



# Town of Camden Select Board Meeting March 1, 2016

## Minutes

**Present:** Select Board Chair John French and Select Board Members, Don White, Leonard Lookner, Martin Cates, James Heard, and Town Manager, Pat Finnigan.

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

### 2. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions

There were no official Communications, Presentations, or Recognitions.

### 3. Citizen Comments (for items *not* on the agenda)

No citizens came forward to speak.

Don White reminded everyone that the Camden Public Library will hold a Book Sale this weekend, March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> inside the Library.

Leonard Lookner spoke about a fellow member of Camden's Select Board, John French, and his selfless giving to the community by fixing the cars of those in need on his own time. Leonard said that this is a remarkable example of community helping each other out, and applauded John French.

John French thanked Rockport for a very gracious weekend, including Thursday evening. All had a great time.

Martin Cates reiterated the sentiment of John French regarding the Rockport Celebration.

### 4. Approval of Select Board Minutes of February 16, 2016

*James Heard made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Don White seconded this. The motion carried 5-0.*

### 5. Select Board Member Reports

Don White reported on upcoming meetings for the Planning Board, which will take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays in March due to the Budget Committee Meetings which will be held on the Thursdays in March. Wednesday, March 2, 2016 will be the next Planning Board Meeting. The Tannery Workgroup Meeting will take place on Thursday evening at 4pm with 3 guests attending, one from Ransom Consulting Group and two from Maine DEP.

Leonard Lookner reported on the Conservation Committee Meeting, which discussed taking an inventory of ash trees to get ahead of a possible future infestation of the ash borer. The other inventory they will undertake is what lands would be worth protecting for the future.

John French reported that there are upcoming meetings regarding MCSW and PERC and the changes that will be taking place in the near future.

## 6. Town Manager Report

Pat Finnigan reported that March is Budget month and the meetings of the Budget Committee will historically take place the 5 Thursdays in March. The first one to be held this coming Thursday, and they will set the schedule at that meeting for the next ones. These meetings are web-streamed, on the cable channel and open to the public. She also called attention to the many upcoming Solid Waste Meetings. Congratulations to Rockport on a good spirited, fun and inclusive event over the weekend.

## 7. Public Hearings

### A. Liquor License

- 1) Application of Port Clyde Seafood Company, d/b/a Rhumb Line at 59 Sea Street for a Class XI Restaurant/Lounge Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License.

*After no comments from the public, Leonard Lookner made a motion to accept the application. James Heard seconded this and the motion passed 5-0.*

### B. Requests for new road names:

- 1) Request by Frost & Bryant on behalf of Minor Bishop to name a road located at approximately 162 Washington St to be named Lamptier Lane.

*After no comments from the public, James Heard made a motion to accept the request. Don White seconded this and the motion passed 5-0.*

- 2) Request by Lawrence and Denise Singer to name a road located at 90 Elm St (an extension of the existing entrance) to Wolf Way.

*After no comments from the public, and a bit of discussion by the Board, Don White made a motion to accept the request. James Heard seconded this and the motion passed 4-1, with Leonard Lookner dissenting.*

## 8. New Business

### A. Renewal of the revocable license for the Megunticook Rowing Club

The Megunticook Rowing Club has used the area near Barrett Cove to place floats to conduct programs and training for the last 5 years. The public is allowed to use this area. The revocable license allows the Town to provide the Megunticook Rowing Club three months' notice to rescind permission to use this area. The license is for five years. Robert Short, President of the Rowing Club assured the Board that there are no changes from the previous 5 years.

*Don White made a motion to accept the renewal of this revocable license for the next five years. James Heard seconded this and the motion carried 5-0.*

**B. Consideration of a proposed Charter Amendment to allow information about ballot questions to be printed on the ballot**

This Charter change will allow the Town to include a brief explanation on the ballot of questions people are voting on. This will help inform voters about proposed ordinance amendments, zoning amendments, and other items they are voting on. Currently this is not allowed. This item is for discussion to determine if the Select Board wants to present this to the citizens at a public hearing.

*After some discussion, Don White made a motion to bring the issue forward to a Public Hearing. Martin Cates seconded this motion and it passed 5-0.*

**C. Consideration of a proposed Charter Amendment – Board of Assessment Review**

This Charter amendment would allow the tax assessment appeals to be heard by the County Board of Assessment Review or the local Board of Assessment Review. The local BAR needs to meet infrequently, whereas the County Board meets on a regular basis to hear assessment appeals from throughout the county. This allows them to be trained and more experienced to act on the appeals that come before them. This item is for discussion to determine if the Select Board wants to present it to the citizens at a public hearing.

*After some discussion, Leonard Lookner made a motion to bring the issue forward to a Public Hearing. James Heard seconded this motion and it passed 5-0.*

**D. Consideration of a proposed Charter Amendment to change from a Board of Assessors to a Single Assessor**

Camden and Rockport recently decided to have a joint Assessing Department to serve both Towns. The Camden Select Board serves as the Board of Assessors and has an Assessors Agent to perform the assessing functions. The Rockport Select Board ceased being the Board of Assessors in 2005. The purpose of this Charter Amendment is to recognize the complexity and amount of work required to perform the tax assessment duties and change from having the Select Board serve as the Board of Assessors to having a single Assessor who is trained and certified by Maine law. This item is for discussion to determine if the Select Board wants to present it to the citizens at a public hearing.

*After much discussion, Martin Cates made a motion to bring the issue forward to a Public Hearing. Don White seconded this motion and it carried 5-0.*

**Adjourn**

*Don White made the motion to adjourn as the Select Board and to convene as the Waste Water Commissioners. Martin Cates seconded this motion, and it carried 5-0.*

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**Wastewater Commissioners**

- 1. Call to order as Wastewater Commissioners

2. Approval of quarterly billings and certificate of Commitment of Sewer Bills:

- a. Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates for July 11, 2015-October 15, 2015 in the amount of \$369,623.33
- b. Certificate of Commitment of Sewer Rates for October 15, 2015 to January 14, 2016 in the amount of \$266,701.52.

*James Heard made a motion to approve both a. and b. Don White seconded this and the motion carried 5-0.*

**Adjourn**

The meeting came to a close at 7:05 pm.

*Don White made the motion to adjourn and Martin Cates seconded this. The motion carried 5-0.*

**Workshop**

*Topics: FY 16 Budget (Y-T-D)  
FY17*

Respectfully submitted,

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Nora E. McGrath, Recording Secretary