



Town of Camden
Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
February 5, 2013
6:30pm

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

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

B. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions

1. U.S. National Toboggan Championship: February 8-10

Holly Edwards of the Toboggan Nationals Committee gave the Board an update on the events slated for the Toboggan Nationals weekend. She said that teams were sold out, and that there would be 400 teams competing in the races. Edwards spoke about the bus service that would be available to transport people to the Snow Bowl from town. The bus service would be headquartered at the Washington Street Conference Room, she said, and noted that volunteer opportunities were still available. Edwards described entertainment planned for Saturday night at the Opera House as well as at the Strom Auditorium and said that the full weekend program was listed on the Snow Bowl website.

The Town Manager thanked Edwards for her leadership of the committee, as well as the committee members and the many volunteers who turn up at the Snow Bowl to make the event happen. Finnigan also thanked Beth Ward for her hard work at the Snow Bowl this season and as well as on this event.

2. Recognition of the Camden Fire Department for qualifying for the Maine Department of Labor's SHAPE Program (Safety and Health Award for Public Employees)

Chief Farley spoke about the new fire truck that had recently arrived in Camden. He reported that there had been freeze-ups on some gauges on the pump panel and that they were scheduled to be replaced. Farley said that drivers would be qualified by the middle of February to drive the truck after practicing on a specified route.

Chief Farley noted that the new truck had been dedicated to volunteer fireman Harold Drinkwater who has served the department since 1955. A plaque on the new truck now bears Drinkwater's name.

Chief Farley then spoke about the SHAPE award that the department had received from the Maine Department of Labor and described the workplace safety criteria that the department had met to receive this commendation.

51 **3. Acceptance of Donations to the Camden Fire Department: \$900 from West Bay**
52 **Rotary and \$1000 from the Wal-Mart Foundation**
53

54 Chief Farley asked for approval of two donations which had been offered to the fire
55 department, \$900 from the West Bay Rotary Club to purchase first aid equipment, and
56 \$1000 from Wal-Mart which will be used to purchase either GPS equipment or an iPad that
57 could be taken on inspections.
58

59 *Donald White made a motion to accept the \$900 donation from the West Bay Rotary to*
60 *purchase first aid equipment and a backboard, and the \$1000 donation from the Wal-Mart*
61 *Foundation to purchase GPS or inspection equipment. John French seconded the motion. It was*
62 *unanimously approved.*
63

64 **4. Permission for the Camden Fire Department to use the building at 133 Elm Street**
65 **(formerly the Lotus restaurant) as a training site and to conduct a controlled burn**
66

67 Next Chief Farley spoke to the Board about a controlled burn planned for 133 Elm St., the
68 former location of the Lotus Chinese Restaurant. Farley said that a date prior to the end of
69 March would be set for the burn, and that meanwhile the building would be used for
70 training exercises.
71

72 Donald White noted that there would be a lot of interest from passing motorists when the
73 building is being burned, and that it might be best to take some safety precautions. Chief
74 Farley said he would look into using some traffic control aides.
75

76 *John French made a motion to allow the Camden Fire Department to use the property at 133*
77 *Elm Street (the former Lotus Restaurant) as a training site and conduct a controlled burn by*
78 *March 31. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*
79

80 **5. Presentation of Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2012**
81

82 The Board heard from Greg Chabot of Runyon Kersteen Ouellette who presented the results
83 of his firm's audit and reviewed the annual financial report with the Board. Chabot said that
84 his findings were that there had been no departures from generally accepted accounting
85 practices. He reported that his firm had tested the internal systems at the Town Office and
86 had found no material weaknesses in areas such as payroll and cash disbursements. He
87 noted that one thing generally labeled as a "significant deficiency" had been found which
88 relates to the preparation of financial statements. Chabot said that most of his clients have a
89 small number of staff people, and so as a result his firm assists 90% of its clients with
90 putting their financial statements together. In an ideal world, Chabot said, there would be a
91 segregation of duties in this area, but when this is not practical, the situation must be
92 labeled as a deficiency to conform to accounting regulations, he explained.
93

94 Chabot went over a summary of the financial statements with the Board using illustrated
95 graphs.
96

97 The Town Manager said that Chabot's firm had been handling this work for the Town of
98 Camden for more than 20 years. She thanked Chabot for doing a superlative job, and she
99 also thanked Carol Sue and Marlene in the Town Office for their work in assisting with this

100 process. Chabot told the Board that he is available throughout the year to answer any
101 questions that may arise as the months go forward.

102 **C. Citizen Comments**

103
104 Beedy Parker spoke about an upcoming meeting in Searsport regarding the LNG Tank
105 situation. She said that at the meeting, to be held February 11th, the Good Harbors Report
106 would be presented. Parker encouraged members of the Board, the public, and public safety
107 personnel to attend the meeting.
108

109 **D. Approval of Select Board Minutes dated January 22, 2013**

110
111 *Donald White made a motion to approve the minutes of the Select Board meeting dated*
112 *January 22, 2013, as presented. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously*
113 *approved.*

114 **E. Select Board Member Reports**

115
116 Donald White reported that the Midcoast Transit Committee had selected a firm to lead a
117 study on a direct transit system between Camden and Thomaston. Nelson/Nygaard
118 Consulting Associates Inc., a nationally recognized firm committed to developing
119 transportation systems, had been selected, White told the Board. The study is expected to
120 start later this month and will last about a year, he said.
121

122 Next White reported on the Gateway One Committee which has decided to explore the
123 possibility of teaming up with a fiscal sponsor. Gateway One has set up a subcommittee to
124 research the subject and to then report back at the next full committee meeting.
125

126 Martin Cates told the group about a follow-up meeting he had had with Bill Chapman, Chair
127 of the Rockport Select Board. Cates said that at the meeting they had combined their notes
128 from the recent joint session of the Select Boards and had laid the groundwork for a future
129 meeting that would take place in April.
130

131 Leonard Lookner suggested that the Select Board discuss its goals with regard to its work
132 with the Rockport Select Board. He also suggested that the Rockport Comprehensive Plan
133 be studied by the Camden Board to aid in the process of working together.

134 **F. Town Manager Report**

135
136 Pat Finnigan spoke to the Board about the Public Landing and Riverwalk Planning and
137 Design projects. She said that 11 different bids had been received by the Town, mostly from
138 Maine and one from Massachusetts. Finnigan said that interviews with selected firms would
139 begin shortly. She thanked those who had volunteered to be part of the work group: Gene
140 McKeever of the Harbor Committee, Barrie Pribyl of the Camden Downtown Business
141 Group, Cassie Snyder representing the Knox Mill Condominiums, Deb Dodge of CEDAC, and
142 Geoff Scott from the Pathways Committee. Finnigan said that the work group plans to bring
143 a recommendation for the bid award to the Select Board meeting on February 19th.
144

145 Next the Town Manager spoke about media attention that Camden has received due to the
146 “coolest small town” contest in which Camden is placing among the top towns nationwide.

147 Finnigan said that there had been coverage in Boston, that TV stations had visited town
148 from Bangor and Portland, and that the *Lewiston Sun Journal* would be doing a big spread on
149 Camden in the paper shortly.

150
151 **G. Old Business**

152
153 There was no old business.

154
155 **H. New Business**

156 **1. Consideration of renewal application for victualers license:**

- 157 a. Claudio Latanza d/b/a Maine Stay Inn at 22 High Street
158 b. Joshua Hixson, d/b/a 40 Paper at 40 Washington Street

159
160 *John French made a motion to grant the renewal of victualers licenses to Claudio Latanza*
161 *d/b/a Maine Stay Inn at 22 High Street and Joshua Hixson, d/b/a 40 Paper at 40 Washington*
162 *Street. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

163
164 **2. Request to write a letter of support for Compost Maine's grant application to the**
165 **Maine Technology Institute (MTI) to establish a demonstration project: regional**
166 **compost facility**

167
168 Larry Palmer of Compost Maine spoke about his company's application for a grant award
169 from the Maine Technology Institute. Palmer told the Board that his hope was that the grant
170 would fund a pilot composting project to assist a local facility with heat costs. Palmer said
171 that the pilot project could be set up in conjunction with either the Penobscot Bay YMCA or
172 the Camden Hills Regional High School with the goal of generating significant cost savings in
173 heat using large composting drums that would be placed on site. Palmer asked the Board to
174 provide a letter of support for Compost Maine's grant application to fund the pilot project.

175
176 Leonard Lookner asked if the heat produced by the drums could also be used to generate
177 electricity. Palmer said that this was possible and noted that 10 kilowatts an hour of
178 electricity can be produced in this way.

179
180 John French asked if the drums would produce odors on the site. Palmer answered that bio-
181 filters would be installed but would probably not be needed.

182
183 James Heard asked how long the temperature within the drums stays at 160°. Palmer
184 explained that the in-vessel cycle lasts 3 1/2 days, and that this is the length of time that the
185 temperature stays at that level.

186
187 There was some concern that the tipping minimums for the Transfer Station must be
188 maintained as outlined in the Town's contract with PERC.

189
190 *John French made a motion to ask the Town Manager to write a letter on behalf of the Select*
191 *Board in support of Compost Maine's application to the Maine Technology Institute to*
192 *establish a 2-year demonstration project to produce fuel from composted material. Donald*
193 *White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

194

