

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

China Select Board

Regular Meeting

04/04/2016 -6:15 P.M – China Town Office Meeting Room.

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m. and welcomed all present. Board members present were Irene L. Belanger, Robert MacFarland, Neil Farrington, Ronald Breton, and Joann C. Austin. Others present were Jeffrey L. Hall, Helena Massan, Noah Whitt, Frank Soares, Greg Lounder, Holly Harmon, Cheryl York, Mary Grow and the Town Manager. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Executive Session Pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, §405 (6) (F)
Title 36 MRSA Section 841 B Property Tax Abatement Request – Infirmity or Poverty

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald Breton and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 4-0 to enter Executive Session at 6:16 p.m. pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, §405 (6) (F) Title 36 MRSA Section 841 B Property Tax Abatement Request – Infirmity or Poverty.

On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to come out of Executive Session at 6:47 p.m. and resume the regular meeting.

Minutes

6:50 P.M. - Ross Nason of the KVCOG and Transfer Station Efficiency Study, Intro by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger: Selectperson Irene L. Belanger introduced Ross Nason from the KVCOG whose services were contracted for relating to a China transfer station efficiency study. Mr. Nason reported on the time he spent at the China transfer station studying processing times of various recycling materials by town employees. Ross presented a report of his findings to the town and that report is on file at the town office. The report will be used in conversations about policy setting in the future regarding the transfer station operations.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 4-0-1(MacFarland not in attendance at the last meeting) to accept the minutes of the 03/21/2016 Select Board meeting as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Ron Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to accept China Payroll Warrant #47 for \$21,863.17, and Town Payables Warrant #48 for \$410,231.58 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinator's Conversation – Transfer Station Committee Items:**
Selectperson Neil Farrington suggested that the town devote the proceeds from the returnable

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bottles collected at the China transfer station toward the Bi-Centennial initiative to be held in 2018. On a motion by Selectperson Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to dedicate the funds received from the returnable bottles for the foreseeable future to the Bi-Centennial initiative. The town will so indicate the dedication of the bottles on a sign in the collection area at the transfer station.

- **Committee/Organization Reports – Board Selected - Selectperson Belanger: RSU#18, KVCOG, Economic & Community Development, Mid-Maine Chamber and KRDA Updates – Selectperson Belanger:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger noted that she would report on the various organizations at the next meeting as the agenda this evening was quite full. Irene did note that she would like to Board to consider asking the voters to extend the terms of the Select Board from two to three years. The Board did not act on that suggestion.
- **Enforcement – Redemption Agreement – Litchfield Lane Property:** The Board was informed that the storage trailer was not removed from the respective foreclosed upon property, a condition of the redemption agreement between the town and Mr. Litchfield. Mr. Litchfield asserted that the ground around the storage trailer has been very wet and that has not allowed him to remove the trailer. The Town Manager noted that all the fees and payables due to the town from Mr. Litchfield have been paid. On a motion by Selectperson Ronald Breton and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to extend the terms of the agreement, specifically the removal of the storage trailer by April 11, and to process the final agreement signing, if conditions are fulfilled, at the April 18, 2016 SB meeting.
- **Sign Ordinance Proposal for Change:** It was noted that the Planning Board will be deliberating on potential amendments to the Ordinance for recommending to the SB to send to the voters in a future election. The SB decided to schedule their review of the Ordinance and recommended changes to a later SB meeting.

Noah Whitt approached the SB and discussed what he felt were violations of the Sign Ordinance by many entities in China. He went into specifics and made recommendations to the Board for consideration. The Board accepted Mr. Whitt's comments and said that they were reviewing the Ordinance and waiting for recommendations from the PB. More discussion would be undertaken in the future.

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. T. Station needs review...
- **MRC/Fiberight and Waste Management and "Other" Alternatives in MSW Disposal:** The Select Board continued to have a conversation about future handling of MSW and associated items processed at the transfer station. Greg Louder, Executive Director of the Municipal Review Committee was in the audience. He provided the Board with updates on the MRC/Fiberight progress and responded to questions. The MRC has been recommending that MRC affiliated towns continue to act together and join Fiberight beginning in 2018, when the

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current contract with PERC terminates. Voters at the March 26, 2016 Annual Town Business Meeting authorized the Select Board to contract with MRC/Fiberight if they determine doing so is in the best interest of the town of China. A decision on whether or not to contract with MRC/Fiberight is asked to be made by May 1, 2016.

Chairperson Robert MacFarland polled the Board on how they would vote on the proposed agreement with MRC/Fiberight. Selectpersons Ronald Breton and Irene L. Belanger said they would vote to enter into the agreement. Selectperson Joann C. Austin said she is leaning in favor of the agreement. Selectperson Neil Farrington said he would be in favor under certain conditions were met though is not ready to vote. The Chair said he was not comfortable with the agreement and favored landfilling.

Manager's Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees – Meetings/Updates: Thurston Park II, Economic and Community Development Committee, Transfer Station Committee, Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 8:30 A.M. in the Town Office, and TIF Committee, Monday, April 11, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the town office meeting room.** The respective dates, times, and places of the meetings were announced.
- **KSO Sponsored Drug Take Back Day:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger noted the day, time, place and other related information relating to the offering. Irene suggested the town invite surrounding municipalities to participate free of charge.
- **Next Meeting Announcements:** Items at future meetings were announced as follows:
 - April 18, 2016 National Resource Council of Maine – “Talkin” Trash, Lynne O’Connor invited Sarah Lakeman of the National Resource Council of Maine to speak with the SB and residents of China.
 - June 2, 2016 Patricia Oh and Demographics of China (Seniors Focus) Proposal for services.

In other business:

On a motion by Selectperson Ronald Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the draft agreement presented to them regarding the use of the China transfer station by Palermo residents. Two Select Board members from Palermo, Holly Harmon and Cheryl York, had a conversation with the China Select Board about draft versions of the proposed agreement.

It was noted that the recently appointed police officers would be undertaking patrolling duties next week.

On a motion by Neil Farrington and a second by Selectperson Ronald Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

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Respectfully submitted,

Irene L. Belanger

Irene L. Belanger, Secretary
China Select Board

Assessors' Meeting
Monday 04/04/2016

Agenda

The Chair of the Board of Assessors opened the meeting. Board members present were Robert MacFarland, Neil Farrington, Joann C. Austin, Ronald Breton, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were the Town Manager.

- **Abatement Request** Pursuant to M.R.S.A. Title 1, Chapter 13, Subchapter 1, §405 (6) (F) Title 36 MRSA Section 841 B Property Tax Abatement Request – Infirmary or Poverty.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to deny the abatement application by Jeffrey L. Hall as presented. Copies of the denial communication are on file at the town office.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to deny the abatement application by Helena Nassan as presented. Copies of the denial communication are on file at the town office.

- **Adjourn:** On a motion by Selectperson Ronald Breton and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene L. Belanger

Irene L. Belanger, Secretary
China Select Board/Board of Assessors