

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



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www.china.govoffice.com

Public Hearing
10/10/2011
6:30 P.M.

Minutes: The Board held a Public Hearing on the following ballot items. They received comments and responded to questions. The SB and Town Manager offered explanations on each of the ballot items.

1. **General Assistance Ordinances Amendments to Appendixes A, B, and C, and GA Maximums Summary:**

(Explanation/Clarification by Town Manager) – Handouts available upon request

2. **November 8, 2011 Ballot Questions:**

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to **AMEND THE CHINA LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE**, Chapter 11, Definitions, by adopting required definitions of the Federal Emergency Management Agency pertaining to Chapter 5, Floodplain Management Ordinance.

Planning Board recommends: Ought to Pass
Select Board recommends: Yes

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount up to \$7,500 from the Undesignated Fund Balance for the purpose of **IMPLEMENTING PARTS OF THE 2008 CHINA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** related to the Thurston Park II Committee and Implementation Committee and said funds to be expended as deemed by the Select Board to be in the best interests of the Town of China.

Explanation:
Implementation Committee \$3,500
Implementation Committee Outreach \$2,000
Thurston Park II Committee \$2,000

Select Board recommends: Yes
Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 10/10/2011 – 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, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Mr. Charles H. Plumer.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to accept the minutes of the 09/26/2011 Select Board meeting as presented

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 4-0 to accept Payroll Warrant #23 for \$18,227.08, and Payables Warrant #24 for \$322,299.05 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Recycling Coordinator**
 - Recycling Report - Neil Farrington**
 - Consensus on Coupon Sheet to Replace "Open Transfer Station Day"**
 - Update on Commodities Market (Recycling Items):** The Board decided to discuss this item at a later meeting.
 - Transfer Station Ordinance Review – SB Initial Discussions/Deliberation:** It was noted that the survey results are being compiled and the results available to the SB in November.
- **Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Event – Date, Time, Drop-Off Location**
 - Drug Drop-Off Day – Date, Time, Drop-Off Location:** It was noted that the HHW day will take place on October 15, 2011 at the Winslow Public Works garage from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. China residents must register to participate and can do so by calling the transfer station or town office.

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New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Elderly Housing Proposal/Information Session – Mr. Keller and Mr. Hayden:** Resident Frederic Hayden introduced the SB to his idea for affordable/elderly housing units in the former Farrington store, now owned by Dennis Keller of Palermo. Mr. Keller said he is willing to explore the initiative. There were major questions about what funding might be available and how many housing units the property could support under town ordinances. Mr. Hayden asked that the Town Manager explore possible state, federal, and private funding options. The Select Board unanimously supported the idea in principle.
- **General Assistance Ordinance – Adoption of Appendixes/Amendments:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to approve of the amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance as presented. A copy of the amended Ordinance is on file at the town office.
- **Junk Yard Permit Application:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the Junk Yard Permit application with conditions as drafted by the Town Manager (and attached to these minutes) and to be presented at the next regular Select Board meeting on Monday, October 24, 2011 in the town office for final approval.
- **Branch Mills Dam – Tom Dinsmore (215-5673):** Because the SB had residents express many concerns about the open gates at the Branch Mills dam keeping the Branch Pond level too low, the SB invited Thomas Dinsmore, former dam owner, to discuss the concerns. Mr. Dinsmore gave a history of the dam indicating initially that four entrepreneurs bought the flowage rights and built the dam to power the first of three mills on the site. The dam created one basin of what has become known as Branch Pond. Mr. Dinsmore said that since then the dam owner has had the unrestricted right to regulate the upstream water level. The state Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife requires that the downstream flow be adequate for fish.

Mr. Dinsmore continued with the history of ownership to the current owners, the Coombs. He said that the Coombs planned to recreate a working water-powered mill. However, he noted that by the time all permits were obtained, the economy was beginning to become questionable and that the Coombs no longer had the funds to put into the mill.

Mr. Dinsmore went on to say that there was good news in that the Coombs have kept in touch and realizes that the water level is of concern to residents. He said that the Coombs hope to get back to work on the mill this fall.

There were other comments by some who attended the meeting to hear Mr. Dinsmore. The Board did not see anything they could do about an issue that involved private property.

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Manager's Report:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees: Implementation Committee – Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room, Library Services Committee – Meeting, Friday, October 14, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the Town Office (Back) Meeting Room, and Thurston Park II, Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the town office:** The dates and times and places of the respective committee meetings were noted.
- **Transfer Station Survey – Preliminary Findings:** The findings will be presented to the SB in November and the SB will use the findings as input into their visioning session planned for mid to late November.
- **Time-Warner Cable Contract – Will Need to Negotiate Soon – Committee Considerations:** The SB will need to appoint a committee to negotiate with Time-Warner. The Town Manager will notify the Board when the committee will need to be appointed.
- **Vision Session Priorities – See the List on the Next Page:** The list below is included for reference as the Board moves into a new year.

In other business the Board, the Town Manager noted that the October 24, 2011 SB agenda would include a presentation on Central Maine Power Company's power line expansion in China.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0 to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joann C. Austin".

Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board

China Board of Assessors Meeting 10/10/2011

Agenda

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

1. **Abatement:** On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 4-0 to approve of and sign an abatement request as presented. A copy of the abatement will be on file at the town office.

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2. Other

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:48 p.m.

The following items are for informational purposes and included in the agenda and minutes to serve as a progress report on the respective individual items.

Visioning Meeting Follow-Up – Summary Sheet:

Public Officials Training

Public Access to China Lake – **Appraisal is Currently Being Pursued**

Recycling

Regional Initiatives

Solid Waste Flow and Control Ordinance Revisions – Mandatory Recycling of Cardboard – **See Draft Wording**

Administrative Organizational Structure – Personnel – **Recommendation to be Included in the 2012-2013 Municipal Budget, (Building Code, SSSC Program, API, etc.)**

Recreational Options

Field Search – Photo Sent to SB – **Forested Area Near Ball Fields, Topo Issues?**

Causeway and SC Boat Landing Focus

Thurston Park/Gravel/Recreation (Additional Field)/Other

Village(s) Development

Historical/Traditional

Economic Development

Elderly Housing – **Dennis Keller and Rick Hayden**

Infrastructure/Capital Investment – Portable Classroom Usage – **Staging Area in Emergencies and Overnight Housing in Emergencies**