

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 10/19/2015 – Town Office Meeting Room

6:30 P.M.

Minutes

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 6:30 p.m. Board members present were Irene L. Belanger, Robert MacFarland, Neil Farrington, Amber McAllister, and Joann C. Austin. Others present were Kevin Boostedt, Nivek Boostedt, Mike Boostedt, Dale Worster, Robert Batteese, Tim Theriault, Jess Maurer, Mary Grow and the Town Manager.

Jess Maurer – CEO of Maine Area Agency on Aging to Present and Respond to Questions on the Demographics of the Senior Populations: The meeting began with a presentation by, and discussion with, Jess Maurer, executive director of the Maine Association of Area Agencies on Aging. The Town Manager invited her to help the Select Board with long-range planning. Jess presented a bleak picture of the disparity between needs and resources.

Jess Maurer noted that with the oldest population in the country and the highest per-capita percentage of baby-boomers retiring, Maine's elderly need more help and services at a time when fewer workers are available and financial resources are inadequate. She went on to note that another sensitivity is that people are living longer than the Social Security system was designed for, causing senior citizens to be impoverished. There are three to five year waiting periods in Maine for subsidized elderly housing.

The main goal of the Agencies on Aging is to help older people stay healthy and in their homes as long as possible. Doing so requires providing more services, including home maintenance and to look for programs for the elderly in other Maine towns for ideas that might help China. Selectperson Neil Farrington noted the November election ballot question on bonding for senior housing. It was also agreed that some sort of housing survey needs to be developed to assess the demographics of China.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Robert MacFarland, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 09/21/2015 Select Board meeting as amended.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Robert MacFarland, the Board voted 5-0 to accept China Payroll Warrant #23 for \$20,332.32, and Town Payables Warrant #24 for \$66,143.52 as presented.

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Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Transfer Station Committee – Mission/Deliverables Expected:** The Board has recently appointed people to a Transfer Station Committee and will have periodic updates/summaries from the Committee. Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, at this time however, mentioned a meeting in Bangor of the MRRA and a workshop on growing of flowers on landfills at respective transfer stations. Irene also said that she also would be at the HHW initiative at the Winslow Public Works garage to sign in people participating in the event. She went on to note a meeting of the MRC in Orono at 8:00 a.m. to discuss finances, a large reserve fund status, and budgets proposed for post 2018 operations at PERC.
- **Committee/Organization Reports – Selectperson Belanger: RSU#18, KVCOG, Economic & Community Development, Mid-Maine Chamber and KRDA Updates – Selectperson Belanger:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported the following;

RSU#18: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger noted the RSU#18 Board will be meeting at the James Bean School in Sidney at 7:00 p.m. on October 21, 2015 and the Facilities Committee will be meeting on October 22, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the China Middle School.

EC&D Committee: Selectperson Belanger reported that she will obtain the results of the China Community Days events for the next meeting.

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger commented about the “Business After Hours” session to be held at the New England Music Camp on October 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

K.V.C.O.G.: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported that she will have information about current events with the KVCOG at the next meeting.

KRDA: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported that the KRDA Board will be meeting at 5:00 p.m. on October 22, 2015 at the T-Mobile site.

- **Foreclosed Upon Property – Litchfield Lane:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Robert MacFarland, the Board voted 5-0 to direct the Town Manager to move forward with an eviction notice after consulting with the town’s attorney, Alton Stevens. Select Board members expressed high sensitivity to the taking of property through foreclosure though did not see an alternative in this case.

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New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Tim Theriault – Chief of the China Village Volunteer Fire Department on Long Term Planning Opportunities:** China Village Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tim Theriault said their department needs more space and an updated building. He noted the department has an opportunity to build new. Chief Theriault went on to note that Carl Farris, owner of Lakeview Lumber, has offered land on Lakeview Drive to the department. In addition, a lot adjacent to the Lakeview Lumber property is up for sale at a low price, potentially providing a driveway for the proposed new department land and building.

The Chief emphasized that the plans are very preliminary and that he does not have a firm cost estimate, though basing the estimate on other towns' projects a number of \$500,000 was mentioned. Chief Theriault wants town support for the project. On a motion by Selectperson Amber McAllister and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to support and express interest in pursuing the concept in terms of economic development and the development of a comprehensive fire department and Rescue building and further to direct the Town Manager to speak with Mr. Farris about affirming his interest in donating land, the possibility of his interest in purchasing the adjacent building and land to hold the property as the plan develops and to make a contact with the entity selling the adjacent property to see if it remains on the market and at what price it could be purchased at this time.

Selectperson Neil Farrington commented that he thought the concept of a new department building should be discussed in terms of a comprehensive plan in the emergency services groups. Selectperson Robert MacFarland said the 2016 Annual Town Business Meeting would be a good place to ask for support. Selectperson Joann C. Austin commented that a conversation about emergency services would cause energy to flow appropriately about emergency services needs over the long term.

- **Policies and Procedures:** The Board will continually review policies and procedures with the intent of updating any and all that need attention.

Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees – Meetings and Updates: Thurston Park II TBD 2nd Tuesday of the Month, 7:00 P.M., Town Office Meeting Room, China Historical Society Committee TBD, China Library Feasibility Committee, Fourth Tuesday of the Month in 2015, at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room, Economic and Community Development Committee, First and Third Thursday of the Month, Time 6:30 P.M., Announced.** The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.

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- **Free E-Waste Day and HHW Disposal Event Summaries:** Ross Nason of the KVCOG said that he did not have all expenses calculated and would probably have a summary for late October or early November.
- **November Election Timeline, Open Positions and November Ballot Items:** The Town Manager noted that all information about the election could be found on the Town's Web site.
- **TIF Information/Conversations:** The Board agreed to have this item on the agenda for continued conversation and clarification.
- **Police Position Update – Initial Recommendation and Funding:** The Police Services Committee reported that the planning for town police services is leaning toward what is called a problem oriented community policing effort, hiring a part time officer who would be visible and proactive, leaving speeders and higher level criminals to the State Police and KSO personnel.
- **Western Ridge Road Wash-Out:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Robert MacFarland, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize the Town Manager to take necessary action to repair the washed-out areas on the Western Ridge Road and to use contingency funds to cover the costs.

In other business:

Selectpersons Robert MacFarland and Irene L. Belanger discussed plans for a Halloween haunted house and trunk-or-treat event at the town office complex on October 31, 2015.

Resident Robert Batteese commented about the Free For Taking area at the China transfer station, commenting that he disapproves of people from out of town taking items.

It was noted that the town now participates in a PaintCare program; paint, and related items, are now received at the China transfer station for disposal.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Frank Soares to the China Transfer Station Committee.

On a motion by Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber McAllister, Secretary
China Select Board

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Assessor's Meeting
Monday
10/19/2015
8:43 P.M.

Agenda

- **Abatement and Supplemental Tax Assessment:**

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Amber McAllister, the Board voted 5-0 to process an abatement application and a Supplemental Tax Assessment as presented.

- **Adjourn:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amber McAllister".

Amber McAllister, Secretary
China Select Board/Board of Assessors