



Town of Camden
Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
February 17, 2015
6:30pm

PRESENT: Chairperson Martin Cates, John French, Jr., James Heard, Leonard Lookner, Don White, and Town Manager Finnigan. Also present were members of the press and public.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

2. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions

Public Landing and Fishermen's Hoist Project - Presentation

Pat Finnigan introduced the engineers for the Public Landing project, Kathy Kern of TY Lin and Dan Bannon of Baker Design. She reviewed the community process for the improvements to the public landing and said that the first two projects in the plan were the installation of a fisherman's hoist and the phased construction of the boardwalk.

Kathy Kern explained that at the time of the original grant application for funds for the Public Landing and Riverwalk projects, costing had not been complete and had included only a portion of the costs necessary for the first stage of the project. She said that the funds are available to install the hoist, expand the working waterfront area, install electrical service as well as a new fendering system, and replace pilings. The project would be phased into two or more phases, she said.

Kern and Bannon reviewed the plans in detail along with revisions that had been made to the original design, which in part included placing the hoist on land instead of on a stub pier. The designers said that valuable input had been gained by speaking with fishermen and Harbor Committee members, and that as a result they had modified the plans according to this input.

Questions were asked about the railing, the schedule for installation, and provisions for truck access during snow removal. Cates summarized the process that is underway, saying that if the Select Board approves moving forward with the design, a site plan would be resubmitted to the Planning Board for approval on March 5th. There would be a one-month lead time to order the hoist, and a two-week bid process, taking the timetable out to the end of May, he explained. Cates noted that the rest of the design would be put on hold until funds were available.

The following members of the Harbor Committee, as well as other individuals, spoke about the project: Gene McKeever, Ben Ellison, Ray Williamson, Domenic Gioia, Steve Gold and John Scholz. The Board discussed geotechnical exploration, and boring was recommended.

Leonard Lookner made a motion to move forward on plans for the fisherman's hoist as presented, to include boring and water service. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

3. Citizen Comments

Matt Dailey spoke about a letter that had been written by the Select Board prior to the school vote.

The Chair opened the floor to comments from the Board.

Don White talked about the PBRCC awards banquet, noting that the Beacon Award for economic development had been awarded to the Camden Winterfest committee. He also told the group that David McCullough would be speaking at the Library in July.

Leonard Lookner noted that the Camden Conference was coming up the following weekend.

John French responded to Matt Dailey's comments regarding the Select Board's letter and the middle school vote. He said that they appreciated all the work that the school board did, and that the vote indicated that the public needs to take a slower path. He recommended that the school planners go out and ask the citizens of the town what way they want to proceed at this point with regard to the middle school.

Jim Heard said that it's important for a board to be inclusive. Don White agreed with the previous comments regarding the school project and encouraged that the process moving forward should engage the community.

4. Approval of Select Board Minutes

John French made a motion to approve the minutes of the Select Board meeting dated January 20 and February 3, 2015 as presented. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

5. Select Board Member Reports

Don White told the group about the current considerations regarding the structure of the Downtown Network Board involving guidelines established by the Main Street program.

6. Town Manager Report

The Town Manager congratulated the Winterfest Committee for receiving the Beacon award, and the Toboggan Committee on celebrating 25 years of the event. She said that the town had received regional and national publicity and that the events had demonstrated to people outside the area that Camden is active during winter.

Finnigan thanked citizens for their patience with the snow removal process and thanked Public Works for their diligence as the snowstorms continue.

7. New Business

A. Consideration of a request to transfer the Daysailor license for the "Lively Lady" from Garth Wells/Alec Brainerd to Dominic Gioia

Gene McKeever said that the Harbor Committee had voted unanimously to recommend the transfer of the Lively Lady Daysailor license from Garth Wells and Alec Brainerd to Dominic Gioia. Harbormaster Steve Pixley said that comments from other daysailor operators were overwhelmingly positive. The Town Manager recognized Steve Pixley for his work at both the Snow Bowl and the Harbor managing the fireworks during Winterfest.

James Heard made a motion to approve the transfer of the Daysailor license for the “Lively Lady” from Garth Wells/Alec Brainerd to Dominic Gioia. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

B. Appoint Benjamin Curtis and Elizabeth O’Connor as alternate members of the Camden Opera House Committee

John French made a motion to appoint Benjamin Curtis and Elizabeth O’Connor as alternative members to the Camden Opera House Committee. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

C. Appoint members to the Tannery Re-Use Committee

Martin Cates read a list of names of people who had stepped forward to volunteer for the Tannery Committee. There were some comments from those present on the size of the committee.

Beth Schuman commented that the committee should include a representative from the Conservation Commission as well as a landscape architect. John French noted that experts such as these won’t be excluded because they will be brought into the process during the stages when their guidance is needed.

John French made a motion to appoint members of the Tannery Re-Use Committee as presented. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

D. Consideration of renewal victualers license for Joshua Hixson d/b/a 40 Paper located at 40 Washington Street

Don White made a motion to renew the victualers license for Joshua Hixson d/b/a 40 Paper located at 40 Washington Street. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

E. Authorize the Town Manager to Enter into an Agreement with P.A.W.S. Animal Adoption Center to Serve as the Town’s Shelter for Stray and Abandoned Animals

Leonard Lookner made a motion to enter into an agreement with P.A.W.S. Animal Adoption Center to serve as the Town’s Shelter for Stray and Abandoned Animals. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

CONVENE AS WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS

Don White made a motion to adjourn as Select Board and reconvene as Wastewater Commissioners. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Rates October 11, 2014 to January 11, 2015

John French made a motion to approve the quarterly sewer user bills in the amount of \$201,947.49. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Don White made a motion to adjourn as Wastewater Commissioners and reconvene as Select Board. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Executive Session

John French made a motion to meet in executive session with the Town Attorney to consider two matters: possible land use enforcement action regarding the Mountain Arrow subdivision; and disposition of tax acquired property, pursuant to Title 1 MRSA section 405.6.E. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Adjourn

Don White made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Leonard Lookner seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brace
Recording Secretary