



Town of Camden
Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
November 13, 2012
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 6:30pm.

Moment of Silence

Pat Finnigan spoke about the recent loss of Jeff Kuller, noting his incredible service to the Town and the significant impact he made through his years working and living here. Those present observed a moment of silence in Jeff's honor.

1. Report re: Comprehensive Plan Process

Lowrie Sargent, Chair of the Comprehensive Planning Committee, updated the Board on the process of reviewing the Comprehensive Plan. He said that the first four chapters to be looked at would be the chapters on History (Chapter 1), Natural Resources (Chapter 5), Natural Opportunities and Constraints (Chapter 6), and Historic Resources (Chapter 14). The Plan's forecast will run out to 2025, he noted.

Sargent told the Board that committees will begin their work after the first of the year and asked for the Town's assistance in encouraging citizens to participate on the committees that will be reviewing these chapters. Sargent said that he would be returning to the Select Board frequently to apprise them on progress.

2. Accept Donation from the Atlantic Engine Company #2 for a Thermal Imaging Camera in recognition of former firefighter Chris Lowe

Fire Chief Chris Farley said that Engine One had been sold to Jonesboro earlier in the month, and that Camden's new fire truck was nearly complete. It is expected to arrive in mid-December, he said.

The Chief told the Board that in honor of former firefighter Chris Lowe, Prince's Furniture and the Lowe family have offered a donation of \$5,000 to help purchase a new thermal imaging camera for the department. While the camera had been in the budget for an amount of \$12,500, Farley said they'd found a camera for \$9,500, so with the gift from the Lowe family through the Atlantic Engine Company, the cost to the Town has been brought down to \$4,500. Members of the department demonstrated the equipment.

John French made a motion to accept a \$5,000 donation from the Atlantic Engine Company #2 for a Thermal Imaging Camera in honor of former firefighter Chris Lowe, with thanks to his

52 *family. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*
53

54 **3. Authorize the West Bay Rotary Club to hold a Beer and Wine Tasting Event at the**
55 **2013 US National Toboggan Championships**
56

57 Sandy Cox, president of the West Bay Rotary Club, reviewed the club's plans for a new beer
58 and wine tasting event to be held during the Toboggan Championships to raise money for
59 the Snow Bowl. He asked that background music be allowed during the event. The hours of
60 the event would be from 3pm – 7pm, he said.
61

62 *John French made a motion to authorize the West Bay Rotary Club to hold the "Down the*
63 *Chute" Beer and Wine Tasting Event on February 8 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the U.S*
64 *National Toboggan Championships. Donald White seconded the motion.*
65

66 *John French amended the motion to include that background music would be allowed. Donald*
67 *White seconded the amendment. The amended motion was unanimously approved.*
68

69 **4. Establish 2013 Harbor Fees**
70

71 Harbormaster Steve Pixley appeared before the Board to present the proposed 2013 Harbor
72 Fees recommended by the Harbor Committee. Pixley reviewed the details of the proposed
73 fee schedule and the changes that were being recommended. Pat Finnigan noted that
74 modest increases were included to help pay for the cost of improvements at the harbor.
75

76 Several issues were discussed by board members, including the comparison between
77 resident and transient mooring fees, the use of service moorings, the importance of not
78 competing with neighboring businesses, and the complaint that two-hour tie-ups have been
79 frequently unavailable on the town docks.
80

81 Pixley told the Board that the Harbor Committee has set up work groups to study questions
82 such as these. He noted that a time frame for overnight dockage had been established to free
83 up dock space between the hours of 10am and 4pm. Pixley explained that encouraging
84 visitors to stay and support Camden businesses has been a consideration, so the 10am
85 departure time has not always been enforced. He told the Board that some towns charge a
86 day rate for use of their docks. These and other matters are under further study by the work
87 groups, he said.
88

89 *Donald White made a motion to approve the Harbor Fees for 2013 as recommended by the*
90 *Harbor Committee. Martin Cates seconded the motion.*
91

92 *Leonard Lookner proposed an amendment to accept the 2013 Harbor Fees pending an*
93 *adjustment to the resident mooring fees to be more consistent with the transient mooring fees.*
94 *The amendment was seconded by John French. The amended motion was unanimously*
95 *approved.*
96

97 **5. Public Comment and consideration of the proposed new Cell Tower on Ragged**
98 **Mountain in Rockport**
99

100 Scott Anderson who handles local permitting for Verizon Wireless spoke to the Board about
101 the cell tower proposed for Ragged Mountain. Tower owner Charlie Foote of Rockport was

102 also on hand. Anderson gave a structural overview of the new tower which is necessary to
103 accommodate G4 antennas. He noted that the current tower had been built in 1989 and
104 would stay on site. The new tower would be the same height, he said, standing 195' and
105 would not need to be lighted.

106
107 Tom Ford, Planner and Community Development Director for the Town of Rockport, told
108 the Board that Rockport's Planning Board would be considering this item at an upcoming
109 meeting.

110
111 The construction process was discussed. James Heard expressed concern that areas used to
112 access the top of the mountain be protected and maintained in such a way so as to avoid
113 erosion.

114
115 The Chair opened the floor to public comment.

116
117 Dorie Klein commented on the cell tower asking who pays for towers to be taken down
118 when the time comes, and whether there is a limit on the number of towers allowed on the
119 mountain.

120
121 Tom Ford explained that FCC regulations as well as the Land Use Ordinance specify that all
122 carriers must co-locate on this tower rather than on a separate one. He invited anyone with
123 an interest to attend the upcoming meetings that Rockport would be holding, along with the
124 site plan review.

125
126 Gian Angelo-Gallace commented on liability issues and hazards to wildlife in the area.

127
128 The floor was closed to public comment.

129
130 **6. Consideration of request from the Tax Collector to abate the personal property taxes**
131 **assessed to Northern New England Telephone Operations, LLC**

132
133 Town Manager Finnigan and Town Attorney Kelly explained the background on this issue.

134
135 *John French made a motion to abate the personal property taxes assessed to Northern New*
136 *England Telephone in the amount of \$641.02. James Heard seconded the motion. It was*
137 *unanimously approved.*

138
139 **7. Consideration of Transfer of Revocable license for encroachment of a garage on Town**
140 **property on Beacon Avenue Extension**

141
142 Attorney James Elliott spoke to the Board on behalf of his client, the owner of the existing
143 garage on Beacon Avenue Extension.

144
145 *John French made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a revocable license*
146 *with James F. Bleakley, Jr. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. It was unanimously*
147 *approved.*

148
149 **8. Consideration of application to fill an alternate seat vacancy on the Historic**
150 **Resources Committee**

151 *Leonard Lookner made a motion to appoint Patricia Skaling an alternate member of the*

152 *Historic Resources Committee. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously*
153 *approved.*

154
155 **9. Consideration of application to fill an alternate seat vacancy on the Parks and**
156 **Recreation Committee**

157
158 *James Heard made a motion to appoint Katherine Heard as an alternate member of the Parks*
159 *and Recreation Committee. Donald White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*
160

161 **10. Bid Award for Surplus Equipment**
162

163 Pat Finnigan told the Board that there were two pieces of obsolete equipment that the Town
164 no longer needs: a 1995 GMC Truck and 1978 John Deere Bulldozer. She said they had put
165 the equipment out to bid and had received seven bids for the truck and four for the
166 bulldozer. She said that staff's recommendation was to award the truck to Frank Cochran of
167 Warren in the amount of \$627 and the John Deere bulldozer to Randy Martin of Cushing in
168 the amount of \$2279.

169
170 *Martin Cates made a motion that the GMC Truck award be granted to Frank Cochran of*
171 *Warren, Maine in the amount of \$627 and that the John Deere Bulldozer be awarded to Randy*
172 *Martin of Cushing, Maine in the amount of \$2,279. James Heard seconded the motion. It was*
173 *unanimously approved.*
174

175 **B. Citizen Comments**
176

177 Seeing no Citizen Comments, the Chair opened the floor to comments from the Board.
178

179 Leonard Lookner spoke about Jeff Kuller's impact on our community and observed that the
180 large turnout at his service was a testament to his character.
181

182 James Heard spoke to the Board about the DCP Tank Farm application. He said that the first
183 public hearing will be held on November 26th at 6pm at the Searsport District High School,
184 and that hearings would be continued over subsequent days on November 27-28-29th with
185 each session starting at 6pm.

186 **C. Approval of Select Board Minutes dated October 23, 2012**
187

188 *Donald White made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 23, 2012 meeting as*
189 *presented. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

190 **D. Select Board Member Reports**
191

192 Don White told the Board that he had attended a meeting of the Cemetery Association on
193 October 24th where the price of graves at all three cemeteries had been adjusted to \$350 for
194 residents and \$500 for non-residents. He reported that the committee had also decided to
195 consider upright headstones on a portion of Oak Hill North.
196

197 White said he had attended a Planning Board meeting on October 25th where the board had
198 approved revisions to the Katherine Henderson Subdivision and Wayfarer Partners. White
199 said that the Mechanic Street ladder sign had also been discussed. He reported that at their

200 subsequent meeting on November 1st, the Planning Board had discussed possible future
201 zoning changes along with the first steps for the Comprehensive Plan review.

202
203 Lastly White reported that the Midcoast Transit Committee had met on October 25th and
204 had approved the Transit Study RFP. The RFP has since been advertised, he said.

205
206 Leonard Lookner told the Board that he had attended the recent Harbor Committee meeting
207 where they worked on the fees that had been presented. The Committee is also considering
208 arrangements for winter use of the public docks, he reported.

209
210 James Heard said that he had also attended the November 8th meeting of the Harbor
211 Committee and that dredging of the harbor will begin on December 3rd.

212
213 Martin Cates told the group about that day's meeting of the Downtown Network Board,
214 noting that the DNB's Co-Chairs would be presenting a preliminary report to the Select
215 Board at the meeting scheduled for November 27th.

216 **E. Town Manager Report**

217
218 Town Manager Finnigan thanked the staff who had made Election Day run so smoothly for
219 voters. She said that turnout had been good and that the departments had worked well
220 together at the Public Safety Building to ensure a successful day. She also thanked the many
221 volunteers, Facilities Manager Dave Morrison, Moderator Peter Gross, and Deb Dodge who
222 had served as Warden.

223
224 Finnigan told the Board that the Camden Public Library team had experienced a successful
225 day in Washington, D.C. and had received a unanimous recommendation from the National
226 Park Service to move on to the next step in obtaining National Historic Landmark status for
227 the Library Amphitheater.

228
229 Finally, the Town Manager noted that tax collections are ahead of last year, with 86%
230 having been collected as of November 1st as compared to 74% having been collected at this
231 time in 2011.

232 **F. Discussion of Select Board Code of Conduct**

233 The Board discussed their Code of Conduct.

234 **G. Select Board Closing Comments**

235 There were no closing comments.

236 **Adjourn**

237
238 *Donald White made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Martin Cates seconded the motion. The*
239 *motion passed unanimously and the Board adjourned at 8:52pm.*

240
241 Respectfully submitted,

242
243
244 _____
245 Karen Brace
Recording Secretary