

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



Telephone 207-445-2014
Fax 207-445-3208
E-mail chiname@fairpoint.net
www.china.govoffice.com

Prior to the regularly scheduled meeting Kevin Gower spoke to the SB about an idea he had about the use of the Causeway Road lake access as a launching site for paragliding. He explained his enterprising idea and asked the SB for feedback. He ultimately wants to know if the town would be a partner in the venture. Selectperson Ronald Breton spoke about permitting and others noted the potential high cost of liability insurance. The Board did not provide any direction at this time. Mr. Gower gave the SB members a brochure about his proposed initiative.

Select Board Meeting

Monday – 03/07/2016 – Town Office Meeting Room
7:00 P.M.

Minutes

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Irene L. Belanger, Robert MacFarland, Neil Farrington, Ronald Breton, and Joann C. Austin. Others present were Kevin Gower, Scott A. Pierz, Jennifer Irving, Tracey Frost, Rick Stubbart, Tom Michaud, Marie Michaud, Jim Hart, Linda (Lynne) O'Connor, George Weber, Nate Gray, Frank Richards, Tom Whitaker, Landis Hudson, Adam L. Sirois, Krista, Hilton, Justin Hilton, Mary Grow and the Town Manager. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 02/22/2016 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept China Payroll Warrant #43 for \$21,136.81, and Town Payables Warrant #44 for \$407,296.30 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinators' Conversation – Transfer Station Committee Items:** Selectperson Joann C. Austin said she would like to see the fees charged at the China transfer station increased to \$.10 cents per pound. She reasoned that a surrounding town charges that amount and another town has engaged in a PPT program and therefore China should not be incenting the use of the China transfer station by having lower fees.
- **Committee/Organization Reports – Board Preference:** There was not enough time to report on these items; the reports will be given at the next meeting.
RSU#18: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger noted the RSU#18 Board will be deliberating on the budget going forward. She passed out some information on the budget to date and commented that the current budget may be a good one for China.
- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinators' Conversation:** At this point the Board heard from Lynne O'Connor about her disappointment that the PPT Program trial run was not carried out. She also commented that she felt the Board should have provided more notice regarding the meeting at

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which the Board postponed the PPT Program implementation. Board members responded to Lynne and informed her that the PPT initiative may be considered again in late 2016 or in early 2017. They noted that the Transfer Station Committee is working on recommendations for the Board to consider moving on to voters in late 2016 or early 2017.

- **ARI Initiative:** Webber Pond Association President, Frank Richards, China Lake Association President Scott A. Pierz, Nate Gray of the State of Maine Division of Marine Resources, and other members of the Alewives Restoration Initiative (ARI) spoke to the China Select Board hoping to explain why ARI wants to provide Alewife passage into China Lake. Frank Richards and Nate Gray both provided PowerPoint presentations on the topic. Currently the State of Maine is stocking China Lake with Alewives by truck annually. To gain free passage requires removing dams or building fish-ways around dams on the Outlet Stream. There are currently six dams on the Outlet Stream.

The China Region Lakes Alliance (CRLA) has purchased the rights to remove the Masse Dam in East Vassalboro. Owners of all but one of the other owners of the dams, it is asserted, have agreed to removal or fish-ways. Members of the ARI estimated that it would cost between two to three million dollars to open the stream to clear passage for Alewives. ARI, through the combined efforts of the CRLA, CLA, Sebasticook Land Trust, Maine Rivers, and others, has raised about \$450,000 from donations, grants, and other sources.

Maine Rivers Director, Landis Hudson called the ARI a really big deal, a major restoration project because of the size of China Lake. The restoration initiative also compliments the talk for many years about the value of water clarity and property valuation increases. Landis also noted that Alewives provide food for eagles and ospreys. Mr. Gray said that in pre-dam days, up to 50 million alewives would migrate back and forth between Maine lakes and the ocean. Damming rivers nearly eliminated his migration. He went on to say that recent efforts have the number back up to around two million throughout the state.

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald Breton and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to provide a Resolution of Support for the ARI by China. There was brief discussion at this time about financial support items for the ARI, to be contributed by the town.

- **Quit-Claim Deed 255 Lakeview Drive:** On a motion by Selectperson Ronald Breton and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign the Quit Claim Deed as presented relating to the property at Map 27, Lot 40-A, 255 Lakeview Drive, a copy of the transaction to be on file at the town office.

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Policies and Procedures:** The Board will continually review policies and procedures with the intent of updating any and all that need attention. T. Station needs review...
- **Police Search – Meeting of Officers for Police Position in China – Appointments:** On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint the following officers to the position of Police Officer in the Town of

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China: Chief Michael Tracy, Captain Rick Stubbert, Detective Sgt. Tracey Frost, and Detective Adam Sirois. The Board thanked the officers for responding to China's needs in law enforcement. There will be a subsequent conversation about the range of responsibilities the Board wants to be delegated to the officers. The officers will serve on a rotating schedule. Selectperson Neil Farrington invited all of them to the China Annual Town Business Meeting on March 26.

Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees – Meetings/Updates: Thurston Park II, Economic and Community Development Committee, Transfer Station Committee, Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Town Office, and TIF Committee, Monday, March 14, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the town office meeting room.** The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.
- **TIF Information/Conversations:** The Board agreed to have this item on the agenda for continued conversation and clarification.
- **WasteZero – Sarah Bernier and Contract Considerations from the Last SB Meeting:** The Board is expected to provide a response to WasteZero regarding the extension of the current contract between China and WasteZero to provide informational sessions for the residents of China relating to a proposed PPT program. The PPT program has been postponed to later in 2016 or early 2017.
- **Palermo and MSW Collaboration:** It was noted that Palermo representatives have been in discussions with China officials about the possibility of Palermo residents use of the China transfer station. Palermo's contract with Tri-County Waste is expiring in 2016 and Palermo officials are reviewing alternatives for waste and recyclables processing. Representatives from China may attend the Palermo Town Meeting, at which the topic will be discussed. There will be continuing conversations going forward about this topic. China has an Article on the Annual Town Business Meeting Warrant asking for voter approval of negotiations with Palermo for the use of the China facilities.
- **Chris Huck and MDOT Route #3 Master Plan on 03212016 and China Demographics with the TIF Committee on 03142016:** These items were announced as public information and will be advertised in the Town Line. Landowners abutting Route #3 will also be notified by USPS of the Master Plan meeting.
- **Next Meeting, 03212016 – Bill McKenna of Delta Ambulance:** The Town Manager noted that Mr. McKenna will address the SB at the next meeting.

It was noted that the Town Reports are now available at the town office and other public sites. The Town Report includes the Warrant for the Annual Town Business Meeting.

The Board signed appointment papers for Mark Davis, appointing him to the China Transfer Station Committee.

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In other business, Assessors' Business:

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of and sign a Certificate of Abatement and Supplemental Tax Certificate and Warrant as presented. Copies of the transactions will be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Irene L. Belanger, Secretary
China Select Board
China Board of Assessors