

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



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www.china.govoffice.com

Select Board Meeting

Monday – 10/06/2014 – 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, 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 Paul MacDonald.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept the minutes of the 09/22/2014 Select Board meeting as presented

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept China Payroll Warrant #19 for \$18,597.71 and China Payables Warrant #20 for \$421,917.73 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Recycling Coordinator:**

Recycling Report -

Update on Commodities Market (Recycling Items) and Other Items: Select Board member and Recycling Coordinator Paul MacDonald provided information about current recycling commodity market pricing and information about the inventory of recyclable currently at the transfer station. Paul noted the town received \$2099.00 for a load of cardboard sold on the commodities market and also the substantial revenue received from the metal and tin cans and gaylords of various newsprint and other paper products.

There was some discussion about what to do with the blue dumpster cans the town has in inventory. Paul thought we should keep them for a while longer until we see the trends in MSW handling. He said he felt they might be useful if a pay-per-bag system is ever implemented in China.

Selectperson MacDonald went on to update the Board and audience on the political environment as we head toward 2018 and the possible change in the ways municipalities handle MSW. Paul went on to say that he and Irene will be attending a MRRA on waste trends session in Orono at the Black Bear Hotel on October 27, 2014.

Monday, October 20, 2014

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- **RSU#18, KVCOG, Economic & Community Development Updates – Selectperson Belanger:**

Selectperson Irene L. Belanger commented on the following:
RSU#18 – She was not able to attend the recent RUS meeting.

Economic & Community Development - Irene noted there was discussion at their last meeting on LD1043, legislation involving revolving loan funding. Senator Katz commented that there would be a Bond item on the November ballot relating to the same concept of providing loan funds to small businesses through local council of government organizations. There were comments about a collaborative effort between FAME and MSHA to promote downtown development.

Irene also noted that there is a coffee and desert scheduled for November 13, 2014 for businesses in town to be held at the Legion Hall in South China Village.

Shredding-On-Site – Selectperson Irene reported on the offering that took place recently at the China transfer station. She noted it was successful and included a collaboration with Vassalboro to have their residents participate in the offering. Irene said that she plans to have a similar offering in the spring of 2015 to include Vassalboro and Windsor and possibly Albion if agreed to by all towns.

Drug Take-Back Day – Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported on this effort; this is the last one with the KSO. Irene pointed out alternate places for people to take their old medications. It was very successful this year as has been in the past.

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** Senator Roger Katz attended the SB meeting to hear any comments and concerns that they may have for him to take back to the next legislative session in Augusta. The Board was collectively concerned about Revenue Sharing funds and how it is difficult to prepare a budget without knowing if the Revenue Sharing funds traditionally intended for municipalities will be forthcoming or decreased. Senator Katz responded by calling himself pretty passionate about continuing the Revenue Sharing program.

Senator Katz explained how Revenue Sharing, and other programs, can be changed even if they are laws. He noted the “notwithstanding” clause included in legislation to divert money to other purposes.

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Selectperson Peter Foote commented about the escalating cost of General Assistance. Senator Katz responded that he is putting forth a Bill in the next legislative session to have the State take over the general assistance program, though he was uncertain at this time where the funds would come from the offset the increased anticipated expense. He said he felt the General Assistance program should not be a local function.

Senator Katz commented generally about the aging population in Maine and about Maine's lack of young workers to support the aging population. He is calling for programs to encourage young people from all over the world to settle in Maine.

Selectperson Paul MacDonald commented about the cost of highway maintenance, particularly about the cost of the MDOT project on the Weeks Mills Road recently.

Selectperson Irene L. Belanger commented on the maintenance of the dams on the China Lake outlet stream and about the reintroduction of alewives into China Lake.

- **TIF Agreement Conversation Continued:** The Board briefly discussed the TIF program and suggested that the Board should be prepared to hold a public information session relating to the financial impact of the proposed TIF for China on October 20, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. The proper advertisement will be handled by the town office. Selectperson MacDonald suggested that some of the TIF funds accumulated might be used for senior housing in one form or another. He thought that interest free loans secured by the housing could be mutually beneficial; the homeowner would get a low cost loan and the town would receive tax dollars over a long period of time.

The Board felt the insert in the most recent Town Line newspaper explaining the TIF program was a good start in the process.

Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees – Meetings and Updates: Thurston Park II TBD 2nd Thursday of the Month, Location, Town Office Meeting Room, China Historical Society Committee TBD, China Library Feasibility Committee, Fourth Wednesday of the Month in 2014, March 26, 6:30 P.M. in the town office meeting room, Economic and Community Development Committee, First and Third Thursday of the Month, Time 6:30 P.M., Location China Town Office Meeting Room.** The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.
- **November 4, 2014 Referendum Election Polling Hours and Polling Site:** It was noted that China's November 4, 2014 election will be held at the China Middle School on Lakeview Drive. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Absentee ballots are available at the town office. China voters will elect town officials, three Select Board members, three Planning Board members, and four Budget Committee members. Five candidates are

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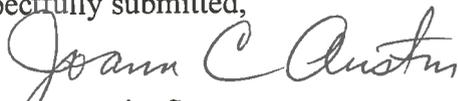
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running for three Select Board positions. There are sample ballots on the town's Web site under the Election tab.

In other business: The Town Manager noted that Morten Moesswilde may be on the next SB agenda to speak about forest management. Mr. Tim Basham requested that the Board hear Mr. Moesswilde's presentation.

On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board

Assessors' Meeting
10/06/2014

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to open the Assessors' meeting at 8:24 p.m. Assessors present were Peter Foote, Irene L. Belanger, and Paul MacDonald. Others present were Mary Grow, and the Town Manager.

Agenda

I. Abatement(s):

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept and sign the abatement for Lucien Roy as presented. A copy will be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept and sign the abatement for Richard V. & John S. and Jane Golden as presented. A copy will be on file at the town office.

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On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept and sign the abatement for Dennis Lamar as presented. A copy will be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept and sign the abatement for Colby L. and Judith M. Whitaker as presented. A copy will be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to accept and sign the abatement for Ralph A. Fitch, Jr. as presented. A copy will be on file at the town office.

Adjourn: On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joann C. Austin, Secretary