

Select Board Meeting

Monday – 11/13/2017 – 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, Jeffrey LaVerdiere, Donna Mills-Stevens, Neil Farrington, and Robert MacFarland. Others present were David Herard, Bill VanWickler, Mark Davis, Ed Brownell, Lynne O'Connor, Wayne Chadwick, Fred Glidden, Paul Lucas, Elwood Stevens, Robert O'Connor, Jamie Pitney, Tod Detre, Richard Morse, Mary Grow and the Town Manager. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Election of Chairperson and Secretary to both the Select Board and Board of Assessors: On a motion by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere and a second by Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens, the Board voted 3-2(Belanger, Farrington) to elect Robert A. MacFarland as chairperson of the Select Board and Board of Assessors. On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger to elect Selectperson Neil Farrington to the position of Chairperson of the Select Board and Assessors, the motion failed for lack of a second to the motion.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington to elect Selectperson Irene L. Belanger to the position of Secretary to the Select Board and Assessors and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 09/06/2017 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere and a second by Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign China Payroll Warrant #26 for \$25,840.53 as presented. On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign Town Payables Warrant #27 for \$468,191.65 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Emergency Services Groups – Stipend Submittals and LD#150 (Municipal Appropriations and Disbursements):** Representatives of some of the emergency services groups in China asked to present a form for submittals of stipend reimbursement activities. They wanted to know if the Select Board would accept the form as presented to them to requisition stipend amounts as noted in a Memorandum of Understanding developed earlier between the town and emergency services groups.

The discussion of the stipend item led to other issues, e.g. recent State Legislation (LD#1),

Article #4 on a local November ballot, and how to make residents feel safe during power outages. Representatives of the SCVFD presented a draft form to request stipends for the first half of the current fiscal year. William Van Wickler, representative of the WMVFD, said that he would be able to use the same form. There was not anyone representing the CVVFD. On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of the submittal of forms for reimbursement of stipend amounts twice per year on June 30 and November 30 as long as the stipend program continues and consistent with the MOU agreed to earlier in the year by the SB.

Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere asked the Board and emergency services to have a conversation about financial reporting requirements relating to Article #4 on the local November ballot and how that might relate to LD#1 and emergency services groups requesting lump sum appropriations annually. SCVFD Chief Richard Morse expressed that he would prefer lump sum disbursements annually for the appropriations approved at Annual Town Business Meetings. Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere indicated that the respective departments would need financial reporting if they are to receive lump sum appropriations. Chief Morse noted that the appropriations and not the disbursements are required to be itemized according to the LD#1 legislation. Selectperson LaVerdiere referenced the local November ballot Article #4 that gained voter approval, obligating all non-profits applying for and receiving town funds to provide their most recent respective financial statements. China emergency services groups are all non-profits.

There was concern expressed by representatives of the emergency services groups present that this reporting might lead to more detailed and involved bookkeeping. Selectperson LaVerdiere expressed that he had in mind a simple single page formatted report that would let the Select Board fulfill their responsibility to oversee expenditures of town funds. The Board postponed further action on this item until they speak with Representative Theriault, the person who introduced the legislation to the Maine Legislature.

Selectperson Neil Farrington asked about wellness checks during severe storms, those storms creating power outages. Chief Morse and WMVFD representative William Van Wickler said that firefighters are not qualified to do such checks.

- **Organization Reports/Transfer Station Co-Coordinator's Conversation and Other Reports:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported the on the current events relating to respective organizations, e.g. the MRRA, MRC, RSU#18, KVCOG, Thurston Park Committee, and the KRDA.

The Broadband Committee was present at this meeting. Broadband Committee Chairperson Robert O'Connor reported on the progress of the Committee, indicating that a goal of the Committee is to have cable access in every home and that the Committee is attempting to renegotiate the Cable Television contract with Time-Warner/Spectrum. Bob said that fast, reliable and reasonably priced service is important.

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.
- **Appointments – :** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board 5-0 to appoint Ronald R. Breton to represent the Town of China on the KRDA Board.
- **“Welcome to China Sign”:** The Town Manager reported that the two panels that were damaged in the most recent wind storm have been repaired and replaced. He noted that the sign is over 20 years old and is

in need of restoration or change entirely. There were comments about having a friendly competition among residents or students in the China schools to present new ideas for the sign presentation. The superstructure also needs repair.

- **Strategic Planning Session(s) – Board Discretion:** Chair Robert MacFarland explained the traditional strategic planning sessions held by the Select Board after the November election. He noted that all the members of the Board are invited to bring to the next meeting some of their objectives or goals for upcoming year and also to suggest intermediate and long term goals for the town. On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson , the Board voted 5-0 to set two dates to hold the strategic planning sessions, one on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. and one on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., both immediately prior to the regularly scheduled Board meetings.

Manager’s Communications (Non-Action Items):

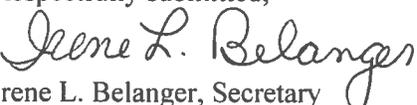
- **Committees – Meeting Announcements:** The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.
- **TIF Information/Conversations:** The Board agreed to have this item on the agenda for continued conversation and clarification. The Town Manager presented the documents related to the design stage of the Causeway Road bridge replacement, e.g. the Wright-Pierce and A. E. Hodsdon Engineering proposals.
- **Foreclosed Upon Property at 619 PVRR:** The Town Manager informed the new SB on the disposition of the property, noting that the former owner remains in the dwelling on the property. He went on to say that the town’s attorney is sending the former owner a letter that informs her that she needs to move out of the property as the town is the new owner of the property through foreclosure. He went on to note that the next step is a formal letter from the town’s attorney that will evict the occupant of the dwelling.
- **2018-2019 Municipal Budget Time-Line – Presentation of First Draft:** The Town Manager noted that, unless the Board instructs differently, he plans to present the first proposed draft of the 2018-2019 municipal budget during the month of December. There was discussion about when the warrant articles for the Annual Town Business Meeting need to be in final draft form for the ATBM and the process to get to that point.

In other business:

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Robert MacFarland, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the recommendation of the Town Manager that he develop a P&S agreement with contingencies for the purchase of the Susan Bailey properties on the Causeway Road and Pleasant View Ridge Road.

On a motion by Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Irene L. Belanger, Secretary
China Select Board

There was not an Assessors Meeting.

