

# TOWN OF CHINA

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## Select Board Meeting

Monday – 07/30/2012 – 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 Jennifer Weaver, Chip Ramsey, David Herard, George Oliver, Bob Batteese, Justin Cerbarano, Dick Morse, Dale & Rose Worster, Scott A. Pierz, Wayne Chadwick, Arthur Strout, Eric Rowe, Mike Vashon, Tony Cowing, Cliff Wells, Jim & Sheri Wilkens, Jenny Clair, Janet Preston, George Studley, Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Steve Hughes.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 07/16/2012 Select Board meeting as presented

On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to accept Warrant #7 for \$19,724.99, Warrant #8 for \$4,975.19, and Warrant #9 for \$53,853.28 as presented.

## Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Plowing Bids 2012-2014:** On a motion by Selectperson Paul MacDonald and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the low bid of Dirt Diggers, Leon Rancourt as owner, for routes 1, 2, and 3 for a three year contract; the three routes not covered by the town. There were reservations expressed about an out-of-town firm that is not known locally. The Board authorized the Town Manager to negotiate an understanding about quality of service with the contractor.

- **Recycling Coordinator:**

- Recycling Report -**

- Update on Commodities Market (Recycling Items) and Other**

- Items...Update on Transfer Station Committee Work:** Recycling coordinator Paul MacDonald provided the Board with an update on the product prepared for sale on the commodities market and an update on the current pricing of commodities in the open-market. Paul noted that commodity pricing continues to decline though the town is far better off recycling than sending MSW to PERC for burning with the associated high tipping fees and transportation.

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## New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Emergency Services PSAP and Dispatch – Cliff Wells (CMRCC):** The Board invited all members of the emergency service entities in China to discuss PSAP and Dispatch items with Mr. Cliff Wells of the CMRCC. China currently contracts with Somerset County to answer E911 calls and with the City of Waterville to dispatch fire and rescue services. The “Rural Patrol”, law enforcement services, is dispatched through the Central Maine Regional Communication Center in Augusta.

Selectperson Paul MacDonald noted that the Town of China could save approximately \$17,000 annually if all call answering and dispatch services were handled at one site, at the CMRCC.

There were many comments by individuals present. Mr. Cliff Wells of the CMRCC answered many questions from the Select Board and from those in the audience. Deputy Police Chief Chip Rumsey provided information about Waterville Communications and responded to questions from the Select Board and the audience.

Vassalboro Fire Chief Eric Rowe and Windsor Fire Chief Arthur Strout said they were both satisfied with the CMRCC. The Select Board did not make any decision. There will be another SB meeting at which this topic will again be discussed and at which a representative of Waterville and Somerset will be present.

- **BYOB Function Application – Candlewood Lodge:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to approve and sign the application as presented for The Cabins at China Lake for two different dates. Records will be kept on file at the town office for public review.
- **Lake Access Committee Presentation/Update:** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger, the Board voted 4-1(Foote) to authorize the China Lake Access Feasibility Committee to proceed with talking dollars with the owners of The Cabins at China Lake. The Board received information from the CLAFC members about the advantages of buying The Cabins at China Lake (formerly Candlewood) and also a draft fundraising letter. The committee members intend to seek private donations for the greater part of the purchase price. Sheri Wilkens noted that there are a number of sources for help with maintaining and improving the property, including area technical schools and state agencies.

Committee member Jenny Clair said she talked with officials of three other towns, Readfield, Unity, and Winthrop with public beaches, and each official said the each is not a major expense to the respective towns and is a valuable asset.

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It was noted and understood that any agreement would have many conditions attached and would also have to be approved by the Select Board and by town voters.

- **RSU #18 Warrants – School Budget Vote:** On a motion by Selectperson and a second by Selectperson, the Board voted 5-0 to sign and send the education budget Warrant to the voters; Selectperson Paul MacDonald noted that he signed under protest/duress.

## **Manager's Report – (Non-Action Items)**

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Committees: Implementation Committee – TBD, the Thurston Park II, August 8, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room, and China Historical Society Committee, TBD, Transfer Station Committee Wednesday, August 8, 2012 at 5:30 P.M. in the Town Office Meeting Room; Lake Access Feasibility Committee, Friday August 3, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room:** The times, dates and locations of the respective committee meetings were announced.
- **Visioning Goals Reviewed – Accomplishments/Items Remaining :** The Board will review the visioning goals when time allows.
- **Tax Commitment Items – RSU #18 Budget Voting Timeline – Examples of Commitment:** The Board noted that they would consider moving to commitment of taxes if the RSU #18 vote on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 failed to pass the education budget.
- **Natural Gas Distribution RFP Intervention Consideration:** On a motion by Selectperson Irene L. Belanger and a second by Selectperson Steve Hughes, the Board voted 5-0 to direct the Town Manager to file for intervener status in the Natural Gas Distribution RFP case.

Executive Session – Pursuant to MRSA 1 Section 405(A) and/or (E) Enforcement Item: It was not necessary for the Board to enter into executive session.

In other business, the Town Manager noted that a Notice of Hearing on the condemnation issue relating to location off Fire Road #60 has been set and has been advertised.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joann C. Austin, Secretary  
China Select Board