

TOWN OF CHINA

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China, ME 04358



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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 06/21/2010 – 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 Neil Farrington. Others present were Carrol White, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Neil Farrington.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson, Peter Foote the Board voted 4-0 to accept the minutes of the 06/15/2010 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to accept Warrant #48 for \$26,917.18 and Warrant #49 for \$511,980.82 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:** It was noted that the following committees will be meeting at the associated times: Implementation Committee, TBD; Library Services Committee, June 24, 2:00 p.m.; Thurston Park Committee/Open Space Committee/Facilities & Capital Improvement Committee, TBD.
- **One Room School House Update – Phase II Completion:** It was noted that phase II of the project is nearing completion. A “punch list” has been developed by engineer Mark McCluskey for the contractor to perform before the final acceptance by the town of the project.
- **Sidewalks – South China Village Area:** The Town Manager noted that he and engineer Mark McCluskey followed up on the May 24, 2010 public hearing on planned sidewalks in South China Village by walking the area and noting the issues raised by area residents. They visited with Connie Comfort and walked the road with Connie and her spouse.
- **Weeks Mills Road Reconstruction – MDOT:** The Town Manager noted that the MDOT has been doing some surveying to determine the actual road right-of-way. Resident questionnaires have been sent out by the MDOT. More will be reported in the initiative in subsequent SB meetings.
- **China Village Neighborhood Meeting – China Baptist Church:** The Town Manager noted that a neighborhood meeting was hosted by Reverend Ron Morrell at the China Baptist Church Vestry. Thirty six local residents and 4 SB members were present. Modern Pest Control representatives provided an update on their activities in and surrounding the former China Village General Store. A representative of Border Trust Company provided information regarding the

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bank's status in the relative bankruptcy proceedings by the owner of record and their plans for the site if they gain ownership. The Town Manager about the town's involvement and invited the residents to communicate with the town office at any time. There were several question received and responses given.

- **Tax Commitment – July 2010:** The Town Manager proposed setting the 2010-2011 tax rate at the Select Board's July 19, 2010 meeting if all the relevant figures are available by then. It is estimated the mil rate may increase by .7 mils or 70 cents for each \$1,000.00 of valuation. One mil raises approximately \$388,000.00. The Town Manager noted the influences in the need to increase the mil rate; that the State has reduced the homestead exemption on primary residences, the County has supplemented their assessment with a 6 month transition budget assessment, and the full impact from the transition to the RSU#18 was not completely passed through last year because of some offsetting one-time revenues. First half tax payments are due by September 30, 2010.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Recycling Coordinator:** Selectperson Neil Farrington noted the amount of recyclables recently marketed and also the revenues generated from recycled cardboard.

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** Mr. Albert W. Althenn asked about the status of a letter he recommended to be sent to the IF&W about Lake Sucker fish. He also referenced records he brought to the town office about the septic system configuration at the China Primary School site.
- **Municipal Appointments:** n a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Select Board voted 4-0 re-appointed necessary town officials, including: Daniel L'Heureux as town manager, tax collector, treasurer, road commissioner, emergency preparedness director, municipal addressing agent, and director and agent for the overseers of the poor; Rebecca Hapgood as own clerk and registrar of voters; Scott Pierz as codes enforcement officer and licensed plumbing inspector; Julie Finley as animal control officer; Robin and Mark Sellinger as civil constables; George Studley, Richard Morse, and George Oliver as chiefs of the China Village, South China, and Weeks Mills volunteer fire department respectively; and Lisa Kane as a member of the Appeals Board and to further extend for thirty days the current committee members respective terms. The Board delayed full term re-appointments of town committees, asking the Town Manager to find out which current members wish to continue to serve and also advertise for new members. The list of committees are on file at the town office.
- **I-95 Weight Limit:** On a motion by Selectperson Peter Foote and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 4-0 to approve sending a letter of support for making the temporary weight limit law permanent and to approve the circulation of a petition soliciting the same from China and near-by town residents. The feedback received from residents has been positive, all noting how their lives have improved since the temporary law took effect.

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In other business Select Person Neil Farrington opened a discussion about street lights on the causeway at the head of the China Lake. The Town Manager noted that each additional light would add \$10.50 per month to the town's CMP billing. Selectperson Farrington reasoned that people fish and walk and use the boat ramp after dark. The Select Board did not take any action.

Further, the Board briefly discussed the MPUC study to further reduce the number of PSAP's from 26 down to 15-17. The Kimball report was referenced.

Because the next regular meeting is scheduled on a holiday, the Board agreed to reschedule to 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 7, 2010.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 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