

TOWN OF CHINA

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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 11/18/2013 – 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, Amber McAllister, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Ronald Breton, Tim Theriault, Ron Morrell, Kathy Brownell, Janet Preston, Dale Worster, Bob Batteese, Dolly Batteese, Sarah Batteese, Dick Morse, Bill Bickford, Sheri Wilkens, Al Althenn, H. David Cotta, Carrol White, Scott Fletcher, Charles H. Plumer, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Tim Theriault.

Election of Board Officers for the Ensuing Year: Select Board Chairperson and Select

Board Secretary: On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 3-0-2 (McAllister, Foote) to elect Pete Foote to the position of Chairperson of the Select Board for the ensuing year.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0-2 (McAllister, Austin) to the position of Secretary of the Select Board for the ensuing year.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 4-0-1 (McAllister) to accept the minutes of the 11/04/2012 Select Board meeting as presented

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0-1 (McAllister) to accept Payroll Warrant #28 for \$26,326.92 and Payables Warrant #29 for \$410,763.85 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment: Mr. Carrol White – CLAFC:** Mr. White asked the Board about what appeared to him to be a public endorsement of a yes vote on the lake access question on the November ballot. He went on to ask if public funds were expended for items that supported the CLAFC activities. Select board members and the Town Manager replied that voters, on several occasions, asked town officials to provide lake access; in two voter approved consecutive comprehensive plans, in town meeting votes accepting funds for and appropriating funds for lake

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access, and in votes authorizing the Select Board to appoint a site selection committee and to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with a prospective seller. They went on to add that they believed all CLAF C actions were legitimate and that the CLAF C was doing what the SB asked them to do. Updates by the CLAF C were provided to the SB periodically.

The SB agreed to provide a reconciliation of the expenditures authorized by them in the lake access initiative. The Town Manager and Select Board Chairperson Peter Foote pointed out that town office staff do administrative work for any town committee formed and that the town's administrative budget included provisions for administrative support and supplies. Chairperson Foote went on to point out to Mr. White that the Implementation Committee, on which Mr. White has served, spent approximately \$11,000 of taxpayer funds.

Mr. Scott Fletcher asked how the CLAF C decided about the dissemination of materials through the school system. The SB responded that they would provide a response to the inquiry within several days.

Selectperson Joann C. Austin commented that she felt highly thankful for the work of the CLAF C and that of a town's project. Selectperson Irene L. Belanger said she felt strongly that all residents deserve to have lake access and that a majority of residents cannot have access under the current conditions.

- **Recycling Coordinator:**

- **Recycling Report -**

- **Update on Commodities Market (Recycling Items) and Other Items:**

- Select Board member and Recycling Coordinator Paul MacDonald provided information about current recycling commodity market pricing and information about the inventory of recyclable currently at the transfer station. Prices for cardboard and steel cans have risen recently. Paul noted the significant revenue the town recently received from a load of cardboard being sold at the commodities market. He went on to note that there were equivalent savings in expenses resulting from not having to process the cardboard at PERC.

- Selectperson MacDonald continued with his report noting some proposed legislation that would impact solid waste processing in the future. He also said the brush and wood pile were being processed within the next several days.

- Paul also noted that the Town of Vassalboro would not be using the transfer station in China for the processing of certain recyclables after the end of the current calendar year. The containers owned by China that the Town of Vassalboro is using will be returned by

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the end of the year.

- **RSU#18 and KVCOG updates – Selectperson Irene L. Belanger:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger continued to provide detailed summaries of the events relating to KCOG and RSU #18 and also added some information about the Economic and Community Development Committee.

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **City of Waterville Contract for Dispatch Services:** The dispatching contract between the City of Waterville and the Town of China for dispatching services for emergency services entities ends on December 31, 2013 and both entities are deciding whether or not to have fire and rescue services dispatched through Waterville. The alternate is to have the Central Maine Regional Communications Center in Augusta handle all the town's emergency services. The CMRCC already dispatches law enforcement personnel in the area.

Selectperson Paul MacDonald said consolidation of the services would save China about \$18,000 a year in fees because China would eliminate Somerset County answering calls and Waterville dispatching emergency services.

CVVFD Chief Tim Theriault and SCVFD Chief Richard Morse expressed that the town receives superior services from Somerset County and Waterville and encouraged the Select Board to stay with the current service provision configuration.

Waterville Police Chief and Sergeant Jennifer Weaver said Waterville dispatchers are accustomed to working with the city's fire and Rescue departments and therefore are more aware of China's needs than CMRCC dispatchers are.

The Board asked the Town Manager to have Mr. Wells from the DPS/CMRCC attend the next SB meeting to discuss service offerings, to include costs, from the CMRCC.

- **Appointment – China Planning Board:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Kyle Pierce to another term on the Planning Board Seat in district 3.
- **Brad Jackson from (KRDA) First Park:** The Chief Executive Officer of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority visited China and provided the Board and those in attendance with an update on how the KRDA serves member towns. Mr. Jackson described what he felt is the best approach to attract development in the Park and in the region.
- **Waiver of Foreclosure:** The Town Manager noted that a waiver of foreclosure decision will need to be considered at the next SB meeting regarding the lien/foreclosure process maturing on the Branch Pond Flour and Grain property. The relevant issue is that, unless

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the lien is released on the property, an automatic foreclosure will be realized and the town will assume ownership of the property. Owning that particular property could be very costly to the town. The Branch Pond Association, Inc. has been communicating with town officials about the desire to take possession of the property if the town should allow the foreclosure process to mature.

Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees:** he Thurston Park II TBD, China Historical Society Committee TBD, China Library Feasibility Committee, the Fourth Wednesday of Each Month at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room; and the Economic and Community Development Committee, Third Thursday of the Month, Time 6:30 P.M., Location TBD in the Town Office Meeting Room: The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.
- **Junk Yard Renewal License – Russell Coston:** The Town Manager noted that the application will need to be processed at one of the next two SB meetings and that the CEO will be taking a site visit to confirm compliance with the existing conditions placed on Mr. Coston's current license. A report will be made at the meeting the Select Board decides to process the application.

In other business:

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0-1 (McAllister) to accept and sign an administrative consent agreement regarding Janice Martin-Cook with conditions/amendments. The conditions/amendments include that the agreement be filed with the Kennebec County Registry of Deeds and that language concerning the recently enacted MUBEC be referenced. The agreement was necessary because Martin-Cook had installed a concrete slab for a new building without a local permit and without the obligatory inspection required by the new MUBEC. A copy of the agreement will be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board