

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 11/28/2016 – Town Office Meeting Room
7:00 P.M.

Minutes

The Board observed a moment of silence in reverence to the passing of Lee Austin.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were Irene L. Belanger, Jeffrey LaVerdiere, Neil Farrington, Ronald R. Breton, and Joann C. Austin. Others present were Sandra Kostron, Ronald Kostron, Paul Mitnik, Doug Leonard, Tucker Leonard, Kathleen Varin, Kelly Mullens, Scott Rollins, Judy Stone, Phillip deMaynadier Robert MacFarland, 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 Jeffrey LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 11/14/2016 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign China Payroll Warrant #31 for \$29,171.71 and on a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign Town Payables Warrant #32 for \$19,152.04 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinator's Conversation and Organization/Other Reports:**
Selectperson Belanger: RSU#18, KVCOG, Economic & Community Development, Mid-Maine Chamber and KRDA Updates: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported the on the current events relating to respective organizations. Selectpersons Ronald R. Breton, Irene L. Belanger and Neil Farrington reported on the recent RSU#18 Governance meeting held in Oakland. Selectperson Neil Farrington reported on a Palermo SB meeting he attended at which the topic of procurement of trash bags and the financing thereof was discussed. Selectperson Ronald R. Breton expressed his understanding of the amount of bags to be delivered and how the payment was to be made by Palermo. It was agreed that both Selectpersons Ronald R. Breton and Neil Farrington would attend the next Palermo SB meeting to discuss particulars about distribution of and payment for the bags. The Town Manager noted that there had been initial agreement about adding time at the transfer station to monitor the hopper area when the Palermo residents begin to use the China transfer station.
- **Enforcement Items – China CEO Paul Mitnik:** China Codes Enforcement Officer Paul Mitnik reported on an enforcement issue; a potential violation of the Junkyard Ordinance or Automobile Graveyard law associated with a resident owning property off Route #3. Paul was coming to the Board to seek authority to communicate with the town's attorney to promote compliance with the laws. A property owner and daughter were in attendance, both addressing reasons why not a lot of progress has been made and providing assurances that there would be a steady clean-up effort

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undertaken in the next couple of weeks. On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to continue monitoring the Varin site off Route 3 for progress in cleaning up the debris and to revisit the enforcement issue at one of the next two SB meetings. The CEO will update the SB on the progress of the clean-up.

- **Ballot Questions – Progress Report – Moving Forward:** The Town Manager noted that he had made contact with all the individuals who will need to be involved in any property transfer to the town as determined by the recent results of the November referendum election. The Town Manager went on to reference the Ortega family associated with the property adjacent to the town office property, the Wachusett Properties, Inc. principals associated with the 13 lot sub-division off Lakeview Drive, and the Bailey family associated with the property off the Causeway Road. There has been communication with the town's attorney, Mr. Alton Stevens, regarding the proposed transactions to assist in the proper legal transfer of the respective properties. Updates on the progress of the transfers will be given at future SB meetings.
- **Thurston Park II Committee Presentation:** Judy Stone and Phillip deMaynadier presented a report on TPII Committee activities and asked the SB for assistance in three areas; to choose Harold Burnett of Two Trees Forestry in Winthrop as a consulting forester; contract with Two Trees Forestry for \$400.00 to evaluate possible merchantable timber in the Thurston Park; and to set up an account for Thurston Park in the town's finance accounting system to deposit donations, potential timber sales revenues, and other funds received, all to be used for activities and improvements to the Park. On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of all three items above, with the funds for the evaluation to come from the Contingency Fund.

Judy Stone said that Mr. Burnett had visited Thurston Park and provided a report and map showing three small areas that might be worth harvesting. There was additional conversation about improving and maintaining Park access, from both the north and the south entrances. Judy said she planned on talking with Pete and Dawn Haskell, whose driveway at the south entrance is often used as a parking area, before proceeding to the TIF Committee to ask for funds to improve the entrances. Judy referenced a Department of Conservation trail grant they received in a previous year, noting that the DOC trails grant awards cannot be used for access areas, though can be used for items within parks. The Town Manager asked if the Committee intended to apply again for the DOC Trails Grant and Judy responded that they are not going to in the current round. She did not give a reason for not participating in the grant application process.

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.
- **Scott Rollins – MDOT Programs – Partnering With or Affecting Municipalities:** Mr. Scott Rollins, China resident and MDOT employee, told the SB about MDOT's Cooperative programs with municipalities. The MDOT looks for local officials' input on prioritizing work on State and State Aid roads that run through their municipalities. It was noted that the MDOT works in conjunction with the KVCOG in the development of long term road improvement plans.

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Selectpersons Irene L. Belanger and Joann C. Austin commented about an upcoming replacement of a culvert under Route #e in China. Their sensitivity is that this culvert may be blocking what used to be a water connection between China Lake and Three Mile Pond. Mr. Rollins said that the MDOT will be consulting with environmental engineers.

- **Comprehensive Plan Certification of Consistency:** It was noted by the Town Manager that the Certification is valid through 2020. The Town Manager noted that the signatures had been validated on the petition submitted by Marie Michaud to reconstitute the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee. Selectperson Irene L. Belanger volunteered to call the existing Committee members to see if they would like to continue on the Committee as it engages and looks into districting (Land Use Districts) in China. Marie Michaud provided the Board with a list of potential people interested in serving on the new Committee.
- **AD-Hoc Committee – (Aging/Thriving in Place) China for a Lifetime:** On a motion by Selectperson and a second by Selectperson, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Joann C. Austin, Irene L. Belanger, Sandra Kostron, Helen Roy and Toni Wall to the “China for a Lifetime” Committee. The signing of the relevant appointment documents will be done in the near future or at the next SB meeting. The Town Manager suggested appointing an ad-hoc committee to begin developing a survey of residents relating to the thriving in place and aging in place recommendations from Jess Maurer and Patricia Oh in their proposal to the town. Subsequent to the survey development a permanent committee would be formed to implement the recommendations of the ad-hoc committee after conducting the survey and the development of recommendations based on the survey results.
- **RSU#18 Budget Vote – Budget Referendum Election Day 2017 – Chair Neil Farrington:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board 5-0 to recommend to the RSU#18 Board of Directors and to the Superintendent of RSU#18 that the voting for the RSU#18 education budget be held on the same day as the State Primary or local referendum election, traditionally in the month of June in any given year.

Manager’s Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees – Meetings/Updates: Thurston Park II, Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the town office, Economic and Community Development Committee, Transfer Station Committee, Tuesday, November 10, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Town Office, and TIF Committee, Monday, November 26, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the town office meeting room, and Emergency Preparedness Committee, Tuesday, November 27, 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.
- **Visioning Session Tuesday, November 29, 2016 – Agenda and Proposed List of Priorities:** The Town Manager noted the listing of priorities he had acquired from the Board for short term, intermediate term and long term strategic planning.
- **Marijuana Issues – Permitting:** The Board decided to review recent communications from the MMA and research initiatives that other towns are taking to determine whether or not this issue

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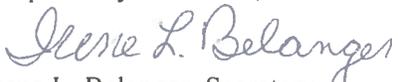
should be considered in the spring of 2017 at the Annual Town Business Meeting. Resident Sandra Kostron recommended that China Select Board members consider a reaction to the November 8 statewide referendum vote approving recreational marijuana use, noting that a majority of China voters rejected the respective referendum question.

In other business:

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Robert MacFarland to the TIF Committee.

On a motion by Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Irene L. Belanger, Secretary
China Select Board