

# TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive  
China, ME 04358



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## Select Board Meeting

Monday – 05/02/2016 – 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 Robert MacFarland, Neil Farrington, and Ronald R. Breton. Joann C. Austin and Irene L. Belanger have excused absences. Others present were Vaughn Stevens, H. David Cotta, Tony Tuttle, Tim Basham, Tom Rumpf, Cody Clark, Todd and Tina Nelson, Stephen and Sonia Nelson, Mary Grow and the Town Manager. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-0 to accept the minutes of the 04/04/2016 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 3-0 to accept China Payroll Warrant #51 for \$20,676.56, and Town Payables Warrant #52 for \$54,300.32 as presented.

## Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinators' Conversation – Transfer Station Committee Items:** On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 3-0 to increase the fees at the transfer station as follows:
  - From .02 cents per pound to .04 cents per pound for commercially hauled MSW;
  - From .04 cents per pound to .06 cents per pound for demolition and debris;
  - From .06 cents per pound to .08 cents per pound for “out-of-town” debris and MSW and other waste that is weighed.

Selectperson Robert MacFarland proposed for Board consideration two additional changes to the operations at the China transfer Station. He wants to move the “free-for-taking” area from a position near the hopper to a site located near the compost pile, adding that it should be emptied every two days the transfer station is open. He also wanted to discontinue the glass recycling process the employees follow at this time. Currently the glass is brought to the transfer station by residents and placed on a conveyor belt that supplies a glass crusher. The crushed glass is deposited in a portable can and used as inert fill on town property. Selectperson MacFarland proposed the discontinuance of the use of the glass crusher and do the crushing by the town’s bucket loader, continuing to use the crushed glass as inert fill.

- **Committee/Organization Reports – Board Preference - Selectperson Belanger: RSU#18, KVCOG, Economic & Community Development, Mid-Maine Chamber and KRDA Updates – Selectperson Belanger:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger was absent and asked the Town Manager to report the following:

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**Drug Take-Back Initiative Summary:** It was noted that the initiative was a great success bringing I over three large boxes, lined with bags, of drugs and medications from the general public. The Kennebec County Sheriff's Department sponsored the day's event. Selectperson Irene L. Belanger represented the town as a Select Board member and town resident volunteer.

There were not any other reports at this time.

- **Enforcement – Redemption Agreement – Litchfield Lane Property:** Mr. Litchfield was notified about the need to attend this SB meeting to explain why he has not complied with the conditions attached to the redemption of the property he formerly owned. A storage trailer was to be removed from his property before a quit-claim deed is to be issued in the redemption process. Mr. Litchfield was given an initial extension of time for the removal of the trailer and is currently in violation of that condition of removal and expected to attend this meeting and explain the reason for not fulfilling the condition of redemption.

After discussion, it was decided to have the town's police officer deliver a letter to Mr. Litchfield demanding that he appear at the next SB meeting to either declare the trailer has been moved or to explain why it has not been possible to remove the trailer. Selectperson Ronald R. Breton expressed that Mr. Litchfield is abusing the conditions of redemption and disrespecting the SB.

## **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...
- **Tim Basham – Forestry Vocation and China:** Mr. Basham informed the Board, from his perspective, about the history in China of some of the initiatives relating to forestry. He noted a Forest Management Study produced for the town by Vite Vitale and touched on the beginnings of the Thurston Park Committee and the divergent opinions about selective harvesting in the Park. He recommended a selective cutting on the east side of Thurston Park, a proposal, he said, that was opposed by members of the TP Committee. Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and Selectperson Robert MacFarland indicated that they support forest management and that they would like to see a specific plan from him regarding a proposed limited harvesting of trees in the Park.

Mr. Basham referenced historical meetings on the topic of forest management and asserted that SAPPPI was denied freedom of speech at one meeting. He indicated that Mr. H. David Cotta witnessed the meeting at which he asserted it took place, to which Mr. Cotta said he was at that meeting and affirmed that assertion.

Selectperson Neil Farrington noted that the TP Committee and two SB members were not present at the SB meeting and that he would like to see more of a procedural respect for any action taken, e.g. notification to the TP Committee and to wait for Selectpersons Belanger and Austin to be present.

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- **Enforcement Action:** There was not any additional action on enforcement at this time.
- **Town of Palermo – Collaboration on Use of the China Transfer Station:** Selectperson Neil Farrington reported on the recently held Public Hearing in Palermo relating to an article to be on the upcoming election ballot in Palermo asking their voters whether or not they would like to use the China Transfer Station after their contract expires with Tri-County Solid Waste. Neil reported that the hearing produced favorable comments about the use of China's transfer station and that he suggested the use of two different size bag offerings, and not one size as is currently being proposed. The election in Palermo will be held in late June and China will be informed about the voting results soon after the polls close.
- **Bid Openings – Materials, Equipment, Sand, Plowing, Paving, etc.:** The Town Manager reported that the town sent out the bids to a long list of contractors and that the bids were advertised in The Town Line. The town received six bids for paving, one bid for sand, one bid for snow plowing, and not any bids for materials, equipment and labor for road work.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington, and a second by Selectperson Ronald Breton, the Board voted 2-1 (MacFarland) to accept the bid of Hagar Enterprises, Inc. at \$11.95 per yard delivered and mixing with salt provided by the town; \$7.50 per yard loaded on the town's truck with Hagar Enterprises mixing the sand with salt provided by the town; and \$7.00 per yard for "stumpage" (loaded by the town onto town trucks with Hagar Enterprises mixing the sand with salt provided by the town. The sand is to be taken from the L A Aggregates gravel pit on the Doyle Road in Windsor.

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-0 to award the negotiated plowing contracting bid to Todd Nelson of Palermo as follows: a three year bid for plowing and sanding, with liquid calcium applications when demanded at \$108/hour with a guaranteed minimum of \$32,000 per winter plowing season not to include supplying plowing blade edges by the town of China.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 3-0 to accept the low bid for paving by State Paving, either in conjunction with Vassalboro or individually by town. The Town Manager noted that China officers collaborated with Vassalboro officials to combine tons of asphalt in their bids collectively as an option while asking for individual independent town bids. The result was a savings of \$3.50 per ton when combined.

## **Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):**

- **Public Comment:** There was discussion about the intent of the Annual Town Business Warrant Article #5 relating to the appropriation of funds associated with TIF revenues. On a motion by Selectperson Robert MacFarland and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 3-0 to note that the intention of voters at the ATBM on Article #5 was to appropriate funds from TIF revenues in the upcoming year only. The Town Manager noted that the TIF Committee

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Chairperson Amber McAllister addressed the ATBM attendees with an explanation of the Committee's work sessions and of the intended uses of the funds appropriated.

- **Committees – Meetings/Updates: Thurston Park II, Economic and Community Development Committee, Transfer Station Committee, Thursday, May 10, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Town Office, and TIF Committee, Monday, May 9, 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.
- **Next Meeting Announcements:** The following information was announced about upcoming meetings.
  - June 13, 2016 Patricia Oh and Demographics of China (Seniors Focus) Proposal
  - Transfer Station Committee Update
  - TIF Committee Update
  - Sign Ordinance Proposal for Change – Update on PB Review

In other business:

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-0 to accept the recommended office hours for the Registrar and Town Clerk as presented for the May 24, 2016 and June 14, 2016 ballots.

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-0 to approve of and sign the Red Light applications for the CVVFD as presented. Copies of the applications will be on file at the China town office.

The Town Manager announced that public hearings on the 2016-2017 Kennebec County Budget are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, 2016 in the Waterville City Council Chambers and at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 in the Hill House in Augusta.

Selectperson Robert MacFarland reported that he discussed with Mr. Frank Soares, president of the China Four Seasons Club, the possibility of the club's beach on the east side of China Lake being open to China residents who are not club members, for a fee. The other Board members present expressed that the now-inactive Lake Access Committee should be asked if they wish to join future discussions on this topic.

On a motion by Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Irene L. Belanger, Secretary  
China Select Board

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