



Town of Camden
Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
June 18, 2013
6:30pm

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 6:31pm.

B. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions

1. Joint Camden-Rockport Sidewalk Project - Update

Brian Hodges told the Board that the application submitted in 2012 by the Town to design and build a new sidewalk along Route 1 between Rockport and Camden had been approved for the full amount of \$133,630. Hodges said that the sidewalk, between Leonard's Clothing Store and Quarry Hill Road, is intended to ensure pedestrian safety as they go to and from the Maritime Farms bus stop. Hodges also noted that the project includes crosswalk improvements for pedestrians over to the Hannaford Shopping Plaza.

Hodges thanked the Select Board as well as the many other groups and individuals who had provided letters of support for the sidewalk grant application. He said that funds could be released as late as 2016 based on allocations from MDOT; however, if state infrastructure bonds pass, local funds could be released sooner. The grant is an 80/20 split with the 20% local match shared by the two towns. Camden's share of the local match is \$20,779 (to be funded through the economic development reserve fund), and Rockport's share will be \$12,628.

Rockport Select Board member William Chapman spoke to the group, saying that the collaboration between the two towns has proven to be very worthwhile.

2. Downtown Master Plan - Update

Hodges then announced that a larger grant in the amount of \$618,788 had also been approved, to fund infrastructure improvements recommended in the Downtown Master Plan. Specific improvements, he said, are pedestrian-focused and will include new and improved sidewalks and/or pathways along Washington, Bay View, and Commercial Streets, curb extensions, and associated amenities and lighting. This grant is also an 80/20 split with a 20% local match (\$123,758).

Hodges said that while this grant is also scheduled to have funds released in 2016, municipalities that can show their readiness to pay their local share would go to the top of the list and could get their allocations sooner. CEDAC is looking at ways to fund the local

match and will have a recommendation for the Select Board at an upcoming meeting, he said.

Finnigan noted that the importance of the inclusive nature of this project could not be overstated. She said that many groups have participated throughout this process, and that this level of involvement and collaboration has been the key to the Master Plan's success all along. Finnigan also spoke about Hodges' superlative skills in the area of fundraising, describing how he has brought a large amount of federal and state money into our community which has been invested in the Town.

Members of the Board commended Hodges for his hard work and successful results.

3. Establishment of the Rules of Order to be followed at Select Board Meetings

The Rules of Order had been updated to include the live streaming of meetings.

John French made a motion to adopt the Rules of Order to be followed at Select Board Meetings. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

C. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments, so the Chair opened the floor to comments from the Board.

Don White congratulated Rick Bates on his appointment as Rockport's new Town Manager. He also thanked Pat Finnigan, Martin Cates and John French for their efforts with the RFP to examine options for an EMS Provider, saying that they had done a great deal of work in a short period of time.

White reminded everyone that school is out and to be careful of kids playing in the roads, bicycling, and skateboarding.

John French stated his thanks to the Camden First Aid Association for their many years of excellent service to the Town.

James Heard said he had attended a breakfast event at the Snow Bowl and had ridden the chairlift, reminding him how lucky we are to live here.

D. Approval of Select Board Minutes dated June 4, 2013

James Heard made a motion to approve the minutes of the Select Board meeting dated June 4, 2013. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

E. Select Board Member Reports

Don White reported that the Opera House Committee had presented a proposal for a TIF fund project to the Downtown Network Board as well as the Historic Resources Committee. The proposal would revamp the front of the Opera House.

White said that the Historic Resources Committee had met and had discussed a display on

the wall at Curtis Island Light. He said that the Committee had also issued a statement regarding proposed zoning changes on High Street.

The Midcoast Transit Committee, White reported, would be holding community meetings on the 24th and 25th to present the results of the recently-completed transit study. White also told the group about plans discussed by the Camden Public Library Trustees for the July 13th celebration of the amphitheater designation.

James Heard reported that at the June 6th meeting of the Harbor Committee, the group had discussed the list of people waiting for inner harbor floats. Heard said they had also talked about the hoist that fishermen need for their work at the waterfront.

Heard had attended a meeting of the Ragged Mountain Redevelopment group and said that the committee had conducted a phonathon which had helped build awareness about the campaign. Heard also reported that Sara's Room had reached its goal of \$500,000.

F. Town Manager Report

Pat Finnigan welcomed the new Rockport Town Manager Rick Bates and wished him well in his new position.

Finnigan said that the Town Meeting held one week ago had enjoyed a good showing and she thanked all the voters who had cast votes and attended the meeting.

The Town Manager reminded everyone that the third community meeting to discuss the Riverwalk and Public Landing projects would be held on Monday the 24th at 6:30 at Camden Rockport Middle School. She said that at this meeting that the consultants would be presenting concepts developed so far and collecting feedback.

G. New Business

1. Consideration of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Camden Police Benevolent Association

Town Manager Finnigan commended Chief Randy Gagne and Union President/Shop Steward Sgt. John Tooley for conducting a successful union contract negotiation. She said they had focused on priorities and that negotiations had resulted in a 3% increase in wages, in line with other communities. Finnigan explained additional modifications in the contract as well. Gagne noted that this is the first time in recent memory that the process has been completed on time prior to the current contract's expiration on June 30th.

John French made a motion to approve the 3-year Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Camden Police Union which recognizes the position of Detective and which provides for a 3% wage increase each year effective July 1. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

2. Agreement Between the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area Foundation and the Town of Camden regarding Funding of the Snow Bowl Sanitary System

The Town Manager offered background on the septic agreement between the Town and

the Snow Bowl. She said that the foundation had fronted the money to repair the septic system and that if the bond issue does not pass in November, \$68,777 would have to be raised by the Town for this purpose.

Donald White made a motion to approve the cost-sharing agreement between the Town of Camden and the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area Foundation where the Foundation advanced 100% of the cost of the Snow Bowl Sanitary System which amounted to \$229,257, of which Camden's obligation to reimburse the Foundation is \$68,777. The motion was seconded by John French. It was unanimously approved.

3. Authorize the Town Manager to enter into Contract Negotiations with Northeast Mobile Health Services to Provide Emergency Medical Services to the Town of Camden

Finnigan discussed how the EMS Review Team had recommended that the towns contract with North East Mobile Health Services for emergency medical services. She said that at the Camden Town Meeting, \$50,000 has been authorized for this purpose. Finnigan noted that a contract would come back to the Select Board for approval.

John French thanked the managers and administrators from the four towns for their hard work as part of the EMS Review Team.

Donald White made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to enter into contract negotiations with Northeast Mobile Health Services to provide Emergency Medical Services to the Town of Camden. The motion was seconded by James Heard. It was unanimously approved.

4. Consideration of the following Victualer's License renewals: Blue Harbor House, Camden Bagel Café, Camden Hideaway Inn, Camden Riverhouse Hotel, Subway, Quarry Hill (Anderson Inn)

Leonard Lookner made a motion to approve the victualer's license renewals for the Blue Harbor House, Camden Bagel Café, Camden Hideaway Inn, Camden Riverhouse Hotel, Subway, Quarry Hill (Anderson Inn). The motion was seconded by John French. It was unanimously approved.

5. Consideration of the following Lodging Establishment License renewals: Blue Harbor House, Camden Hideaway Inn, and Camden Riverhouse Hotel

John French made a motion to approve the lodging establishment license renewals for the Blue Harbor House, Camden Hideaway Inn, and Camden Riverhouse Hotel. The motion was seconded by Leonard Lookner. It was unanimously approved.

6. Reappointment of the Town Manager pursuant to Article II, Section 1 of the Town Charter.

Pat Finnigan was thanked by members of the Select Board for her outstanding work.

John French made a motion to appoint Patricia Finnigan as Town Manager until July 1,

2014. The motion was seconded by Leonard Lookner. It was unanimously approved.

7. Reappointment of the Road Commissioner pursuant to Title 23, Section 2701, MRSA.

John French made a motion to appoint Richard Seibel as Road Commissioner until July 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

8. Reappointment of the Harbormaster pursuant to the Harbor & Waterways Ordinance, Article III, Section 3.

Donald White made a motion to appoint Steven Pixley as Harbor Master until July 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Leonard Lookner. It was unanimously approved.

9. Reappointment of an Assessors' Agent pursuant to Article IV, Part C, Section 2 of the Town Charter.

Board members noted that Wes Robinson is very thorough with his work and offers informative memos. It was also noted that Robinson goes the extra mile for taxpayers.

John French made a motion to appoint Wesley Robinson as Assessors' Agent until July 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

10. Reappointment of the Health Officer pursuant to M.R.S.A. §451

Don White noted that Steve Wilson wears many hats in his job and is very positive in his work.

John French made a motion to appoint Stephen Wilson as Health Officer until July 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

11. Confirmation of the Town Manager's appointments of the Treasurer, Tax Collector, and the Town Clerk and Department Heads pursuant to Article III of the Town Charter.

Donald White made a motion to confirm the Town Manger's appointments of the following individuals to the indicated positions:

Barton Wood, Tree Warden
Bethany Ward, Interim Director of Parks & Recreation
Carol Sue Greenleaf, Deputy Treasurer
Carol Sue Greenleaf, Finance Director
Chris Farley, Civil Emergency Preparedness Director
Chris Farley, Fire Chief
Janice L. Esancy, General Assistance (Welfare) Administrator
Justin Twitchell, Inland Harbormaster
Katrina Oakes, Town Clerk
Marlene Libby, Treasurer
Randy Gagne, Police Chief
Richard Seibel, Public Works Director
Richard Seibel, Assistant Tree Warden
Stephen Wilson, Code Enforcement Officer/Planner

Stephen Wilson, Plumbing Inspector
Theresa Butler, Tax Collector

Further, that the following individuals be reappointed to the indicated positions for the Town of Camden until July 1, 2014 in accordance with Article III, 2.g of the Town Charter:

Randy Gagne, Constable
Michael Geary Constable
Robert Wiggin, Sealer of Weights and Measures
Tom Ford, Alternate Plumbing Inspector
Wesley Robinson, Alternate Plumbing Inspector
Wesley Robinson, Assistant Code Enforcement Officer

Further that the following individuals be reappointed to the indicated positions for the Town of Camden until July 1, 2014 in accordance with Title 30-A, Section 4171, M.R.S.A.:

Stephen Wilson, Electrical Inspector
Wesley Robinson, Alternate Electrical Inspector

The motion was seconded by John French. It was unanimously approved.

12. Set date(s) of July Select Board Meetings

John French made a motion to set the July Select Board meeting dates on July 2 and July 16. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

13. Request by the Camden Public Library to close Atlantic Avenue on July 13 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for the celebration recognizing the Camden Amphitheater and Library as a National Historic Landmark.

James Heard made a motion to close Atlantic Avenue on July 13 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for the celebration recognizing the Camden Amphitheater and Library as a National Historic Landmark. The motion was seconded by John French. It was unanimously approved.

14. Consideration of a request to close Central Street between Cross Street and Trim Street on Saturday, July 13th from 5pm to 9pm for a neighborhood block party.

John French made a motion to close Atlantic Avenue on July 13 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for the celebration recognizing the Camden Amphitheater and Library as a National Historic Landmark. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

I. Select Board Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

Adjourn

John French made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Select Board and reconvene as Wastewater Commissioners. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously and the Select Board meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Wastewater Commissioners meeting

The Board reconvened as Wastewater Commissioners.

1. Establishment of the Rules of Order to be followed at Wastewater Commissioner Meetings

John French made a motion to approve the Rules of Order for the Wastewater Commissioner Meetings. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

2. Appointment of Chief Executive and Administrative Official of the Wastewater Department, and of the Superintendent of the Wastewater Department, Pursuant to Article V, Section 7 of the Town Charter

John French made a motion to appoint Patricia Finnigan, Chief Executive and Administrative Official of the Wastewater Department and Ross Parker, Superintendent of Wastewater Department. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

3. Review and Approval of the FY14 Wastewater Budget and User Rate

Ross Parker, Superintendent of the wastewater department, spelled out the details of the proposed FY14 budget. Parker said that the amount requested was slightly less than last year and attributed the savings to upgrades on equipment and installation of energy efficient motors, which had resulted in \$29,000 in savings. Thus there would be no raise in rates for taxpayers, he said.

John French made a motion to approve the recommended FY 2014 Wastewater Budget and keep the same user rate of \$4.04/cubic yard. The motion was seconded by Donald White. It was unanimously approved.

4. Review and Approval of the FY14 Seabright Hydro Budget Motion to approve the FY14 Seabright Hydro Dam Budget

Parker told the Board that the Seabright Dam has generated 238,240 kw of power resulting in a \$17,063 credit for power generation. This has brought in revenue exceeding budget by \$2000. Therefore, Parker said that he would project \$18,000 in revenue for the coming year as opposed to \$16,000 that had been projected during the previous fiscal year.

John French made a motion to approve the FY14 Seabright Hydro Dam Budget. The motion was seconded by Leonard Lookner. It was unanimously approved.

Town Manager Finnigan commended Wastewater Superintendent Parker for his 25 years of service. She said that Parker has proven to be innovative in his position and has overseen 17 miles of sewer mains as well as seven Pump stations. She described how he also took on the challenging project of the Seabright Dam and has created a hydroelectric facility that Camden can be proud of. Finnigan said that while accomplishing all this, Parker has come in with a lower budget.

Chairperson Martin Cates presented Ross Parker with a certificate of appreciation for his 25 years of service to the Town of Camden.

Adjourn

Donald White made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brace
Recording Secretary