

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2008

Harpswell Town Office

Approved on September 4, 2008

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Selectmen Present: James S. Henderson, Mark E. Wallace and Chairman Amy N. Haible

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator and William Wells, Code Enforcement Officer

The Board met at 5:30 p.m. to handle administrative matters; the meeting with Donald Pickard was cancelled as he did not come and discuss his assessing issues; Debora Turner, assessing agent, reviewed the 2008 Municipal Valuation Return; the Board discussed the State of Maine farmland survey and the Farmland tax program; the Board was provided a response from the State Historic Preservation stating that the Bailey Island Library Hall has been nominated to be a historic site; a request for the Town to sell two Town-owned 50' wide strips of land between the State's right-of-way and the person's property was reviewed and deferred for Planning Board review; a resident's letter was reviewed regarding the Town's SAD 75 contribution and the Administrator will pursue more information; a letter from the Clammer's Association was reviewed regarding the need for volunteers for water quality sampling and it was suggested it be sent to licensed diggers; a catering permit and purchase orders exceeding \$1,000 were signed and Selectman Henderson requested an update on single stream recycling at the Town's center.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Haible at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was videotaped and broadcast live (for a portion only due to technical difficulties) on Harpswell Community Television.

1. Adoption of the Agenda: Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to adopt the agenda as printed; motion passed 3-0.

2. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane announced that anyone who has not filed 2007 taxes may still be eligible for the federal stimulus payment and encouraged the public to contact the Town Office for assistance in completing the necessary forms. Administrator Eiane stated that Linda Strickland has recently attended several meetings regarding the upcoming heating season and the associated potential difficulties. The public is encouraged to dial 211 which will steer people in the right direction for assistance. Administrator Eiane stated the Town will be meeting with the Kellogg Church regarding establishing a warming center at the site. Chairman Haible requested that a warming center be investigated at Cundy's Harbor and Orr's/Bailey Island as well. Selectman Henderson requested that teams and volunteers be identified to do energy audits at no charge and offered to the public. Administrator Eiane reported that Tower Specialists received Planning Board approval in July with conditions and that while the lease may be ready for review and signature at the next Selectmen's meeting, there are outstanding items Mr. Strout must comply with to obtain the appropriate permits. Administrator Eiane stated that Tom Allen, president of Harpswell Community Broadcast Corporation, is prepared to sign the Agreement but has requested a meeting with herself and Selectman Henderson first.

3. Selectmen's Announcements: Selectman Wallace announced the Transfer Station has a good supply of reclaim. Chairman Haible thanked Kate Chipman for sending her an article pertaining to how an island off Denmark is energy self-sufficient and exports its power for revenue as well. It's an interesting article that will be provided to the other Board members. Chairman Haible stated the signs the Coastal Rotary Club had up for its lobster dinner weren't identified and created confusion for the public between the Coastal dinner and the Fishing Families Dinner. The Fishing Families shore dinner is Saturday, August 23 at 4:00 p.m. with the fireworks following at 8:30 p.m.

4. Old Business: There was no old business discussed

5. Wharf Application for Donald and Lisa Lee, Map 7, Lot 19, 230 Neils Point Road: Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to open the public hearing at 6:46 p.m.; motion passed 3-0. Bill Wells, Code Enforcement Officer, reviewed the application and stated that while there were abutters initially concerned about the proposal, the concerns appeared to be resolved after the on-site hearing. Joe Leblanc, owner representative, stated there is eel grass on site and that Don Card, area biologist, appears to be satisfied with the construction plans. Selectman Henderson moved, seconded by Chairman Haible to close the hearing at 6:53. Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to approve the application as it does not constitute a hazard to navigation or cause an injury to the rights of others; motion passed 3-0.

6. Tobacco-Free Policy and Resolution: Administrator Eiane reported that this policy comes from the Recreation Director with the Recreation Committee recommendation to prohibit the use of tobacco products on all Town properties. Administrator Eiane suggested that Selectman Wallace may want to abstain since he is an employee and this policy could affect employees; Selectman Wallace stated it wasn't an issue. Selectman Wallace expressed concern about this proposed resolution as it is taking people's rights away. Selectman Henderson stated he was in favor of the concept but was concerned about enforcement and the effect on certain Town-owned properties such as the Orr's Island Bridge area. Selectman Henderson commented that he could consider approving with exempting certain properties. Chairman Haible stated she saw the logic with the resolution but requested feedback from employees and the Town Lands Committee.

7. Authorization to Complete Bond Issuance: Chairman Haible read part of the motion and moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to adopt the motion dated August 21 (attached as further reference); motion passed 3-0.

8. Disposition of Chain Link Fence at Mitchell Field: Deputy Administrator Sawyer reported that the Mitchell Field Implementation Committee has recommended donating the removed fencing at Mitchell Field to this entity that has requested it. There was a discussion regarding the chain link fence's value and Selectman Wallace stated he wasn't sure if the Town could redeem it for metal value. Selectman Henderson stated he was not inclined to donate the fencing to this animal farm as there may be other entities desiring its use and if the MFIC doesn't feel there is a value for Mitchell Field then it should be perhaps disposed of by public bid. Chairman Haible stated this animal farm is a worthy cause but that the fence recently removed at the gate side is a couple of years old and should be retained. The Board agreed the Town needs a more specific idea of what the value is of the fencing and posts that is being considered for giving away and in the meantime, invited others who may be interested to contact the Town Office. Administrator Eiane explained this is an unusual request and that she is not sure Town Meeting has authorized the Board to dispose of material at no charge and suggested the Town have its metal dealer inspect the material and give an estimate of its value; the Board agreed.

9. Consider Log Cabin Liquor Renewal License: No complaints have been received by Cumberland County and the site appears to be compliant with codes. Selectman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to approve the Log Cabin renewal license; motion passed 3-0.

10. Disposition of Town Boat, Outboard and Trailer: Selectman Wallace stated he and the Harbormaster looked at the items and they are in good condition. Selectman Wallace recommended the Town retain the items for emergency use out to the islands and see if the Fire Departments have a use. Administrator Eiane noted that any deficiencies would have to be corrected before being available for use. The Board agreed to have the Harbormaster review the boat and make recommendation to its needs and potential uses.

11. Maine Conservation Corps Agreement Re: Giant's Stairs: Deputy Administrator Sawyer acknowledged the volunteers that are committed to this project and made a call for additional volunteers to help during the trail improvements. Selectman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to authorize Administrator Eiane to sign the agreement between the Town and the Maine Conservation Corp. dated 08.ft.13; motion passed 3-0.

12. Open Bids for the Replacement of a Failing Septic System: Chairman Haible opened the bids as follows: GAC Enterprises \$16,375 plus \$2,800 for a pump; Ed Skillin \$11,560; John L. Davis \$16,839; JR Hill \$17,500; and Tupper Construction \$9,999.98. Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to approve the Tupper bid for Project 6; motion passed 3-0.

13. Open Bids For Municipal Vehicle: Chairman Haible opened the bids as follows: Autoland \$975; Wayne Staples \$500; Platinum Plus Taxi \$1,250; and Stanley Williams \$568.73. Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to approve the Platinum Plus Taxi bid; motion passed 3-0.

14. Acceptance of Donations for Heating Assistance Program: Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to accept \$335 donated from six different individuals on behalf of Virginia Saxton and \$500 donated on behalf of Ken Cichon; motion passed 3-0.

15. Authorization of the Warrant: Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Henderson to approve warrant #50 in the amount of \$102,552.45; motion passed 3-0. Selectman Henderson moved, seconded by Chairman Haible to approve warrant #51 in the amount of \$20,971.79; motion passed 2-0 (Selectman Wallace abstained). Payroll warrant #34 in the amount of \$14,311.51 was noted for the record.

16. Approval of the Minutes: Chairman Haible moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to approve the August 7 minutes as printed; motion passed 2-0 (Selectman Henderson abstained).

17. Public Comment: There were no comments.

18. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer

Attachments: Motion for Completion of Bond Issuance