



**Town of Camden**  
**Minutes of the Select Board Meeting**  
**November 18, 2014**  
**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.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

*John French made a motion to adjourn as Select Board and convene as Wastewater Commissioners. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

**1. Convene as Wastewater Commissioners**

**A. Appointment of David Bolstridge as Wastewater Treatment Superintendent**

Pat Finnigan recommended to the Board that David Bolstridge be appointed Wastewater Superintendent for the Town of Camden. She told the group that David had been the Assistant Director of Rockland Wastewater Department for the past seven years and that the interview team had voted unanimously to recommend him to the Board.

David Bolstridge spoke to the Board about his background and plans for the job.

*Don White made a motion to appoint David Bolstridge as the Camden Wastewater Facility Superintendent. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

The Town Manager thanked Ross Parker and Steve Beveridge who served on the interview team for the search.

**B. Approval of the Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Fees for the period from July 11, 2014 to October 11, 2014 in the amount of \$242,547.30**

*John French made a motion to approve the Certificate of Commitment of Sewer User Fees for the period from July 11, 2014 to October 11, 2014 in the amount of \$242,547.30. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

**Adjourn**

*Don White made a motion to adjourn as Wastewater Commissioners and reconvene as Select Board. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

## **Convene as Select Board**

### **2. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions**

#### **a) Select Board Report: Tannery Site Advisory Vote**

Martin Cates read a statement on behalf of the Select Board regarding the November 4<sup>th</sup> advisory vote on the Tannery site. He thanked all those who had been involved in the process as well as those who came out to vote. Cates spoke about the importance of citizen involvement and said that next steps would begin in mid-January. He described how a dialogue process would take place during which the guiding principles would be reviewed. Cates said that anyone who would like to be involved is welcome, and that in becoming involved, residents could help define what type of development the community wants to see at the site.

Tom Resek of Camden read a statement on behalf of the Megunticook River Friends, indicating that the group would like to work with the Select Board on options for the Tannery site.

Other Camden residents who spoke on the topic of the Tannery were Wyatt McConnell, Steve Gold, Eleanor Mason-Peters, Nina Holland, and Geoff Scott.

Don White reiterated that at the January meeting they will be looking for all input and that the process can bring community members together to share ideas. He said that the Select Board will stay in charge of this process and will figure out the steps moving forward.

John French noted that it's unlikely a developer will step forward until the community is able to clarify what it wants for the site. Martin Cates noted that the dialogue has to involve a real cross-section of the community.

Owen Casas of Rockport asked a question about the guiding principles.

#### **b) Ragged Mountain Redevelopment Update**

Pat Finnigan reported on progress with the Ragged Mountain Redevelopment, saying that the Snow Bowl is slated to open December 20<sup>th</sup>. She gave details on tower construction, the pump house, the beginner area and the new modular unit. Finnigan also said that there had been a story on Channel 6 and an article in the *Maine Sunday Telegram* on the improvements at the Snow Bowl.

There was discussion among the Board on operational, budget and construction topics related to the project. Heard noted that Snow Bowl season pass sales had reached \$197,000.

### **3. Citizen Comments**

Tom Resek spoke about high-speed internet options that could support a business incubator at the Tannery site.

Owen Casas spoke about Rockport's fiber-optic project.

## **Board Comments**

Don White commented on the Transfer Station's program to accept fallen trees at no charge. He also said that it was great to see neighbors helping each other during the storm that had knocked out power and caused extensive tree damage.

Leonard Lookner thanked the Dickey Family Trust for a generous donation to the Oak Hill Cemetery.

John French encouraged the public to educate themselves on the new middle school that's being proposed for Camden and Rockport at a cost of \$28 million. He said the new school would create a tax increase of approximately \$81 per \$100,000 in property value for Camden. and \$87 per \$100,000 in property value for Rockport.

French also noted how community members were helpful to each other during the recent power outages caused by the storm that hit the midcoast.

### **4. Approval of Select Board Minutes of October 28, 2014**

There were corrections in the minutes brought up by members of the Board: under the Board of Assessors section, #1, the name of Thomas & Carrie Edstrom should be changed to Thomas & Carrie Hedstrom; a name under #3 should read Claussen; and lastly a correction of the spelling of Mt. Battie.

*Don White made a motion to approve the Select Board minutes of October 28, 2014 with corrections. John French seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

### **5. Select Board Member Reports**

Don White reported on the Historic Resources Committee's work on making a section of Bay View Street part of a historic district. White said that the Comprehensive Plan Committee expects to have the document ready for a vote in November of 2015. He also reported that the Camden Opera House had received a grant in the amount of \$20,000 to fund an upgraded film projector.

Martin Cates echoed French's statements encouraging citizens to become informed about the middle school project.

### **6. Town Manager Report**

Pat Finnigan pointed out that there is extensive information on the website providing background and details on the school vote, along with a comprehensive report on the school's current condition.

She also spoke about the Tannery vote, and she thanked all those who went out of their way to make sure residents could get out to vote despite the impact of the storm. Finnigan said that the Congregational Church had been gracious to offer their space as an alternative voting location and that all departments of the Town had stepped up to help make the transition to the church. Finnigan thanked voters for adapting to the change in location.

The Town Manager said there had been no power at the Town Office on the tax due date of

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, causing the building to close. Though some people who came to the Town Office and found it closed submitted tax payments through the dropoff slot, some who did not see the slot were charged a late fee ranging from 2¢ to 97¢. She said that unfortunately municipalities are not able to exercise discretion on taxes even in these situations.

Finnigan noted that the storm had hit our area very hard, noting that public works and the tree warden had been working with CMP and were still cleaning up. She said that processing and chipping the many downed trees was quite an undertaking for the Transfer Station and thanked the transfer station attendants for their extra work. She said that in summary, between tax day, voting day and the storm cleanup, all staff had worked extremely hard on behalf of the Town.

## **7. New Business**

### **A. Public Hearing: West Bay Rotary Club as an Incorporated Civic Organization for a Beer & Wine Liquor License for an event at the Camden Snow Bowl on Friday, February 6, 2015 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 p.m.**

Martin Cates opened a public hearing.

The Town Manager said that the West Bay Rotary Club's event during the Toboggan Championships had been well organized and had not caused any disturbances during the years it had been held.

*Don White made a motion to approve the liquor licenses for the West Bay Rotary Club to hold the annual "Down the Chute" event at 25th Annual U.S. National Toboggan Championships on February 6, 2015. from 3:00 pm to 7:00 p.m. John French seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

### **B. Public Hearing: James & Cynthia Ostrowski, d/b/a Inns at Blackberry Common for a renewal Class V Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License at 84 Elm Street**

*Leonard Lookner made a motion to approve the renewal of the Class V Malt, Spirituous, and Vinous Liquor License for the Inns at Blackberry Common located at 84 Elm Street. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

## **Review of recommendation to carry forward FY14 funds**

Pat Finnigan explained that the Police, Fire and Public Works departments had funds left that had not been spent, primarily from projects that had not been done. She said that these three departments had funds to carry over totaling \$179,597, and that this amount would aid in the storm cleanup costs.

*Don White made a motion to approve the request to carry forward funds from the FY14 budget to the FY15 budget in the amount of \$179,597. James Heard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.*

### **A. Executive Session: Town Manager's performance evaluation and employment contract Pursuant to 1MRSA §405 subsection 6**

*John French made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Town Manager's performance and employment contract pursuant to 1MRSA §405 subsection 6. Don White seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved and the Board went into executive session at 8:45pm.*

**Adjourn**

*\_\_\_\_\_ made a motion to adjourn the meeting. \_\_\_\_\_ seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously and the Board adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Brace  
Recording Secretary