

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



Telephone 207-445-2014
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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 07/25/2016 – 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 R. Breton, and Joann C. Austin. Others present were , 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 Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign the minutes of the 07/11/2016 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to accept China Payroll Warrant #4 for \$21,684.64, CBI and YCC Payroll Warrant #5 for \$5,235.33, Police and PB Payroll Warrant #6 for \$1,128.55, and Town Payables Warrant #7 for \$243,554.25 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** The Board spent a good deal of time with David Allen of the Maine Department of Transportation. Two groups of residents spoke about perceived dangerous areas in China; one at the intersection of the Alder Park Road and Dirigo Road with Route #3 in the southern part of China and one at the intersection of Maine Street and the Neck Road with the Causeway Road in China Village. Mr. Allen was invited to be at the meeting and came prepared with a State report indicating there were only four accidents from 2013-2015 at the Route #3 intersection. He said that that number was not enough to justify major expenditures. He went on to note the number of accidents at that intersection have declined since changes were made a few years ago.

Sight distance, speed of traffic, and speed limits were of great concern to residents. Mr. Allen agreed that the speed of traffic was excessive and said that the town's request for more conspicuous warning lights or beacons at the intersection would go into the MDOT's pool of projects for consideration. It might take a couple of years to get to the project request. Mr. Allen agreed that signs could be added to the stop signs on the Dirigo and Alder Park Roads saying that Route #3 traffic does not stop. That signage might be installed this year.

Speed and running stop signs were topics for China Village residents. Mr. Allen addressed their issues by saying the area has had too few accidents to justify major State expenditures. The MDOT reports that there was only one accident over a three year time period. He and residents and town officials discussed traffic calming measures such as speed bumps of speed tables and Mr. Allen noted that he would send the Town manager a copy of the MDOT' traffic calming policy. The town will be reviewing options on speed bumps/tables for cost and installation

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processes. The Town Manager noted that numerous law enforcement agencies have been notified about speeding traffic all over town, and particularly at the two intersections noted this evening. On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to request that the MDOT upgrade the flashing beacon warning at the intersection of the Alder Park Road, Dirigo Road and Route #3.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to request that the MDOT add the words "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" to the signs on the Dirigo Road and Alder Park Road at the intersection with Route #3.

There was additional discussion about potentially creating a walk-way off Route #3 near the FairPoint and Hannaford buildings. Mr. Allen said it was possible to place a "walk behind" fence off the Route #3 road shoulder to protect and guide pedestrians.

- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinators' Conversation – Transfer Station Committee Items:** Please see the specific item below referencing the FFT Building.
- **Committee/Organization Reports – Select Board Discretion: - Selectperson Belanger: RSU#18, KVCOG, Economic & Community Development, Mid-Maine Chamber and KRDA Updates – Selectperson Belanger:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported the following:
- **Free For Taking Building – Swap Shop – Transfer Station Committee Recommendation:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger to approve of the TSC recommendation to move the FFT site and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 2-3 (Breton, Farrington, and MacFarland) not to proceed with the TSC recommendation. The Select Board had before them a comprehensive recommendation by the Transfer Station Committee to move the Free-For-Taking or Swap Shop slightly further to the left of the hopper area and onto the grass area, allowing for more delineated space to pull away from the hopper. It was recommended that a new foundation and paving be included for site work and also a new building to be erected. The estimated cost was to approximate \$10,000, including wages for town transfer station employees, who would build the new building.

The new site and building have been promoted by Selectpersons Belanger and Austin for some time, both noting that the offering promotes reduction, reuse, and the recycling of many items that would otherwise be disposed of in the hopper and transported to PERC for processing. Selectperson Robert MacFarland noted that he could not and would not support this project because funds were not approved or appropriated. Selectperson Ronald Breton voted no because there was not anyone who could inform him where the funds would come from to accommodate the initiative. Selectperson was opposed to using the contingency line as the town is only a few weeks into the current budget and did not see the project falling into a category that would justify using contingency funding. He went on to say that it is nice thing to have but that we cannot afford it.

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The Board did discuss the source of funds that might be used for the relocation of the FFT site and did not resolve the funding issue.

Selectperson Neil Farrington suggested using the area now used for electronics for the FFT area.

- **ADA Ramp Bids – Deliberate and Award of Work:** Board members had two bids returned on the replacement of the handicapped access ramps at the portable classroom and the old town hall/historical society building. The lower bid of \$17,987 was from L. N. Violette Company of Fairfield, Maine. There was discussion about how to finance the replacement of both ramps. There was discussion about funding one of them from the Board's contingency fund. On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-0-1 (Austin) to authorize the Town Manager to ask if the company would accept replacing of one ramp for an amount up to half of the bid and to further direct the Town manager to proceed with the replacement if the contractor accepted the amendment to his bid with funds appropriated from the contingency line to fulfill the agreement.

There was discussion about additional work to be done before the ramp at the Old Town Hall would be replaced, namely the stucco on the face of the building and potential entry door rehabilitation.

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. For example, the Transfer Station Committee is reviewing ordinances and will soon turn them over to the Board for final review and to be put on a ballot.
- **William Van Tuinen, China Assessors' Agent – Personal Property:** Assessors' Agent William Van Tuinen spoke with the Board about three main topics: one being the effect of the change in the law increasing the homestead exemption on 2016 taxes; the next being state laws governing abatement requests and determinations; and the third being his plans for improved collection of personal property taxes. After the Town Manager asked for the Board to consider a motion in support of the improved personal property tax collection process, the Chair commented that a motion is not needed for the Agent to do his job and the Board therefore supported the stepped up process by consensus.
- **Appointments – Recreation Committee/Thurston Park II/Other:** On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Amy Gartley to the China Tax Increment Financing Committee. On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Kristina To to the Thurston Park II Committee. The decision to fill the remaining Recreation Committee position was postponed to the next meeting as there were two candidates for the final position and further information was needed before making a final decision.
- **MMA LPC – Kelly Couture and Donald Borman:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger noted that Kelly Couture and Donald Borman were in the audience and introduced them to the Board and

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others in attendance. Kelly and Donald spoke to the Board informing the Board of the reasons why they were at the meeting and asking for their respective votes to be elected to the MMA Legislative Policy Committee. The Board concluded that each member would send off a ballot vote to the MMA for the candidate they felt best would represent the town. The votes are due at the MMA on or before August 5, 2016.

- **Pawnbroker License Application – Wildwood Pawn Inc.:** On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Joann C., Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of a Pawn Broker License for Craig Taylor to open Wildwood Pawn Inc. Reporting of the activities will be to the China Police Department personnel, now staffed by officers of the Oakland Police Department.

- **Ballot Items – November 2016:**

Capital Reserve Palermo Capital Contribution, Ortega Land Behind the Town Office, Susan Bailey Land at the Causeway Road:

PB Recommendations – Sign Ordinance, Seasonal Dwellings, Shore Land Zoning Possibly Causeway Initiative Items:

On a motion by Selectperson and a second by Selectperson , the Board voted 3-0-1 (Austin) to recommend to voters in November that Palermo's town capital contribution to the China transfer station's operation and capital budget go into a transfer station reserve account in the Fund Balance, to be earmarked for transfer station capital repairs and equipment purchases.

Other possible items to be placed on the November 2016 ballot were noted.

Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time. At this time Mr. Dillenbeck commented about a recent abatement request he made and suggested the town adopt a policy to have a property owner notified about a new valuation placed on a property when that valuation is changed.
- **Committees – Meetings/Updates: Thurston Park II, Economic and Community Development Committee TBD, Transfer Station Committee, Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Town Office, TIF Committee, Monday, August 15, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the town office, and the Emergency Preparedness Committee, Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 10:15 A.M. in the town office.** 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 of information.
- **Timeline for November 8, 2016 Ballot:** The Board was reminded of the time-line leading up to the November Ballot, having been sent a summary of the respective and obligatory events needed to take place in order to have an item or name placed on the ballot.
- **MDOT Culvert Replacement Notice – Route #3 in 2019:** The Board decided to discuss this item at a later date.

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In other business:

Selectperson Neil Farrington, who is organizing China's 2018 bicentennial celebration initiative, the celebration of the incorporation of the town, said Dr. David Thurlow has donated to the town the copyright for the bicentennial history published during the 1975 commemoration of the first settlements around what is now called China Lake. On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 4-0 to direct the Town Manager to send off a note of appreciation to Dr. Thurlow for his kindness. On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 4-0 to authorize Selectperson Neil Farrington to sign the letter on behalf of the Boar and the Town.

It was noted that the town has acquired the portable behind the CPS from RSU#18 for \$1. The Board had approved of the acquisition at an earlier meeting. The Board has not since decided ultimately where to use it and therefore have not sought cost estimates for a foundation, well, or other related expenditures. The funds to move the portable are to come from the contingency line item.

On a motion by Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 4-0 to adjourn at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Irene L. Belanger, Secretary
China Select Board

Attendance Sheet – 07/25/2016 (Pub Hearing and Select Board Meeting)

| Name | Address | e-Mail (legibly) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 Kelly COUTURE | 3350 Middle Rd Sidney, ME 04336 | Kellycature@outlook.com |
| 2 Stephanie FORTA | 7 Sears Dr. China | stefort@me.com |
| 3 Cris Mayo | 7 Sears Dr Ext S. China | |
| 4 PETER CALDWELL | 3 PEKING ST. CHINA VILLAGE | Yod Hobe 17 |
| 5 Amy Gartley | 27 Hobbit Lane So. China, ME | Amy.gartley91@gmail.com |
| 6 Deborah Hughes | 31 Sears Dr. | Deborah.Hughes@rocketmail.com |
| 7 Kristina TO | 1220 Lakeview Dr. | Krissylynn1330@yahoo.com |
| 8 RYAN PELLERIN | 54 MAIN ST | |
| 9 Jen Pellerin | 54 main st | Jenmpell@gmail.com |
| 10 Addisyn Pellerin | 54 main st | |
| 11 Connor Pellerin | 54 Main Street | |
| 12 Justin Gaudet, | 17 Peking St | jgaudet5@gmail.com |
| 13 Richard Dillenbeck | 103 Kildea Pt Rd S. China | rvdillenbeck@krology.net |
| 14 Craig Taylor | 2 small rd China | wildwood@fairpoint.net |
| 15 | | |