



Town of Camden
Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
October 23, 2012
6:30pm

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

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31.

2. Citizen Comments

Richard Householder of the Planning Board spoke in support of the passage of Articles VI and XI in the upcoming election and clarified facts around the proposed ordinance changes.

Gian-Angelo Gallace of Camden spoke against passage of Articles VI and XI.

Lowrie Sargent, Vice-Chair of the Planning Board, spoke in favor of passing the changes to Articles VI and XI.

Oscar Verest, Chair of the Camden Downtown Business Group, told the Board that his organization had voted unanimously to support the changes to the sign ordinance.

George Muller of the Ragged Mountain Recreation Area Foundation reported that the redevelopment capital campaign, with its goal of \$4.5 million, had surpassed the \$3 million mark.

Seeing no further public comments, Chairperson Cates closed the floor and opened it to Board comments.

Leonard Lookner spoke against passage of Articles VI and XI in the upcoming election.

Donald White spoke in favor of the passage of Articles VI and XI.

Bill Kelly spoke on behalf of Jim Elliot regarding an upcoming license application for Twin Oakes.

Martin Cates spoke in favor of the passage of Articles VI and XI.

3. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions

A) Youth Arts' 40th Anniversary

Kate Monroe, Chair of the Youth Arts Auction planned for November 3rd, spoke to the Board

about the event and thanked the Board for allowing the group to display the art in the Town Office window.

B) U.S. Toboggan Nationals Update

Sandy Cox, President of the West Bay Rotary Club, presented the Club's proposal for a fundraiser during the Toboggan Nationals weekend. The event would feature a wine, beer and cheese tasting tent at the Snow Bowl and would take place on Friday, February 8, 2013 from 3-7pm. Cox said that they would expect 200-250 participants. Net proceeds would be donated to the Ragged Mountain Foundation in memory of Rotarians Don Gross and Ken Bailey, who had been instrumental in the Toboggan Nationals. Cox said that Club would hold the event in a 30'x 50' tent.

Licensing and insurance coverage were discussed. Cox said they had been working with the state liquor commissioner on the necessary application process. John French noted that it is important to ensure the Town is protected.

Town Attorney William Kelly stated that granting preliminary permission for the event would simply start the process, and that the Select Board's permission would be subject to the appropriate permits being secured as the planning moves forward.

Donald White made a motion to grant the West Bay Rotary Club permission for a new feature during the Toboggan Nationals weekend in February, to host a local wine, beer & cheese tasting, provided they meet all contingencies necessary to hold the event. Martin Cates seconded the motion. At the suggestion of Leonard Lookner, Donald White amended his motion to include a provision for no amplified music. John French seconded the amended motion. It was unanimously approved.

C) Communication from the National Parks Service regarding Designating the Camden Public Library Amphitheater as a National Historic Landmark

Dave Jackson provided an update to the Select Board on the process of designating the Amphitheater as a National Historic Landmark. Jackson said he and the Library Director would be traveling to Washington D.C. on November 8th to give a presentation about the Amphitheater to the National Parks Service. He asked that the Select Board send a letter of support to the National Parks Service.

Donald White made a motion that the Select Board heartily endorse asking the Town Manager to send a letter to the National Parks Service in support of the Amphitheater being added to the National Historic Register. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

D) Petition Regarding Resurfacing of Rockbrook Drive

Pat Finnigan told the Board that residents of Rockbrook Drive had petitioned the Town requesting resurfacing of their road. She described the Public Works Department's process for rating roads along with the factors that go into those ratings as they prepare budget recommendations.

John French made a motion to refer this item to staff to work with the Public Works department to bring this item to the budget committee in March. Donald White seconded the motion.

There was discussion on other local roads that are in need of repair as well as the timing of the rating process.

The motion was unanimously approved.

E) Accept resignation of George Wheelwright from the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Affordable Housing Committee

John French made a motion to accept the resignation of George Wheelwright from the Zoning Board of Appeals and from the Affordable Housing Committee. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

4. Approval of Board Minutes

John French made a motion that the minutes of the October 2nd meeting be accepted. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

5. Select Board Member Reports

Donald White told the Board that he had attended a Planning Board meeting on Oct. 4th where a report to the Select Board on the Comprehensive Plan was reviewed, along with possible ordinance issues to be addressed during 2013.

White reported that he had attended a Historic Resources Committee meeting on October 9th where the committee had discussed the current Demolition Ordinance. White said that the group had decided by consensus that members of the public who may wish to reopen the discussion of a demolition delay ordinance should do so through the Planning Board. Also at the meeting, Meg Barclay had agreed to be one of the committee's co-chairs.

White said he had attended the October 17th meeting of the Library Trustees where they had been given a preview of the Amphitheatre presentation by Dave Jackson.

Lastly White reported on the October 22nd meeting of the Camden Opera House Committee where a preliminary discussion had been held on fundraising for the 3rd floor renovations.

6. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Finnigan said that the staff was working hard to prepare for election day, and that 800 absentee ballot applications had been distributed this far. She added that the new Parks brochure would be handed out at the polls to those who come to vote.

Finnigan reported that October is Fire Prevention month and the Camden Fire Department had been very active meeting with school and community groups. She said the Chief could provide details during his presentation. She congratulated Chief Farley on his appointment to the State Fire Chiefs Association Board.

The Town Manager reported that new floats had been installed at the harbor and that the new pilings would be installed next. She said the Harbor Committee had worked very hard to make this project happen.

She also told the Board that there would be a public hearing on the County budget on October 25th at the Knox County Courthouse.

7. Old Business

A. Consideration of renewal of Victualer and Lodging licenses for Perseid Corporation, d/b/a Camden Windward House at 6 High Street

John French made a motion to approve the Victualer and Lodging licenses for Camden Windward House. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

8. New Business

A. Approval of the Renewal Agreement for the Curtis Island Caretaker

Pat Finnigan said that three-year Caretaker Agreement expires on October 31. The Conover family had been the caretakers of Curtis Island for many years. She said the Conovers are very diligent in maintaining the grounds and the light house. The light house and the house were both painted over the past two years, and the Harbor Master had assisted the Conovers with closing up the buildings for the winter. She said the Agreement is with Mrs. Conover and her son David, but the entire family is involved and with the care and maintenance of the island. She said the Town is very fortunate to have the Conover family as caretakers of Curtis Island.

Donald White made a motion to enter into a three-year agreement with Dianne and David Conover to provide caretaking services on Curtis Island, with the agreement remaining in effect until October 31, 2015. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

B. Authorize the sale of Engine 1 and Bid Award

Chief Farley explained that when the new fire truck arrives and is put into service in December, the current Engine 1 will be a surplus truck. The Department had received two bids for Engine 1. He and the Town Manager recommended that the bid be awarded to the high bid.

James Heard made a motion to award the bid to purchase Engine 1 to the Town of Jonesboro for \$23,501. John French seconded the motion.

John French suggested that it was in the Town's best interest to allow Jonesboro to pick up the truck as soon as they were able.

James Heard amended his motion to allow Jonesboro to pick up the fire as soon as they wish. John French seconded the amended motion. It was unanimously approved.

Chief Farley described activities of the department to recognize Fire Prevention Week.

C. Approval of the Town Manager's Recommended FY12 Carry Forward Amounts

The Town Manager told the Board that each year the Board is asked to authorize carrying some unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year, primarily to allow projects which were not completed to be funded from the appropriate fiscal year account. She noted that carrying the recommended amount forward will still result in an increase to the general fund balance.

Donald White made a motion to approve \$246,192 from FY12 general fund operating accounts to carry forward to the FY13 operating budget, and \$25,472 in carry forward funds in the Wastewater account, and \$1,500 in the Seabright Dam account as recommended. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

D. Adoption of Appendix C (Maximum Guidelines) of the General Assistance Ordinance for 2012-2013

Chairperson Cates opened a Public Hearing.

Town Manager Finnigan told the Board that every municipality in Maine is mandated by state law to provide a local welfare program to offer assistance for basic necessities to people who do not have sufficient income to pay for them. She said that guidelines for this program are established by the State Department of Human Services and are updated every year at this time.

Cates asked if there were any public comments on this issue. There were none.

John French made a motion to amend the General Assistance Ordinance by adopting the 2012-2013 Maximum Assistance Guidelines "Appendix C". James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

The public hearing was closed.

E. Resolution to support State Bond Issues for Higher Education (Question #2), Land for Maine's Future (Question #3), Transportation (Question #4) and Water/Wastewater Improvements (Question #5)

Board members discussed whether they would endorse bond questions or simply urge voters to become informed on these issues prior to November 6th.

John French made a motion to urge voters to become familiar with these bond issues and be informed on November 6th. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

F. Set Select Board meeting dates for November 2012 through January 2013

Donald White made a motion to set the Select Board's November meeting dates as Nov. 13 and

Nov. 27. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Donald White made a motion to hold one Select Board meeting in December on Dec. 18. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Leonard Lookner made a motion to set January Select Board meetings for Jan. 8 and Jan. 22, 2013. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Select Board Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

9. Executive Session

The Town Manager requested that the Board go into Executive Session to meet with the Town Attorney in accordance with Title 1 section 405 subsections 6C and 6E to discuss real estate and the legal rights of the Select Board.

John French made a motion to go into Executive Session. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved and the Board went into Executive Session at 8:18pm.

Adjourn

_____ made a motion to adjourn the meeting. _____
seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brace
Recording Secretary