

# TOWN OF CHINA



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## Select Board Meeting

Monday – 02/11/2013 – 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 David Preston, Tom Michaud, Richard Lawrence, Nate Gray, Peter Caldwell, Jennifer Chamberlain, Brandon Kulik, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by the Paul MacDonald.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 01/23/2013 and 01/28/2013 Select Board meetings as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Steven Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to accept Payroll Warrant #42 for \$21,339.80, Payroll Warrant #43 for \$77.50 and Payables Warrant #44 for \$339,094.36 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. He noted that in general the prices for recyclables have remained the same for the past month. Paul also noted that the MRRA has said that pricing for 15 ton loads of plastic could be sold at the most opportune price as the 15 ton load would be combined with another 15 ton load from another entity to maximize the return to the each party. Selectpersons Paul MacDonald and Irene L. Belanger said they would be interested in attending the annual recycling conference scheduled for April 2013.

- **KVCOG and RSU#18 Leadership Information – Selectperson Irene L. Belanger:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger provided the SB with updates on the current events with KVCOG and RSU#18. She noted that the CEDS meetings have been productive and that she looks forward to meeting with Kyle Pierce about economic development strategies locally in China. She went on to say that the RSU#18 Financial Audit has been completed and that there are initiatives focusing on security items in all the respective schools in RSU#18. Irene also said the budget

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deliberations are going to be difficult as there does not seem to be enough revenues to cover all the needs of RSU#18.

- **Pond Hockey – Selectperson Irene L. Belanger – Summary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tournament:** Irene noted that, although the weather was the reason for the cancellation of the first day of the tournament, the first annual pond hockey event was a great success. Most of the games were able to be played on Sunday and there were many spectators. Two teams from China came in first and second place. Patrick Guerette, the tournament director, has stated that the Alford Center was satisfied with the results and that they look forward to the second annual pond hockey tournament.

## **New Business:**

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Feasibility Study on Providing Passage of Alewives Into China Lake – David Preston CRLA 2013-2014 Municipal Budget Deliberations – Annual Town Business Meeting Warrant Adoption:** David Preston, Secretary of the China Lake Association, and several other interested parties presented to the SB a proposal relating to a feasibility study on providing passage of alewives into China Lake. David first noted that the primary mission of the CLA and CRLA is to restore water quality to China Lake and there have been varied successes, with the need for greater improvement. The group spoke about the nature of the local watershed and how this proposed alewives passage ecologically embraces a larger ecosystem, linking marine and freshwater environments. Brandon Kulik pointed out the habitat connectivity between the alewives in the respective lakes and the ocean species that feed on the alewives. The program they all spoke about is part of a larger \$2.2 million dollar national marine Fisheries grant application sponsored by the Sebec Regional Land Trust that would cover a ten year period and include the possibility of the removal of dam in the outlet stream or the installation of fish passages at the dams that would not be removed. The group presenting asked the Board for a letter of support in the short term and possibly some matching funds financial support if the grant is successful. On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to express support for and endorse the efforts of the feasibility study and to accept and sign a letter of support stating the same.
- **Foreclosed Upon/Tax Acquired Property – Status:** The Town Manager noted that the status of the foreclosed upon properties will be reported at the next meeting. The period of redemption that the SB proposed for the former owners of respective properties will have passed by then.
- **Quit Claim Deed(s) – Maple Ridge Road Property:** The Board signed the Quit Claim Deed for the respective property. It was voted upon at the last SB meeting and the documents were presented for signing and notarizing at this meeting.
- **Plowing Contracts:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, and a second by Selectperson Steven Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign the mutual agreement to terminate the plowing contract as crafted by attorney Al Stevens. The board discussed how the town personnel would handle the demands of the remainder of the winter and how the contract for winter road maintenance would have to be changed going forward. Select Board Chair Peter

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Foote said he felt the town employees performed pretty good considering the severity of the recent blizzard and the short notice to respond with all available resources.

## **Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):**

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees: Implementation Committee – TBD, the Thurston Park II TBD, China Lake Access Feasibility Committee, Friday, TBD at 3:00 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room, China Library Feasibility Committee, Fourth Wednesday of Every Month at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room:** The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.
- **Fire Road #60 Enforcement/Health Issues:** The Town manager updated the Board on the progress of serving a notification to the owners of the property off Fire Road #60 of the obligation to leave the property and the progress of finding a suitable alternative living arrangement for the current occupants.

In other business: On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 4-1(Foote) to authorize the purchase of a new hopper/sander for the new 2002 IH truck for an amount up to \$11,000. The one currently on the truck has deteriorated to an unusable condition. It was noted that if the truck and sander are sold at the end of the plowing season, they could possibly be sold for an amount the town had invested. The Town Manager said that the old sander was not working properly and that the driver was at risk when repeatedly getting out of the truck to attempt fixing the relative issues while on the road.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, and a second by Selectperson Steven Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to appoint Dolly Batteese to the China lake Access Feasibility Committee and the Library Services Feasibility Committee.

The board briefly discussed the potential financial concerns the proposed Governor's budget would have locally, noting that the last tax commitment included funds that were ultimately not needed in the municipal or school operating budgets and therefore would be available to partially mitigate additional demands on property taxes in the upcoming year.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Steven Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann C. Austin, Secretary  
China Select Board