

TOWN OF CHINA

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China, ME 04358



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Select Board Meeting

Monday – 08/29/2011 – 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, Neil Farrington, and Irene L. Belanger. Others present were Mary Grow, and the Town Manager. Those present were led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag by Paul Macdonald.

On a motion by Selectperson Peter Foote and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of the 08/15/2011 Select Board meeting as presented

On a motion by Selectperson Peter Foote and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 5-0 to accept Payroll Warrant #13 for \$18,280.62, Payroll Warrant #14 for \$4,049.02, and Payables Warrant #15 for \$415,226.22 as presented.

Unfinished Business:

- **Public Comment:** At this time resident Donna Wenk made two proposals to the Board: she would like to establish a time bank in China, either independently or as a satellite of the mid-Maine organization's Waterville office; and she would like to organize a trunk'r treat program for Halloween.

Ms. Wenk explained that a time bank lets residents obtain credit for helping others and use the credit when they need help themselves.

The trunk'r treat was explained as a safer Halloween observance. People are invited to bring cars to a selected spot, decorate the cars and put on costumes and open the trunks full of treats. Children would then go from car to car rather than walking on public roads. Ms. Wenk noted that there are not sidewalks on most public roads in rural areas.

Ms. Wenk also said that she is starting a China Area Parents' Support Group for parents of children with disabilities of any kind.

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- **Recycling Coordinator:**

Recycling Report - Neil Farrington: Mr. Farrington provided a summary of the inventory of recyclables on-hand at the transfer station. He went on to note that the market for recyclables remains strong.

Transfer Station Ordinance Review – SB Initial Discussions/Deliberation and Survey Review : The Board briefly discussed plans to amend the Solid Waste Control Ordinance. Suggestions included adding mandatory recycling and continuing to improve publicity. Recycling coordinator Neil Farrington noted that people apparently do not realize that white goods, like stoves, that do not contain Freon are accepted free of charge and do not need to be saved for the annual “fee-free” day.

- **China Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee – Revisions to the China Land Development Code – Time Line to Referendum Vote:** It was noted that the Implementation Committee, at their most recent meeting, did not vote to send on to the Planning Board a final draft of proposed revisions to the China Land Development Code. Therefore, there will not be any question on the November 2011 ballot regarding amendments to the Code.

New Business:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Special Referendum Election – RSU#18:** On September 6, 2011, residents will vote on borrowing approximately \$3.2 million to build a woodchip boiler to heat three Oakland schools. Polls will be open from noon to 8:00 p.m.
- **November Referendum Election – Local Item, (FEMA Definitions, Amending Chapter 11, in Floodplain Management Ordinance):** On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Paul MacDonald, the Board voted 5-0 to Local elections and a local referendum will be decided on November 8, 2011. The referendum asks voters to approve amendments to the definitions in the town’s floodplain ordinance, as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Two Select Board positions end this year, the ones occupied by Irene L. Belanger and the other occupied by Neil Farrington. Selectperson Irene L. Belanger said she is running for another term. Selectperson Neil Farrington said he will not be a candidate.

Manager’s Report:

- **Public Comment:** There was not any public comment at this time.
- **Visioning Meeting Follow-Up – Summary Sheet:** The Board will consider the following initiatives over the next several months as time permits.

Public Officials Training:

Public Access to China Lake – Appraisal of Cabins/Candlewood: On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 3-1(MacDonald) (Selectperson Foote left the meeting early) to

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appropriate \$2,000 from the "Contingency Fund" to pay for a one half share of an appraisal of the China Lake front property owned by Wachusett Corporation, now called The Cabins at China Lake. The Town Manager said the owners would pay for the other half. Selectperson MacDonald noted that he voted against the motion because it would eliminate taxable property and therefore reduce town revenues. The Town Manager talked about the town's preliminary application with the Land For Maine's Future for State matching funds to purchase a piece of property on China Lake. He went on to say that acquiring public access to China Lake is one of the goals in China's 2008 Comprehensive Plan. The Town Manager also noted that the appraisal is a prerequisite step toward a formal application for funds from the State. If an application is approved, LMF would pay up to one half of the accepted appraised value of the property. The town would pay the remainder. The town has over \$118,000 in a reserve fund for lake access. Voter approval would be required to purchase the property.

Recycling:

Regional Initiatives

Solid Waste Flow and Control Ordinance Revisions – Mandatory Recycling of Cardboard

Administrative Organizational Structure – Personnel

Recreational Options

Field Search

Causeway and SC Boat Landing Focus

Thurston Park/Gravel/Recreation/Other

Village(s) Development

Historical/Traditional

Economic Development

Elderly Housing

Infrastructure/Capital Investment – Portable Classroom Usage

- **Committees:** The meeting dates, times and locations were announced for the following committees: Implementation Committee – Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Office Meeting Room and Public Hearing, Thursday, September 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the CMS; Library Services Committee – Meeting, Friday, August 19, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the Town Office (Back) Meeting Room; and, Thurston Park II, Tuesday, August 30, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.:
- **Transfer Station Survey – Preliminary Findings:** It was noted there might be some preliminary information reported to the Board in late September or early October.
- **Time-Warner Cable Contract – Will Need to Negotiate Soon – Committee Considerations:** The Board will soon need to appoint a committee to negotiate a contract with Time-Warner. The current contract expires in 2014.

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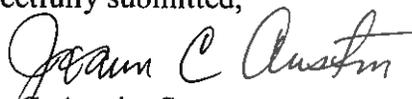
- **KVCAP Announcement on LiHeap Applications:** it was noted that KVCAP has been receiving applications at the China Town Office for the upcoming heating season. Residents were encouraged to call KVCAP for an application and appointment as soon as possible.
- **CMP – Maine Power Reliability Program Notice of Work Commencement:** It was noted that work on the project will commence in the near future.
- **November Referendum Election – Timeline and Important Dates to Remember:** it was noted that a materials for the November election needs to be presented to the town office in final form by Friday, September 23, 2011 to be eligible for inclusion on the ballot.
- **Implementation Committee and China Land Development Code Recommended Revisions:** The Committee continues to meet weekly and has made much progress on the proposed revisions. A Public Hearing is scheduled for Thursday evening, September 1, 2011 at the China Middle School to provide information on the proposed changes and to receive feedback on the work to date.
- **Shore Land Septic System Compliance – Program Information and Understanding:** It was noted that people within the shore land district are being informed of the requirements of the program. There have been a few residents who have expressed concerns about the cost of the testing of the systems. The Board will be kept informed of the progress of implementation of the program as we approach the final day before full implementation in 2014.

In other business the Town Manager reported several trees down and town-wide power outages as a result of Tropical Storm Irene. He went on to note that the town office ran on its generator for most of the day August 29. Others noted that a good part of the southern section of town was dark the past evening.

It was also noted that a short bridge in Thurston Park is in disrepair and needed attention. Additionally noted again, the Weeks Mills Road reconstruction project will commence in the spring of 2012 and that the town's speed sign has been posted throughout town.

On a motion by Selectperson Joann C. Austin and a second by Selectperson Neil Farrington, the Board voted 4-0 to adjourn at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joann C. Austin, Secretary
China Select Board