

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



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Select Board Meeting

Monday 10/11/2010 – Town Office Meeting Room

6:45 P.M.

Public Hearing – General Assistance Appendices A, B and C - Amendment Adoption

Chairperson Irene L. Belanger opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m. Board members present were Peter Foote, Paul MacDonald, Joann C. Austin, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Mary Grow and the Town Manager.

The Town Manager explained the changes that would result from the adoption of the amendments to Appendices A, B, and C to the General Assistance Ordinance. The most impact, though only slightly higher, would be in the overall maximum levels of assistance pertaining to all municipalities in Maine. There were not any questions from the general public. The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 6:59 p.m.

Select Board Meeting

Monday – 10/11/2010 – Town Office Meeting Room

7:00 P.M.

Minutes

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7:00 pm. Board members present were Paul MacDonald, Peter Foote, Joann C. Austin, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Greg Louder, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Paul MacDonald

Minutes of the 08/02/2010, 08/16/2010 and 09/27/2010 Select Board Meetings will be processed at a future meeting.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to accept Warrant #16 for \$17,641.26 and Warrant #17 for \$342,672.33 as presented.

Manager's Report:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Implementation Committee – TBA/Library Services /Thurston Park Committee/Open Space Committee /Facilities & Capital Improvement Committee/Other Committees Meetings TBD:** The Town Manager announced the respective committee meeting dates and times.
- **Sidewalks – South China Village Area:** The Town Manager noted that China has received approval of a request for additional funding for the project to be used to purchase and install a foot bridge over the stream passing under Village Street in the South China Village area.

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New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **MRRRA/MRC – P.E.R.C – Greg Lounder and Discussion of the Long Term Cost of MSW Disposal:** Greg Lounder, executive director of the Municipal Review Committee informed the Select Board about the potential of solid waste disposal cost increases in the next eight to ten years. Mr. Lounder is spreading the word in communities that share ownership in the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company that change is coming. Contracts with Bangor Hydro expire in 2018 and that is the time when everything will be negotiated. Greg went on to say that it will be impossible to hold tipping fees at the current rate. At the present time 187 municipalities and two private corporations own the PERC plant. A three person Board oversees the operations, MR. Lounder being one of the people representing municipalities on the Board. Electricity generated by burning municipal solid waste is sold to Bangor Hydro. The Municipal Review Committee, comprised of nine people elected from member municipalities, represents the municipal interests.

Mr. Lounder noted that many variables will determine future costs of disposal, including whether or not the private companies remain engaged beyond 2018 and under what terms and conditions; whether Maine generated waste tonnage continues in predictable volumes; how much repair and renovation the 22 year old plant will need; what price PERC will be able to get for the electricity in 2018; and how much landfill capacity will be available to take the ash produced by PERC in the burning process. He went on to note that any contracts emerging by 2018 will have to be approved by member municipalities' legislative bodies.

- **Irene L. Belanger – Business Development:** Irene indicated that she would discuss this topic at a later meeting.
- **General Assistance Appendices A, B and C - Amendment Adoption:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Peter Foote, the Board voted 4-0 to sign and approve of the amendments to the respective appendices to the General Assistance Ordinance.
- **Abatement(s):** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to accept and sign the abatements as presented. Copies of the abatements are on file at the town office.
- **Town Clerk & Registrars Hours – November Election:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Peter Foote, the Board voted 4-0 to accept the proposed hours as presented.
- **New Building Code:** The Board decided to discuss this topic at a later date.
- **On Premise Liquor License Application – The China Dine-ah:** On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Peter Foote, the Board voted 4-0 to sign and approve of an on-premise liquor license renewal for the China Dine-ah on Lakeview Drive. Since this was a renewal license and there were not any incidents associated with the business, the Board decided not to have a Public Hearing regarding the renewal application.

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- **Weeks Mills Road Reconstruction – MDOT:** The Town Manager indicated that the majority of the major reconstruction of the first mile of the Weeks Mills Road from Route #32 will probably be done in the spring time.
- **November Election – Date, Time, Place, Poll Hours, and Absentee Ballots:** The respective information was noted.
- **CMP Contractors in the China Area – New Electric Smart Meters to be Installed:**
- **Open House – One Room School House, (Weeks Mills Elementary School):** All agreed that there will be a date and time set for an open house celebration after a little more work is done to supply the building with a heating source and a flag and possibly desks.
- **Transfer Station Position(s):** The Town Manager noted that he was conducting an interview process for the replacement of 20-30 hours of employment at the transfer station. Louis Rancourt is retiring from his position on October 20, 2010. A greater focus is being placed on the inspection of transfer station stickers upon entry into the transfer station. More information will be provided in the next week.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Recycling Coordinator:**
 - User/Resident Survey:** It was noted that the survey will continue to be worked on and will be sent out in the late fall or early winter.
 - Transfer Station Stickers:** It was noted that there is an added emphasis on the checking of transfer station stickers. The town office will engage in an initiative to remind residents of the need to renew their stickers before the first of the year.
- **Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Event – Saturday, October 16, 2010:** The date, time, and location were announced.
- **Old Rescue Vehicle – Disposition:** The Town Manager informed the Select Board that the South China Volunteer Fire Department wanted to purchase the used Rescue Vehicle for \$500.00 to use to recharge oxygen tanks and let firefighters take a break after fire fighting and warm up during cold weather fires. Selectperson Peter Foote made a motion to sell the truck to the SCVFD and Selectperson Irene L. Belanger seconded the motion. After a little discussion, Selectperson Joann Austin made a motion to amend asking for approval to lease the vehicle to the SCVFD. Selectperson Paul MacDonald seconded the motion to amend. , the Board voted 2-2(Belanger, Foote) on the motion to amend, and therefore the motion failed. The Board voted 2-2(Austin, MacDonald) on the original motion to sell the vehicle to the WMVFD, and therefore that motion failed. Board Chairpersons Irene L. Belanger and Peter Foote approved of the sale, however, Selectperson Joann C. Austin objected to selling any town vehicle while ownership of other vehicles is in question, (referring to recent discussions with the Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department). On a motion by Selectperson Peter Foote and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 4-0 to table the item until the next meeting.

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- **Appointment:** On a motion by Selectperson Peter Foote and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to appoint Dale Peabody to the Road Committee to replace Dewey Ryan who recently resigned.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joann C. Austin".

Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board