

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



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08/13/2012 Hearing Pursuant to 17 M.R.S.A. 2851-2859 on Potential Condemnation (dangerous buildings or nuisances) (FR #60)
6:00 P.M.

To determine whether the residential mobile home occupied by Judith Farris, and two accessory buildings (i.e. the so-called guest cottage and a detached accessory garage) owned by Judith Farris and Stephen R. Thibodeau, located at 3 60th Fire Road in China, Maine are dangerous or a nuisance within the meaning of 17 M.R.S.A. A. 2851:

Consideration of appropriate corrective action...The Hearing was opened by the Chair of the Select Board at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Peter Foote, Steven Hughes, Joann C. Austin, Irene L. Belanger, and Paul MacDonald. Others present were Scott A. Pierz, Judy Farris, Larry Racliff, Robert Williams, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager.

The Board received information from the China Codes Enforcement Officer about three unsafe buildings on property owned by Judith Farris. Mrs. Farris and Larry Racliff, Mrs. Farris' son-in-law spoke about their circumstances living in one or more of the buildings.

The Select Board accepted the recommendation of the CEO and China Health Nurse that the buildings be found unsuitable for occupancy. The Board postponed further action to their August 27, 2012 meeting to give the occupants time to look for alternative living arrangements.

The hearing was closed at 6:55 p.m.

Select Board Meeting
Monday – 08/13/2012 – Town Office Meeting Room
7:00 P.M.

Minutes

On a motion by Selectperson Steven Hughes and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0-1(Austin) to direct the administration to proceed with action relating to dangerous properties and according to Maine Statutes in regard to the three buildings discussed in the previous hearing.

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 7:00 pm. Board members present were Paul MacDonald, Peter Foote, Joann C. Austin, Steven Hughes, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Waterville Police Chief Joe Massey, Waterville Police Sergeant Jennifer Weaver, Somerset Regional Communications Director Michael Smith, George Oliver, George Studley, Margaret

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- **Dirt Diggers, Inc. – Meet with Plowing Contractor:** Leon and Tammy Rancourt, principals in Dirt Diggers of Winterport met with the Select Board. Dirt Diggers is the company that was awarded three plowing contracts in China. Leon and Tammy were invited to meet with the Select Board as they are new to China and are from Winterport.

Leon intends to keep plow trucks and a service vehicle in China at the transfer station or town garage area. He also intends to hire one or two local drivers. Leon's wife Tammy noted that given the unpredictability of winter weather and the distance between Winterport and China, they would arrange for someone local to tell them when to call out their crews.

- **2012-2013 Tax Commitment – RSU #18 Budget Voting Timeline** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 3-2 (MacDonald, Foote) to accept the 2012-2013 tax commitment papers as presented and to set the mil rate at 12.3. The Board reluctantly set the mil rate at this time because there was not any definite education budget passed and the first tax due date was rapidly approaching. The next education budget vote may be scheduled in late September. It was clearly noted and intended that any funds appropriated over than the amount passed and needed in the education budget was to remain as China's funds and it was to be so indicated on the commitment papers and in these minutes.

The Town Manager said that tax bills should go out within a week. By town meeting vote, the first half payment is due at the town office by the close of business Friday, September 28, 2012.

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Lake Access Committee Presentation/Update:** It was noted that the Committee will attend the next SB meeting and provide an update on their efforts.
- **Appointments – Public Information Officer and Building Inspector(s):** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint the Town Manager, Daniel L'Heureux, to the positions of Public Information Officer and Building Inspector.

Manager's Report: (Non-Action Items)

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Transfer Station Committee Presentation/Update – at the Next SB Meeting:** The Transfer Station Committee would like to make a presentation to the SB at one of their next two meetings.

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Herard, David Herard, Bob Batteese, Justin Cerbarano, Dick Morse, Leon and Tammy Rancourt, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Paul MacDonald.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Steven Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 07/16/2012 Select Board meeting as presented

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to accept Payroll Warrant #10 for \$19,899.15, CRLA/CBI Payroll Warrant #11 for \$3,870.69 and Payable Warrant #12 for \$562,544.56 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Plowing Bids 2012-2014:** The Town Manager noted that plowing contracts will have to be developed and presented to the Board and Dirt Diggers for signing at a later time.
- **Recycling Coordinator:**

Recycling Report -

Update on Commodities Market (Recycling Items) and Other

Items...Update on Transfer Station Committee Work: Selectperson Paul Macdonald, who is also China's recycling coordinator, announced a September 28, 2012 deadline for homeowners to register for free pesticide disposal in Augusta. He noted that additional information is available at the town office about the Board of Pesticide Control program.

Paul went on to provide the Board with a summary of recyclables ready to be sent to the commodities market for sale, He noted the market pricing for recyclables continues to decline.

- **Emergency Services PSAP and Dispatch – City of Waterville Communications and Somerset Communications:** The Board dedicated another meeting segment talking about the regional emergency communications system with town fire and rescue chiefs and personnel and representatives of outside agencies, this evening, from Somerset Regional Communications Center and the City of Waterville Police Department. The Board heard that Somerset and Waterville provide good service to China's emergency service entities.

At this meeting Waterville Police Chief Joe Massey recommended China officials talk with the Waterville City Administrator about costs. The China Select Board did not make any decision on emergency services call answering and dispatching.

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- **Committees: Implementation Committee – TBD, the Thurston Park II TBD, China Historical Society Committee TBD, Transfer Station Committee Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 5:30 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room; and Lake Access Feasibility Committee, Friday August 17, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room, RSU#18 School Committee Meeting, Wednesday, August 15, 2012 in China, at 6:00 P.M. Beginning With a Walk Through the Town Forest at the China Primary School and Then to the Formal Meeting:** The respective dates, times, and locations of the various upcoming committee meetings was announced.
- **Visioning Goals Reviewed – Accomplishments/Items Remaining:** It was agreed that the Board will soon review the goals set last fall to assess how well the town had fared pursuing certain priority goals.
- **Natural Gas Distribution RFP Intervention Consideration:** The KVCOG will provide the town with periodic updates on this initiative.

Executive Session – Pursuant to MRSA 1 Section 405(A) and/or (E) Enforcement Item (Only if Needed)
– The Board did not go into Executive Session at this time.

In other business, the Board signed a letter of congratulations to Daniel Mather on his recent attainment to the position of Eagle Scout.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board