

# TOWN OF CHINA

571 Lakeview Drive  
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## Select Board Meeting

Monday – 05/01/2017 – Town Office Meeting Room

7:00 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, Neil Farrington, Ronald R. Breton, and Joann C. Austin. Others present were Robert MacFarland, Robert O'Connor, Edward Brownell, Will Van Wickler, 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 R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign the minutes of the 04/17/2017 and 04/27/2017 Select Board meetings as presented.

On a motion by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere and a second by Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept and sign China Payroll Warrant #53 for \$22,950.16 as presented. 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 China Payables Warrant #54 for \$108,806.84 as presented.

## Unfinished Business:

- **Transfer Station Co-Coordinators' Conversation and Organization/Other Reports:** Selectperson Irene L. Belanger reported the on the current events relating to respective organizations.
- **June Ballot Items – Public Hearing Schedule:** It was noted that the Public Hearing on the local June ballot items will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 15, 2017 in the town office meeting room.
- **Emergency Services Stipend Update:** The Board had a brief conversation about the recently proposed Second Draft Reimbursement Plan for China Fire Departments and China Rescue proposed by the Chiefs to Select Board members. Selectperson Ronald R. Breton provided hand-outs to the Board reflecting information he obtained from the Vassalboro town office regarding disbursements for emergency services provisions. He noted the differences he found in the proposed draft reimbursement plan and that of the Town of Vassalboro information he received. Chair Neil Farrington suggested that the Board limit the discussion until the chiefs are able to meet with the Board. He suggested an Executive Session with the Chiefs and the town's attorney to discuss particulars of any agreement to be adopted and approved by the Board. It was agreed that there will be an attempt to coordinate a meeting with the chiefs at one of the next two SB meetings.

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## 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.
- **WMVFD – Capital Equipment Replacement Conversation:** On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of the searching for a used “brush fire truck” with associated funding up to \$50,000 for the Weeks Mills Fire Department to replace Truck 72 and further to authorize the Town Manager to expend up to \$500 as a refundable deposit to hold any proposed purchase of a used “brush fire truck” while the town does due diligence on the proposed purchase particulars. William Van Wickler of the WMVFD presented information to the Board about the replacement of Truck 72 with a “brush fire truck”. He said that the replacement truck would be used more efficiently in emergency services calls. He went on to note the complexities of purchasing a truck within the approval process. The Board acted to mitigate those hurdles as noted in the motion immediately above.
- **ConneceME Grant Application – Cable Access- Conversation:** On a motion by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Joann C. Austin, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of the submittal of a ConnectMe application to expand Broadband coverage on Route #3 in China in partnership with Time-Warner/Charter/Spectrum and further to authorize an amount up to 20% as matching funds from the town of China toward the approximate \$125,000 application request and further authorize the Town Manager to sign the application and associated documents on behalf of the town of China. There was discussion about the source of the matching funds. The town does have an annual appropriation of matching funds in grant applications.
- **Appointments:** There were not any appointments processed at this meeting. It was a time, however, to call-out all who are interested in serving on any of the committees I town, particularly the China for a Lifetime Committee.

## Manager’s Communications (Non-Action Items):

- **Meeting Announcements:** Respective meeting announcements were made.
- **Committee Vacancies:** It has been noted that the Budget Committee has a vacancy.
- **Strategic Planning Session – Next Steps:** The Board is aware of the continuing need to focus on a strategic plan.
- **TIF Information/Conversations:** The Board agreed to have this item on the agenda for continued conversation and clarification.

In other business:

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Ronald R. Breton, the Board voted 5-0 to approve of and sign Red Light Applications for the Weeks Mills Volunteer Fire Department for Gregory Althen, William Bickford, Kevin Freeman, David Herard, Katherine Herard, Thomas Michaud, George Oliver, Thomas Stephenson, Charles Stephenson, and William

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Van Wickler.

On a motion by Ronald R. Breton and a second by Selectperson Jeffrey R. LaVerdiere, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Irene L. Belanger*

Irene L. Belanger, Secretary  
China Select Board