

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

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DATE: Monday, October 6, 2025

TIME: 4:00 PM

PLACE: Emerson Hall

<u>PRESENT:</u> Roberta Boczkiewicz, Chair; and Amy Gutow, Selectboard member; Dan Leader, Selectboard member (Zoom); Derik Goodine, Town Manager; Karen Motycka, Finance Officer and Susan Macomber, Town Clerk.

<u>PUBLIC:</u> Bobby & Ruth Ann Vagt, Brooke Tenney, Ina Schonberg, Liz Parish, Pat Bishop, Gus Basile, Tom Comiciotto, Lewis Cohn, Jeff Ackerman, Patti Bixel, Debby Neve, Terry Biggie & Dan Gardner (REC Committee), Matt Powell (CMA), Jeff Stammen (CHPC), and Kate McMahon (CHS Director).

Roberta opened the meeting at 4:04 PM and verified there was a quorum.

Additions, Deletions and/or Corrections to the Agenda: Derik added an Executive Session for a Personnel Matter.

<u>Warrants:</u> Roberta Boczkiewicz asked for a motion to approve the warrants, abatements, budget vs. actual and trial balance reports, bank reconciliations and excise tax collections; Amy Gutow made motion to approve the General Fund Warrant in the amount of \$92,897.46. Second by Dan Leader.

With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: General Fund Warrant = approved 3-0. Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the Water Warrant in the amount of \$15,102.10. Second by Amy Gutow.

With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: Water Warrant = approved 3-0.

Abatement: Karen Motycka, Tax Collector, addressed. Request made by Peter & Elizabeth Lewis for property located at 647 Castine Rd, M10 L5-A in the amount of \$287.28. The Assessors agent made a judgement by building permit and not by what was completed by April 1, 2025. Amy Gutow made motion to approve. Second by Dan Leader.

With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: Abatement request = approved 3-0.

#### Minutes:

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the September 15, 2025, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Amy Gutow. With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: 9/15/25 minutes = approved 3-0.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the September 23, 2025, and September 30, 2025, Selectboard Mtg minutes. Second by Amy Gutow. With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: 9/23/25 and 9/30/25 minutes = approved 2-0 (Dan Leader absent from mtgs).

Old Business: None.

#### **New Business:**

<u>Item 1.</u> Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced approving Re-appointment to the Board of Appeals. Amy Gutow made motion to re-appoint Patti Bixel to the Board of Appeals as alternate member, expiring 6/2026. Second by Roberta Boczkiewicz.

With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: BOA re-appointment = approved 3-0.

Item 2. Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced Solar Updates.

Derik addressed and reviewed handouts. He said he had concerns regarding financing. It doesn't look feasible to him based on current information. This will affect the Sewer Budget. Derik said he needs additional information, but the biggest issue right now is having paperwork submitted by December 31st before the Federal tax credits go away.

Item 3. Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced discussions regarding American Flags on street poles. Derik addressed. The Town Office has received some complaints. Public Works crew took a few flags down that were tattered, torn or wound up by the wind. REC Committee put the flags up to be patriotic and add to Castine's 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. The problem with leaving them up for a considerable amount of time is that there is no maintaining. The "manpower" on the REC Committee (5-members) is scarce. The REC's goal was to have the flags up for Memorial Day through Veterans Day to be festive for 4<sup>th</sup> of July but also honor those who have served our country. Discussion.

Dan Gardner and Terry Biggie, REC Committee members addressed. Dan Gardner read letter from the REC Committee. He said the REC Committee was not displaying flags as a political statement. It is purely for décor, patriotism and honoring those who serve or have served our country. Dan also said the REC Committee wished there could have been an open conversation beforehand when the issue was first raised.

Dan Leader suggested tabling this issue until it can be discussed further at an upcoming Work Session. All agreed.

Item 4. Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced request from Art Under the Elms Event. Pat Bishop was present. The event is planned for next year on Saturday, 7/25/26 from 10AM to 4PM on the Town Common. The Trinitarian Congressional Church (Main Street Church) would like final approval for the event to be on the Town Common again. The proceeds from this event support the Church's community care & outreach programs. The request at the last mtg was tabled since Selectboard Dan Leader was absent and Roberta is recusing herself because she sits on the Church Board.

Amy Gutow made motion to approve the request. Second by Dan Leader. With no other discussion, Roberta called for votes: Art Under the Elms event on 7/25/26 on the Town Common = approved 2-0 (Roberta recused).

Item 5. Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced request from Castine Historic Society (CHS). Kate McMahon, new Director, was present. CHS's House & Garden Tour will take place on Friday, 7/24/25. CHS is requesting to have Food Trucks on the Town Common so they can offer additional food options to their attendees. They are planning for approximately 4-5 trucks around the Common. Pat Bishop asked when the food trucks would be removed? Art Under the Elm's equipment such as the tent, tables, etc. get delivered and setup the day before their event so Pat would need to know for organizing the delivery and setup. Kate answered they would make sure the food trucks are gone by 4PM. Both groups, Art Under the Elms and CHS, both agreed they would work together to coordinate for the two events utilizing the Town Common.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to approve the request. Second by Amy Gutow. With no other discussion, Roberta called for votes: CHS Food Trucks on 7/24/26 on the Town Common = approved 3-0.

<u>Item 6.</u> Roberta Boczkiewicz introduced the Town Manager's Report: Derik Goodine read his report (see attached).

<u>12X20 Shed</u>: Roberta made motion to approve spending \$7,988.70 to purchase the shed and install a gravel pad with condition it is approved by the CHPC. Second by Amy Gutow. With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: Shed & Gravel Pad purchase in the amount of \$7,988.70 = approved 3-0.

Brooke Tenney said she wasn't sure if this was the right time to ask but the Making Waves group requests using the Town Common on Saturday, 10/18/25 to host a rally from 1-3PM. Amy Gutow made motion to approve contingent upon the availability on the Town Office calendar. Second by Dan Leader. With no discussion, Roberta called for votes: Making Waves Rally on Town Common, Sat 10/18/25 = approved 3-0.

<u>Item 7.</u> Other Business as Required: Roberta introduced Updates from Castine Historic Preservation Commission (CHPC) and Castine Merchant's Association (CMA).

CHPC: Jeff Stammen, Chair, gave updates.

- No applications submitted to CHPC since last report
- Town of Castine application for placing shed and gravel pad in back of Emerson Hall will be on CHPC agenda Tues, 10/14 at 4PM.

The Selectboard thanked Jeff for the updates.

CMA: Matt Powell, President, gave updates (see attached).

Amy Gutow asked Matt about the possibility of students using their "MMA Flex Dollars" to make purchases at local businesses. This option could add to building relationships with students and the community. Matt said it would be worth looking into it and would be a great opportunity all around. Discussion. Terry Biggie said she wasn't 100% sure but believed that businesses would have to bill monthly. There might be a process involved but worth investigating.

Derik said he was going to use this opportunity to ask Terry Biggie, Manager of the MMA Bookstore, if there is a way to co-mingle MMA merchandise and have "Castine, Maine" printed on them. Terry said there is not a lot of leeway but said that new Bowdoin merchandise had Castine, Maine printed on it. Sot that's a start.

#### Ina Schonberg, CEDD, StoryWalk updates:

- StoryWalk Frequently Asked Questions is posted on the Town's website
- Construction part completed
- Working on other issues next; watering, seeding and removing dirt piles
- Grand Opening celebration planned for Spring '26
- StoryWalk kiosk's with its first story going in later this week
- Resident, Bill Corbett, has volunteered to build benches for StoryWalk
- Fundraising efforts to purchase materials for the benches this winter
- Official Name = suggestions can be emailed to Ina or dropped off to the Town Office. Ina
  will also contact the Principal @ Adams School to see about involving the grammar
  school kids.

Other updates: Project Canopy Grant is coming along. More updates to come; FOX ABC Bangor News TV crew in Castine tomorrow, Tues 10/7 for a Lighthouse follow-up story. In a said she's going to mention her hopes of having the Lighthouse open to the public a little more next year.

<u>Communications:</u> 1) Letter from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission informing the Town that the Wilson Museum building has been entered in the National Register of Historic

Places on September 18, 2025, by the National Park Service, Dept of the Interior, in Washington DC.

Roberta acknowledged the public present: -Lewis Cohn gave kudos to Town Manager, Derik Goodine, for his efforts moving the speed machine/trailer around on Wadsworth Cove Road. He then asked about speed limit signs. Roberta said the plan was to collect data first and then discuss at a Work Session for next steps, if any.

-Bobby Vagt, on behalf of the Castine Community Hospital Corporation (CCHC), gave a quick update and referenced a Continuing Healthcare at our Clinic handout (see attached). He said that CCHC's building renovations plan was on pause due to the healthcare crisis. CCHC has every intention to continue healthcare and keep the clinic provisions in Castine. The connection with Northern Light, which rents the space in the clinic, is ongoing but at the same time CCHC is researching alternative provider networks and exploring other healthcare options. As a part of this effort and after conversations with Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) CCHC has contracted with IEN Risk Management (IEN) to study the viability of a Community Owned Health Plan (COHP) for our area. For more information the CCHC's annual mtg will be held on Monday, 10/27 at 7PM in Emerson Hall with consultants attending to answer questions and review options.

-Terry Biggie, REC Committee member, said that Castine's 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities have morphed into more than the same individuals and groups having all the responsibilities. A lot falls onto the REC Committee, Fire Dept, and Town Office staff. She suggested the Town consider establishing a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee. All agreed this was a good idea. The Selectboard will discuss it more at an upcoming Work Session.

-Gus Basile asked Derik for a Dry Hydrant update. Derik said the project is delayed until the Spring due to contractor scheduling and ordering parts. Construction should be completed by May 2026. Gus also suggested memorializing the StoryWalk Park to the Castine soldiers of the past.

Selectboard Comments & Past Actions: Dan Leader added his input to the StoryWalk Park topic stating that the Selectboard has discussed this issue at numerous Selectboard Mtgs over the past year including in detail the grant process and requirements, maps reviewed, lidar investigation, archaeologist present when needed and all other issues that came up. There was tremendous amount of care, time and research put into this project. It did not have a willy-nilly approach. Dan added he wanted it to be clear that the sign posted for decades at the location is not true and has been removed. Roberta added that the recent accusations made have taken up considerable amounts of staff time.

### Upcoming Mtgs:.

Monday, 10/20/25 - Selectboard/Assessors & Overseers of the Poor Mtg at 4PM.

\*Selectboard Work Session TBD.

T/G Mtgs: Monday, 10/20 at 3PM, Monday, 11/17 at 3PM and Monday, 12/15 at 3PM.

With no other Mtg business, Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Title 1 MRSA Chapter 13 §405 (6)(A) to discuss a Personnel Matter. Second by Amy Gutow. Roberta called for votes: Approved 3-0.

Executive Session in: 5:09PM.

Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to leave the Executive Session. Second by Amy Gutow.

Roberta called for votes: Approved 3-0.

Executive Session out: 5:38PM.

With no other business to address, Roberta Boczkiewicz made motion to adjourn. Second by Amy Gutow. Roberta called for votes: Approved 3-0.

Mtg adjourned at 5:39PM.

Minutes by Susan Macomber, Town Clerk; Executive Session notes from Derik Goodine, Town Manager.

# **PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, Spirit of America Foundation cherishes Municipal Officials' help with its program and created 'Municipal Officials Appreciation Month', in 2025 dedicated nationally to Firefighters, to express gratitude;

WHEREAS, Municipal Officials make personal sacrifices to serve constituents and deserve more public recognition/respect than they generally receive;

WHEREAS, Firefighters risk their lives while battling blazes and evacuating folks from burning buildings;

WHEREAS, Firefighters faithfully respond 24X7 to a variety of emergencies and provide medical care;

WHEREAS, Firefighters spend many hours each year in training for how to react to situations they could encounter;

Castine

	_ mach appreciates	s the services
provided by its Firefighters and other Municipal	Officials;	
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that _	Castin	e
MAINE designates October, 2025 as	Castine	MUNICIPAL
OFFICIALS APPRECIATION MONTH" and un	ges our citizens to	show gratitude to
their Municipal Officials, and especially to Firefi	ghters, for all they	do to make this a
better Community.		

SIGNED AND SEALED

WHEREAS.

Authorized Signature

Date

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Monday, October 6, 2025 4:00 PM

# Town Manager Report 10-06-25

- -I am happy to say that Natalie is back!!!! She was missed by all, and we are very happy to have her back.
- -Complaint about Town Report Had a complaint that we were illegally advertising for food trucks in town report. We were not but just noting that this was something new that the voters of Castine voted to allow for food options at the Town Dock area. Also demanded that we spend money on a legal assessment and equal advertising. Ironically, only one of the food trucks that were on the town report came back this summer. Legal informed me that this was not an issue. This complaint also came with a couple FOIA requests that we continue to work on.
- -FOIA Request Had another request which is consuming staff time not to mention your own.
- -Complaint about Desecrating Burial Grounds Had a complaint from a couple of people that we were desecrating a cemetery in town which turns out is the lot on the corner of Court and Spring St. This is not a cemetery and care was taken while building the trails should any graves be found regardless. Much, careful research went into this property before disturbing the soils down there including consultation with our own local historic society and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. We also stopped all work when deer bones were found. This site has been excavated before as water lines run through it to the pump station lying on the land below were the park is, as well as a lot of material from other construction projects that been spread on this property. The historic sign at this location will no longer be at that location since it belongs over on Dyce Head. Furthermore, the Sheriff's Department was also called on this matter with accusations that a crime had taken place. A simple call could have been made to the Town Hall asking a few questions on what research had been done about this site, and what precautions were being taken. This whole complaint reminds me that there very well could be unmarked burial grounds all over the Town of Castine from 1779, and care should be taken when anyone is doing work on their property. A final note on this matter from me anyway, there is a Fort George Report that discusses the fort, and how trails should be made throughout Witherle Woods commemorating the events from 1779, and along these trails there should be story boards put up denoting the historic events that took place, not unlike the ones we see around town as well as the new story walk displays that have been installed. There are surely graves that are unmarked throughout Castine, lost due to time, from what I have read about American and British casualties. Thus all due honor and respect should be given whether British or American, soldier or civilian, should any be found!
- -Flags on poles We will discuss this at the meeting.
- -Wildfire off Rt 116A I expect this to be submitted in the next week or so from the Fire Department which will include payroll, and lost gear, and truck usage.
- --Salt Sand Sheds Study Update It is going to be estimated to \$88,000 to repair and protect the sheds. Bowden will be putting the sand back in the shed and the salt into the other shed in the next week or so.
- -Parking Signs and speed sign orders They sent me estimates for part of the order, but I await the second page that they missed. I will then finetune it.
- Story Walk Park This is just about completed, and Ina would like to have the park named. I think we discussed the kids at the school having a contest.
- -Transfer Station, Recycling, Trash Pickup and Municipal Waste Hub This will be an agenda item for November 17.

Medical Director Contract - This is still with the Blue Hill Hospital to review some changes our attorney made to it.

Historic Light Outlets on Poles. I sent it a description to them last week laying out how the outlets should be installed, and it included some photos to help explain.

- -Water Street One Way I believe you have decided to keep this one way for the winter which is probably a good choice rather than switching it back and forth. I think switching it back and forth would create confusion and safety issues.
- -PFAS Study They did the well retest about a week ago. They now need to have the interviews with people. If you know people who have a lot of knoweldge of that area of Castine, then please get it to me, so I can get it to them.
- -Traffic Calming and parking I continue to collect data with speed radar, thus far on Battle Ave and last couple of weeks on Wadsworth Cove Road. Where should it go next. If no suggestions, then I will probable put it down bottom of hill on Wadsworth Cove for a week.
- \*Senior Tax Relief Program I got some information about this from Cumberland, and we should have a workshop to discuss the details of how it would work and also invite the Assessor in to discuss his thoughts also.
- \*Personnel Policy I will be sending you a draft copy of new Personnel Policy and we should also have a workshop on that topic in the coming weeks.
- \*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 just in Historic District.
- -Perkin Street Sewer and Storm Drainage- We were invited to submit a grant, and it is due this Friday. Ina has been hammering away.
- \*Harbor Master Boat I still need to get this put up on Municibid.
- \*School Bus Sale Will go up on Municbid
- \*FEMA Work I closed out several of the project a week ago. I still have some things to upload, but we got two checks over the last week which I also need to reconcile back to what is listed on the website. These checks totaled \$509,306.39
- -RFPs for Water Street and Fort Madison. I started work on RFP last week, as I want to get them out soon. Now that the Knotweed is starting to die, and we will chop it down along Water Street and Fort Madison, the best we can.
- -Water Department Generator Grant Haven't heard anything about this for a while.
- -PT -Public Works/General Services Position- We hired two MMA students to fill this role until late spring of next year. They seem to be working out great, and this will help get some things completed that have been on hold.
- -Lighthouse Property Lease Tenant have signed the lease.
- -Wells across from Transfer Station Awaiting contact from DEP still.
- -State Street water line Await this project to start.\$7500 is estimated price tag
- .-Catch Basin Cleaning Joe S is supposed to be contacting the company and providing them a list of catch basins that need to be vacuumed out. I need to see if he has scheduled it yet.
- -Parking Marking on Pavement This will be done now that we have the extra manpower.
- -Approval to purchase a 12 X 20 shed for sidewalk machine for out back of town hall. We will also have them do a gravel pad to place it on. This shed can be used to store other things when it isn't winter. Shawn is working on a meeting with the CHPC. The total cost is \$7,988.70 which includes a discount of 5% and also the gravel pad. We priced out other sheds from other companies, and this is the best deal that we found.
- -Wildfire Protection Grant This project is underway.
- -Solar Update I have the financing scenario from CEI for discussion.
- -OPM RFP and Fire Station Got three of these. We have interviewed two of the three last week, and we will do one other tomorrow and then be recommending a firm to hire.
- -Waterfront/Town Dock Study The Harbor Committee met and proposed some changes to the study. I will be reviewing the meeting notes, and then having a discussion of the changes

needed.

- -Cyber Security Grant and KnowBe4 This is now sending out tests to our town office employees.
- -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 this.
- -Infrastructure Plan Update Costs Olver was working on this. I need to see how it is coming along.
- -Blue Hill Peninsula Tomorrow Climate Resilience Leadership Development Project Grant-They hired a Community Resilience Coordinator. This grant involves Brooklin, Castine and Sedgwick.
- -Project Canopy Grant -Ina is working on putting the finishing touches on this with the consultants, and then we will need to look at the implementation step possibilities which include an ordinance.
- -Flag Pole Fall Project at this point.
- -Fire Department Dry Hydrant This will be delayed until next spring due to permitting and scheduling issues.
- -Housing Opportunity Program Grant This grant is moving in the right direction, and the RFP was just advertised last week.
- -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. Haven't heard any updates on this lately.
- -Rental Ordinance Lawyers have this.
- -Fire Pond on 116A by private land owner. No update at this time.
- Sidewalk Grinding I continue to prepare a list of places this is needed and hope to do some grinding before snow flies.
- -Compost Bins Grant We await whether we are awarded this grant or not.
- -The Islands Esther and Emmanual in Bagaduce River and naming question. No update on what the decision was at this time.
- -Wilson Museum Building was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on September 18, 2025
- MMA Convention is this Wednesday and Thursday, and Town Offices will be closed, so staff can attend.

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#### Castine Merchants Association

#### Notes for Castine Select Board Meeting, October 6

The Castine Merchants Association is pleased to present some notes to our select board on our recent activity, fundraising efforts, and community concerns. Please see details below:

Updates from the CMA & current projects highlights:

- CMA is more active than in recent years. Our membership is steady this year, attendance for CMA meetings continues to be high, and cooperative effort between merchants is strong. Total members to date for 2025 is now 38.
- Castine Visitors Center saw 4062 visitors in the 2025 season, our highest season to date, showing an increase of 13% year over year. Castine merch was HOT this year, with an increase of 40% in sales, thanks in part to our partnership with MMA. Our VC also successfully partnered with Jordan Richards to bring rotating artisans into the VC. This brought a welcome boost of local visitors into the VC doors.
- The CMA current officers (Matt Powell, President; Julia Gray, VP; Karen Koos, Treasurer; George Trinovitch, Secretary)
- Light Up Castine efforts are underway, and we're hoping to surpass previous years' donations through an increase in the ask & through an old-fashioned phone tree. We will be reprising the "Dinner of Five Flags" this year in the winter, as well as a potential potluck fundraiser.
- We have increased membership dues to \$125 (up from \$100) to help cover increasing costs.

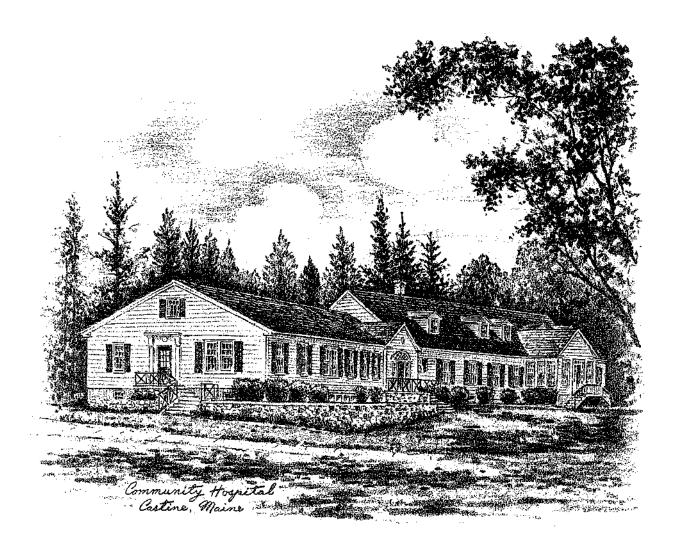
#### CMA Marketing:

- Castine social presence is strong (our reach is growing at a rapid pace of 26%, and 40% of accounts we reach are non-followers) and we are continuing our print advertisements. Digital advertising opportunities are one of our winter projects.
- We have taken ads out in the following channels: MTA's Maine Invites You, Bangor Daily's summer guide, and VisitMaine.com and .net, along with special holiday ads for Castine's seasonal attractions.

#### Successes:

- We are looking forward to season 3 of mobile vending. Please let us know if any help on that front is needed.
- We were thrilled to see the Castine Film Festival was a success, and look forward to next year's festival as well as the return of the Home & Garden Show.
- We were thrilled to see the Castine Market grow and thrive. Their efforts to feed this town are commendable.
- We are already looking forward to holidays 2025. Thanks to a cooperative committee between CMA, Rec Committee, and Dr. Mary Cushman Circle, we believe this holiday season will be especially fruitful.
- We are looking to build more opportunities for MMA students to interact with town businesses.

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# Castine Community Health

# CONTINUING HEALTH CARE AT OUR CLINIC

As is evident from both news reports and personal experiences, lack of clarity about the direction and availability of healthcare services in this country continues. Uncertainties are increased in rural communities such as ours. For that reason, the Castine Community Hospital Corporation (CCHC) recently paused its capital campaign for renovation and has begun to explore ways to ensure continued access to medical care in our area. The CCHC would like to update the public on its activities in this regard.

The connection with Northern Light, which rents space in the clinic from the CCHC, is ongoing. At the same time the board is researching alternative provider networks as well as exploring other healthcare options. As part of this effort, and

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after conversations with Maine Maritime Academy, CCHC has contracted with IEN Risk Management (IEN) to study the viability of a Community Owned Health Plan (COHP) for our area.

Existing COHPs that we have examined indicate that this is a viable option to review. IEN is committed to a thorough investigation of our area's health needs and resources. They will be talking with individuals along with representatives of key stakeholders—Maine Maritime Academy and other local employers, school districts, and town offices—to understand our requirements and available healthcare assets. We anticipate IEN will take approximately three months to produce an outline of costs, operations, insurance interfaces, and secondary services, and will provide the information necessary to determine what a COHP would mean for each of us.

IEN will also look into the creation of a Direct Primary Care (DPC) practice, either as part of a COHP or as an independent entity. A DPC is a relatively new healthcare model where patients pay their primary care providers or practices directly with more providers sharing the patient load. Access to a DPC is typically based on a monthly or annual fee paid to the practice, allowing patients to deal directly with the practice and provider for their primary care. The DPC negotiates with specialty medical services on behalf of patients when more advanced care may be needed. Individuals would retain their private medical insurance or Medicare and Supplementary Insurance for non-primary care services. Communities served by DPCs have seen overall costs decrease, access increase, and health outcomes improve. A number of DPC practices currently operate in Maine and our area, and this model will be part of our evaluation process. CCHC seeks a version of a DPC that would be available to all, not only those who can pay a fee.

Changes at the Castine Clinic may be difficult to think about; but what is clear is the need for evolution in how our health center serves its patients. CCHC's commitment is deep and abiding. We all want the best possible medical resources for our community.

To learn more about various options under consideration and to ask questions of the board and consultants, we encourage you to attend the CCHC Annual Meeting scheduled for Monday, October 27, at 7:00 p.m., at Emerson Hall in the Castine Town Office.

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