

# TOWN OF CHINA

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## Select Board Meeting

Monday – 03/19/2018 – Town Office Meeting Room  
6:30 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 McFarland. Others present were Jean Conway, Paul Lucas, Rich Gauthier, Lynne O'Connor, Butch Stevens, Wayne Chadwick, George Weber, Mary Grow and the Town Manager. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

**Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (E) Consultations with Legal Counsel and or 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A) Personnel:** On a motion by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (E) Consultations with Legal Counsel and or 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A) Personnel and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 4-0 to enter into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. Select Board member Neil Farrington was attending the Broadband Committee session returning to the regular SB meeting at 7:23 p.m.

On a motion by Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens to come out of Executive Session and resume the regular SB meeting and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 4-0 to resume the regular meeting at 6:57 p.m.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens, the Board voted 4-0 to accept the minutes of the 03/07/2018 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens, the Board voted 4-0 to accept and sign China Payroll Warrant #45 for \$28,472.12 as presented. On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 4-0 to accept and sign Town Payables Warrant #46 for \$58,204.38 as amended.

## Unfinished Business:

- **Organization Reports/Transfer Station Coordinators/Other Reports: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and Others:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger provided current information on the current events involving the following groups: KRDA, RSU#18, MRC, Coastal/Fiberight, and the MRR.
- **MDOT Letter Requesting to Conduct a Traffic Study on the Causeway Road to Affect a Reduction in the Speed Limit:** The Board, by consensus, directed the Town Manager to send a communication to MDOT representative Mr. David Allen, asking the DOT to conduct a traffic study of the Causeway Road in China. The town plans to spend TIF funds to replace an existing bridge and enhance recreational use of the area. The current unposted speed limit on the Causeway Road is 45mph and the Board and TIF Committee feel that this speed limit is excessive for the area.

## New Business:

- **Public Comment:** Resident Paul Lucas suggested the SB invite non-resident taxpayers to a meeting in the summer to inform them how their tax dollars are used and to allow them to provide feedback and ask questions about town matters. He went on to say that action would help the non-resident taxpayers feel part of the community. The Select Board liked the idea and indicated that this would be discussed again as the summer approaches.

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- **Policies and Procedures:** The Board will continually review policies and procedures with the intent of updating any and all that need attention.
- **2018 Annual Town Business Meeting – Preparations/Questions/Comments:** The Town Manager asked the Board if they would need any information in preparation of the ATBM. Copies of the Town Report have been available at the town office, transfer station and on the town's Web site.

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

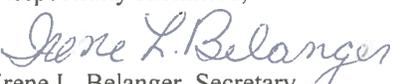
- **TIF Information/Conversations:** The Board agreed to have this item on the agenda for continued conversation and clarification. Meetings with Wright-Pierce were mentioned here, informing the Board of the progress on the bridge replacement initiative on the Causeway Road.
- **Strategic Planning Session – Next Steps:** This appears on the agenda for potential discussion as other projects in the planning process mature.
- **General – Announcements of Significance:**  
**Fire Pond Update:** The Town Manager reported that there had not been any additional progress on the fire pond development since the last meeting as the owner of the property, Mr. Tom Michaud, has been in Florida. He went on to note that the Memorandum of Understanding, earlier approved by the Board, had been sent to Mr. Michaud for his consideration and signature. On a motion by Selectperson Robert A. MacFarland and a second by Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens, the Board voted 5-0 to have the Town Manager send a communication to the Chief of the CVVFD informing him that there is not any authority to spend additional town funds on the pond without approval of the Board and without a proposed comprehensive plan for the pond development. It was also to be noted that the cost for the gravel placed in the road right-of-way adjacent to the pond would be appropriated from the voter approved \$8500 for the project. Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens asked about the credentials of the person who dug the expended well that currently exists at the Michaud site off the Neck Road. The Board expressed that they have not decided whether or not to pursue corrective measures to perfect the pond or disassociate the town from the project. There will be additional conversations about the next steps in this initiative.  
**LD#150 and Bonding of Treasurers:** The Board asked the Town Manager if any departments other than the CVVFD have responded about the bonding of their respective treasurers given the possibility of the handling of town funds pursuant to LD#150. The Town Manager responded that he had notified the respective departments on more than one occasion and there had been two responses. The CVVFD has submitted applications for bonding and the WMVFD responded that, if they request a lump sum appropriation, they will have their treasurer bonded. The SCVFD Chief has not responded. It was noted that LD#150 does not include language that includes independent First Responded entities like China Rescue.

In other business:

- **PSAP Call Handling Agreement:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the town in the written contract agreement, PSAP Call Handling Agreement with the Somerset County Communications Center. A copy of the agreement will be on file at the town office.

On a motion by Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Donna Mills-Stevens, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Irene L. Belanger, Secretary  
China Select Board