons and to help with erosion concerns. There are continuous concerns regarding emergency vehicle accessibility on Water St from CFRD and community members due to parking, heavy summer traffic and even times in the fall/winter. The Selectboard decided to change Water St to one-way and see how it goes until the end of summer then decide if it will be a permanent, year-round change or just seasonal.

David Agnew said he has concerns regarding vehicles traveling down Spring St, learn Water St is now one-way and find they have to turn around somewhere on Spring St such as his driveway, other driveways or Mayo Point Rd. He asked if there was mtg held to discuss this change.

Answer was that it was discussed at several Selectboard Mtgs and a Public Hearing was held on 5/5/25. Discussion. Don Tenney said his driveway on Court St approaching Spring St gets used

every summer, all summer long, as a turn around.

Amy Gutow asked David Agnew to report to the Selectboard any feedback he gets by living in the area and monitoring the Water St one-way change.

-Brooke Tenney said she received verbally the well water testing results the Tenney's had done at the same time of the Town's testing. The test came back with a non-detect of any PFAS. She thanked the Selectboard, Derik and Water Dept for their assistance with the testing request and process.

-Tom Comiciotto (PB Chair) said since two new members were appointed to the Planning Board (PB), Don Tenney as alternate member will likely step down. Don Tenney confirmed.

Tom also said after receiving his tax bill recently the school taxation stood out as approximately 1/3 of our taxes. He feels this needs to be discussed in the future. We are paying a lot for a school under 50 students. Tom said he is commenting on this topic not only as a taxpayer but also as a career educator. There are alternatives.

Discussion. Liz Parish said she bet that if there were no Adams School in Castine, we would lose around 10 young families.

Tom said he would still like to see and run numbers for combining schools with Penobscot or another area town.

Roberta said studies show that smaller classes have better testing results for learning. She suggested Tom talk to the School Board. Bobby Vagt, who attends most of the School Board mtgs, said the School Board routinely reports that the Adams School students test well, State and Nationally.

Selectboard Comments & Past Actions: Amy Gutow said she was approached by someone asking about the roof on the Harbormaster shack on the Town Dock. The shingles are wearing through in a bad way. It doesn't look good for appearance or integrity.

Upcoming Mtgs:

Tuesday, 8/5/25 – Canopy Grant Community Forum 6:30-8PM.

Monday, 8/11/25 – Selectboard Work Session (Sevee & Maher Engineers on PFAS testing) at 4PM.

Monday, 8/18/25 at 4PM – Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg.

With no other business, Dan Leader made motion to adjourn. Second by Amy Gutow.

Roberta called for votes: Roberta stated yes to adjourn. Dan stated yes to adjourn. Amy stated yes to adjourn. Approved 3-0.

Mtg adjourned at 5:16PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

Manager's Report 08-04-25

Monday, August 4, 2025 4:00 PM

-Salt Sand Shed Study Update - Buying large tarp to cover exposed piles, then company will come and do Structural Studies on both buildings in next couple weeks.

*Maine Maritime Work Study Paperwork -BOS Authorization to have Town Manager sign it

-Parking Signs Order Ideas - See handout I have given you

-Medical Director Contract - Lawyers have a draft of this document to review. It is something that is needed when you have EMT/Paramedics providing care

-Award Bids for Story walk - I believe Ina is all set to award this project

Lobster Boat Tours - There has been a request to operate Lobster Boat Tours from the Town Dock. The interested party has been asked to get onto the Harbor Committee Agenda for approval of use of Town Dock and also any signage requests.

-Transfer Station, Recycling, Trash Pickup and Municipal Waste Hub - Michael Carroll is on vacation, and when he gets back he will contact me about coming to a meeting to discuss the issues and also schedule a Castine visit to MWS in Hampden.

-Historic Light Outlets on Poles. I have reached out to Hampden Electric to see about scheduling the installation of the outlets on all the poles.

-Water Street One Way - This was partially completed today. The rest of the signs will go up from Dyer to Spring Street and also on Court Street Tuesday.

-PFAS Tests of 350' Well also Non-Detect for Brooke Tenney

-Traffic Calming - What other Traffic Calming are we going to try. Striping of Battle Ave from Main to Madockowando perhaps. Speed Bump on a road?

-New England Management Institute is 12th of August to Sunday River and the Conference gets done on the 15th in early afternoon.

-Ordinance Review Committee - Need to adopt this committee and also work it into our ordinance eventually in ordinance change sections.

-Granite Curbing Requirements, discussion of curbs vs berms and drainage swales - So I have now seen the warrant article that made Granite Curbing for use all over town. I think we should attempt to remove this requirement and only require it in the Historic District On-Neck. I am leaving this on here as a reminder to have an article repealing this and changing it to in the Historic District.

-Perkin Street Sewer and Storm Drainage- Olver gave me estimate for drainage project, but no sewer yet as they haven't had camera footage of part of the street. If we get figures in time, then we can submit for this project under NBRC Grant although I am not optimistic on our chances of getting it. Regardless, I anticipate that a project will be borne out of this for FY 2027 (not next year) when sewer money will become available due to debt service retirement. If we did a Fall bond issuance, I think that would push the bond payment(s) off to FY 2028. This would entail storm drainage work near 166 Perkins and sewer pipes from Tarentine to 166 Perkins, and possibly sewer pipes all the way to Pleasant Street.

-School St shut down - This appears to be going well. I have talked to contractor about patching in rough spot near school when they do paving patch for trench.

*Harbor Master Boat - I still need to figure out how to post this up on Municibid Program. .

*School Bus Sale - Ditto.

-Water Street Wall - Sea Street Section. Olver will eventually take a look at this wall to determine if it has moved since they last inspected.

*FEMA Work - Talked to GEI this week about these projects and also have meeting with MEMA this week on draft extensions that I wrote up for gazebo, Fort Madison and Water Street Engineering and also discussion about scope of work covered under the FEMA money and timing when invasives start to die.-Water Department Generator Grant - Awaiting next steps on

this.

-PT -Public Works/General Services Position- No hire on this yet.

*Lighthouse Property Lease - Sent off the latest changes.

*Gazebo Design - Plans need to be revised for seating area by Ted. Also need extension to complete from MEMA.

-Wells across from Transfer Station - Awaiting contact from DEP again

-State Street water line - Talked to Bowden about getting this done after he is done with School Street. \$7500 is price tag

.-Catch Basin Cleaning - Catch Basin need to figure out which ones we will vacuum out.

Parking Marking on Pavement - Some of the spots have been marked, and as we move forward we will get more done.

-Wildfire Protection Grant - This is now moving forward. The Town will be meeting with SWCA soon about mapping assets.

-Solar Update - Will be meeting with Solect to discuss feasibility of this project now that things at the State and Federal level are shaking out..

-OPM RFP and Fire Station - Got back the changes from attorney. Edited document and it is up in the hallway, and will be up on website soon enough and on Maine Municipal Website with proposals due September 15. I will say that I found some additional fire stations being funded under HUD CDS in addition to the ones in the USDA-RD appropriation of Senator Collins in an article that I was reading this morning.

-Waterfront/Town Dock Study - I talked to GEI last week about this study as well as the Water St and Fort Madison Projects. They are putting the final tweaks on the draft report. We talked about putting design charrettes from the 2nd Public Forum into the study to give a visual depiction of peoples' ideas.

-Cyber Security Grant - Need to fill out a list of employees for this the program under the KnowB4 program. I have webinar this week on this.

-Dock CDS Grant Fund- We await the town study and the work on MMA's Dock to complete.

-CDS Grant for Sea St Pump Station- Olver continues to work on finalizing the pump house details as discussed with the Selectboard and also I just gave them access in the Grant Portal for working on paperwork.

-Infrastructure Plan Update Costs - Olver is working on it

-Blue Hill Peninsula Tomorrow Climate Resilience Leadership Development Project Grant-They are beginning to ramp up this study recently, and have ad out for hiring a Community Resilience Coordinator. This grant involves Brooklin, Castine and Sedgwick.

-Project Canopy Grant - There is a public forum tomorrow evening to discuss the study and its findings and next steps.

-Flag Pole - Fall Project at this point.

-Fire Department Dry Hydrant - This is supposed to be installed in the next month or so. I have also been discussing a Fire Cistern Project off-neck closer to intersection of 166 and 166A. We will be working on this and prepping details for the next round of Community Resilience Partnership Grant for 2026.

-Radar Trailer - Need to add a way to put a speed limit sign on it and also get data from it and set it up. I have the videos. Still haven't had the time to watch them though

-Housing Opportunity Program Grant - This grant is moving in the right direction and we reviewed an RFP for services for the grant, and will start to button that up over the next couple weeks.

-Penobscot Marine Museum - Tall Ships for 2026 , Remember the 4 Port Tour? Talked to Bucksport Eco Dev Director this past week about this. This is an extension of that kind of that was to take place in 2020 as part of Maine's 250th Birthday. I have not received any notice of their next meeting, but did talk to the Bucksport Eco Dev Director about it last week..

-Town Office 4 Day Work Week - This is the first week of this.

-Things for the Future Date

Transition to Castineme.gov email domain and new website

MMA Risk Management Assessment Checklist - See the Salt Shed above.
Pesticide Policy find Redundancies in Policy and in Zoning Ordinance, Planning Board?, and
Utility Board?

-Roof Inspection for Emerson Hall and Weathervane still needs straightening

Schedule

08-04-25 Selectboard Meeting 4PM

08-05-25 Meet with MEMA on leftover projects at 12pm

08-05-25 Planning Board Work Session 4pm

08-05-25 Project Canopy Forum 6-830pm

08-06-25 No Staff Meeting

08-06-25 Derik Dentist 930AM

08-06-25 KnowBe4 Cyber Security Webinar 1PM

08-06-25 Ad Hoc Housing Committee 5PM

08-07-25 NRCM Climate Call 12PM

08-07-25 Meet with Ina and Jenna from HCPC on CRP and NBRC Grants 330PM

08-08-25 Truck Repairs in Belfast

08-12-25 to 08-15-25 New England Management Institute Maine Town Manager
Conference at Sunday River

08-13-25 No Staff Meeting

08-18-25 Selectboard Meeting 4PM

08-19-25 Derik Meeting with Solest on Solar 1PM

08-19-25 Planning Board 4PM

08-20-25 Staff Meeting at 9AM

08-20-25 Harbor Committee Meeting 430PM

