

TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive
China, ME 04358



Telephone 207-445-2014
Fax 207-445-3208
E-mail chiname@fairpoint.net
www.china.govoffice.com

Select Board Meeting

Monday – 12/05/2011 – 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, Steven Hughes, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Randall Downer, Mary and Jerry Boyle, Louisa Barnhart, Ronald Breton, Gary Nichols, Kathy Glenn-Lewin, Cheryl Baker, Jonathan Vogel, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Joann C. Austin.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 11/21/2011 Select Board meeting as amended.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to accept Payroll Warrant #31 for \$23,063.31, and Payables Warrant #32 for \$362,174.98 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

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

Recycling Report -

Update on Commodities Market (Recycling Items): Recycling coordinator Paul MacDonald provided the Board with an update on commodity pricing and the number of items in inventory and ready to be sent to the commodity markets for sale. Paul noted that although prices for commodities have decreased recently, there remains a good cost benefit in removing many items from the MSW stream going to PERC for processing.

Progress Report on Recycling Building and Compost Pad: Recycling Coordinator Paul MacDonald also updated the Board and general public on the progress of the construction of the addition to the recycling building and on the progress of the pouring of compost pad. He noted that the recycling building walls and roofing have been built and that the compost pad has been poured. Compost has been moved onto the concrete pad. Paul noted that the Kennebec County Jail inmates have been very helpful in the construction of the addition to the recycling building.

- **China Historical Society – Request by Neil Farrington and Meeting Summary:** The Town Manager provided the Board with an update on a recent meeting of officers of the China Historical Society and residents expressing interest in being volunteers to promote the Historical

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Society interests. Neil Farrington, Harold and Sue Charles, Robin Sabattus, Kelly Grotton and the Town Manager meet at the town office. The Historical Society has been inactive recently and would welcome interest from volunteers to be officers in the organization. Another meeting will be scheduled in the near future to receive further comment from Mr. Dale Fegel, another resident interested in volunteering services toward the Historical Society mission.

- **Petition for Secret Ballot Referendum Vote – Meeting with the China Planning Board:** The Chair noted that he would be contacting and communicating with the Chair of the Planning Board regarding the petition asking to repeal the Town of China, Chapter 2, Land Use Ordinance, C. Sanitary Standards, III. Chairperson Foote went on to note that there might be consideration of more than one ballot item addressing the same ordinance. There are procedural requirements for the respective Boards to follow regarding ballot questions and ordinances. Selectperson Joann C. Austin commented that she felt it important to ask people who might be concerned about the existing ordinance to come before the Planning Board and express their respective concerns.

*to go on
June
Ballot
in some
form*

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Library Services Committee Report – Gary Nichols:** Library Services Committee Chairperson Gary Nichols presented the Committee's final report to the Select Board. Gary spoke extensively about the mission of the CLSC, the workings of the Committee over the last two or more years, and how the Committee came to their recommendations for future actions. After the presentation, the Chair asked audience members for input. Members of the Albert Church Brown Library were in the audience. Randall Downer presented the SB with a letter from the ACB Board regarding the CLSC report and that will be attached to these minutes for reference.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Steven Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the Report with sincere appreciation to all involved, and to have it published on the town's Web site. There was a recommendation in the report to have the Select Board appoint a future Library Feasibility Committee.

- **Economic & Community Development – Kyle Pierce:** The Chair noted that Kyle Pierce would be making a presentation to the Board after the first of the year, after conferring with other people she felt might make a contribution to her presentation.

Manager's Report:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees: Implementation Committee – Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room, and the Thurston Park II, (Not Announced At This Time):**
- **Visioning Session Meeting Schedule – Monday, December 12, 2011 Beginning at 5:00 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room:** It was noted that the Select Board's visioning session would be held in the town office meeting room on the date and at the time noted immediately above.
- **2012-2013 China Municipal Budget Time-Line to Annual Town Business Meeting:** The Town Manager suggested that, unless anyone on the Select Board had an objection, that the

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Annual Business town Meeting be held on Saturday, March 24, 2011 at the China Middle School. He went on to suggest that municipal budget discussions need to begin at the Select Board's first meeting in January to accommodate the Select Board and Budget Committee deliberations and to send the final draft of the town report to the printer. The town report needs to be in final form and returned to the town at least ten days before the Annual Town Business Meeting.

- **2008 China Comprehensive Plan Initiative - Lake Access - Land For Maine's Grant**

Application: The Town Manager reported on the progress being made toward applying for a Land for Maine's Future Grant Program to assist in the purchase of land on China lake known as The Cabins at China Lake and formerly known as Candlewood, to provide own-owned access to China Lake. The town Manager noted that support or sponsorship from a State agency is a requirement in the grant process and that he has a meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 with a representative of the Department of Conservation. He went on to say that the next step after a sponsorship in the process is to submit a complete application and that it might be good to appoint a committee to engage in the process.

In other business:

Chairperson Peter Foote announced that enough back taxes had been paid on the Branch Pond Flour & Grain Mill on Branch Pond to avert foreclosure and thereby allay the decision of the town to file a waiver of foreclosure regarding the said property. The Select Board felt that owning the mill and dam under it would not be in the best interest of the town at this time;

The Board did listen to comments from commercial MSW haulers about the pending increase in rates to become effective January 1, 2012;

The PB Chair Ron Breton informed the Board that they will be forwarding the proposed revisions to the Home Occupation section of the China Land Development Code to the Select Board for their review and to include a question regarding the proposed revisions on the June 2012 ballot;

The Town Manager noted that the MRC's Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. and that the future of the energy market after the year 2018 would be discussed. The 2018 date is relevant in that that is the date upon which municipal contracts with PERC Partners expire and municipalities will need to be aware of the options for their MSW after 2018;

The Town Manager also noted that the Kennebec County Inmates will be working in China during four days in the next two weeks and will be removing leaves and other debris from the Causeway and Landing Roads in China.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joan C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to purchase a new John Deere tractor with snow-blower and mowing

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attachments from Hammond Tractor for \$19,784 and a new trailer from Michaud's Welding in Vassalboro for \$3,699. The town is accepting the low quotes on the respective equipment. The Board discussed thoroughly the reasons for the proposed purchases.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 4-0-1(Austin) to purchase a new pick-up truck from O'Connor Motors in Augusta for \$19,635. The town is accepting the low quote on the equipment. The Board discussed thoroughly the reasons for the proposed purchases.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Joan C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board

Board of Assessors
Town Office Meeting Room
Monday 12/05/2011

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

- **Abatement:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of and sign abatements as presented, copies to be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Joan C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Board of Assessors

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Visioning Meeting Follow-Up – Summary Sheet:

Public Officials Training - **Ongoing Municipal Association Offerings**

Public Access to China Lake – **Appraisal of The Cabins Property - Final Product Received**

Recycling

Regional Initiatives - **Ongoing**

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

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 – **Thurston Park II Committee and Other Considerations**

Village(s) Development – **Elderly/Senior Housing Considerations**
Historical/Traditional

Economic Development – **Kyle Pierce Presentation**

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

Infrastructure/Capital Investment – Portable Classroom Usage – **Staging Area in Emergencies and Overnight Housing in Emergencies – Also Need to Continue to Pursue a Capital Investment Plan and Capital Improvement Plan**