



**Town of Camden
Minutes of the Select Board Meeting
July 7, 2020**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Falciani at 6:38 p.m. with the following members answering the roll call: Chairman Bob Falciani, Vice Chair Alison McKellar, Marc Ratner, Taylor Benzie, and Jenna Lookner. Also present were Town Manager Audra Caler-Bell, Jodi Hanson, Randy Gagne, Holli Anderson, and Jeremy Martin.

1. Public Input on non-agenda items:
Holli Anderson mentioned that the Snow Bowl received money from the Ragged Mountain Ski Club for the grant request \$16,824, an additional \$8,176 in the way of helping the Snow Bowl with a potential budget shortfall, \$25,000 total for FY19-20 retroactive to last winter.
2. Approval of Board Minutes from June 16, 2020:
Ratner noted one correction from his Select Board Reports on “short term money or long-term” should have said “short term over long term money”. **Ratner motioned to approve the minutes with the one correction. McKellar seconded. No discussion. Roll Call: 4 (Ayes). Motion passed 4-0-1.**
3. Select Board Reports:
The dedication of the Town Report was read by Chairman Falciani to the Camden Area District Nursing Association for their 100th anniversary. Town reports are available at the town office.

McKellar presented the Build Maine conference; the town is a sponsor. Anybody can look at the programs they have available, www.build-maine.com. The conference covers how COVID-19 is redefining how we interact with others and businesses. Excited about Tactical Urbanism, based on short term, sometimes, experimental and citizen driven changes to the environment, which is community driven and easily adaptable. There were no fireworks this 4th of July but there are more fish than there ever have been in the Harbor, fishermen are finding it exciting.

Ratner had a couple questions; Thomaston installed 2 electric car chargers, which were available through an efficiency Maine grant, what can we do to put in some of our own? He shared a Portland news story, the city received federal funding from the Cares Act for rent assistance. What monies do we have available to provide rent assistance in these times? Audra provided that the funding received recently could not be used for that purpose. Larger municipalities were directly granted funds for that purposes. Ratner brought up recent medical advice, over 200 scientists have requested WHO acknowledge the virus as an aerosol, more dangerous, use of masks is even more important. If you recover, you are not totally cured, finding out that there are long term effects, this is not the flu. He shared the success with absentee voting this time, town staff has been working incredibly hard. For the first time the entire town will be voting on the entire budget, referendum style, not just at town meeting. He thanked the current board for all their forward thinking.

Lookner mentioned hearing very good things about the efficacy of the new signage downtown, mask wearing, and people using the new picnic tables. Very honored to serve on this board with the other four members. Hopeful to be back in the conference room with them.

Benzie, nothing really knew. Good observation from the weekend when he was in northern Maine, masks were rare, very pleased when drove back in town to see everyone having a mask. Yes, it's frustrating but it's working and keeping everyone safe. Echoed the board with the pleasure of working with everyone.

Chairman Falciani shared that DOT received two bids last week for the Stop & Go to Sea Dog drainage project. One bid is within the budget, but not confirmed. If approved looks like it will start around October and end late next spring. DOT is rebidding the Route1 north project, no new data on that one.

4. Approval of the Following Victualer Licenses:
Request to approve the following Victualer's License renewals: Birchwood Lodge & Farmette, Camden Deli, The Lodge at Camden Hills, The Smoothie Shack and Uncle Willy's Candy Shoppe: **Adopted**
Request to approve the following Lodging Establishment License renewals: Birchwood Lodge & Farmette, The Lodge at Camden Hills: **Adopted**
Ratner motioned to approve the Victualer and Lodging licenses. Lookner seconded. McKellar mentioned that we received a note from Jenny Simon, discussion at item 10. No further discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.
5. Approval of Village Green Use Application – Bay Chamber Concerts:
No discussion. **Benzie motioned approve the Village Green Use Application for Bay Chamber Concerts. McKellar seconded. No further discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.**
McKellar brought up a gray area of application use. Received an inquiry from somebody, there will be a conversation being called a Public Discussion on Racial Justice and Police Reform, making changes at the local level Thursday July 9th. Events like this are drawing a whole lot more people than expected.
6. Approval of and Determining a Location for an Open-Air Market:
Martin shared that Jennel Johnson-Pendleton, owner of the boutique Barefoot in Denim, reached out to the town to see if the town had anywhere to set up a mobile shopping trailer. The towns "Hawking and Peddling" Ordinance can approve an event like this. Martin added that the ordinance allows the select board or designee to approve things like this, which could be Audra or himself. Clarification was asked for regarding a timeframe - It would be one day a week, Fridays from 11-4, for 8 weeks to see how it goes. Location can move around and is open to other businesses as well. As a Town function she will need to sign a license agreement with the town and carry insurance. All members were very supportive to this idea, especially bringing people out of downtown. **Ratner motioned to approve for an Open-Air Market at the Tannery and authorize Audra to work with town employees. McKellar seconded. No further discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.**
7. Approval of Personnel Board's Recommended Personnel Policy Amendments:
Falciani started by noting there were a lot of changes and wondering if the board was ready to approve them. All board members had questions. Town Manager Caler-Bell pointed out that these changes were not urgent and offered to receive all questions from the board and write up a background memo with the help of Jodi Hanson, the Finance Director, explaining the changes to provide for the next meeting on the 21st. **Lookner motioned to table the discussion of changes to the Personnel Boards Personnel Policy Amendments to the July 21 meeting of the Camden Select Board. Ratner seconded. No discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.**
8. Participation in High Water Mark Initiative:
Caler-Bell discussed the program offered through FEMA. Community-based awareness program which encourages action to mitigate risks. Great project for us to get involved in. General preparedness for climate change and impacts. **Ratner motioned that the Town of Camden**

participate in the High Water Mark Initiative. McKellar seconded. No discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.

9. Update on Keep ME Healthy Grant:

Town Manager Caler-Bell announced that the Town of Camden was awarded a grant of \$102,000 from the Keep ME Healthy Program, through the Maine CDC. This grant focuses on safely reopening economies amidst COVID-19. Very fortunate to receive this to help assist businesses. She discussed the categories of spending allowed. A couple examples are the signage on lampposts downtown, all the work for the open air market, time on behalf of staff members (Holli & Beth helping Jeremy), the number of foot patrols provided by the town police, and supporting businesses owners during this crisis. A lot of unknowns, but also looking for opportunities. Allison wanted to know how much of that is already committed to certain projects. Still flexible at this point, but no tally currently.

10. Review of No Parking on Rte. 52 (Near Ledges):

Falciani read an email from Jenny Simon. McKellar received many comments about this issue and read one email she received from Stephanie Farnham. Access to the lake is an issue people really care about.

Police Chief Randy Gagne was asked to speak to his memo about the parking situation. He voiced concern surrounding unrestricted crossing of Route-52. Under Title 29-A §2068 (C), if the town decided to pull parking there, the DOT could come back and really put no parking. He suggested harvesting parking between the boat ramp and Beaucaire Avenue as the shoulders are much wider. Martin added that it is good to work with DOT and approach it with what we would like to do, provide safe parking. Gagne added that per the Town Ordinance there is a section of four parking spaces on that road, 1.25mi back towards Camden from the Lincolnville line. Benzie indicated he was torn on this issue. He has received several comments on both sides, but safety is top priority. All parking spaces are on the east side of 52, so you must cross the road to get to the lake. Caler-Bell asked Public Works Direct Dave St. Laurent to reach out to DOT for some short- and long-term ideas to help with parking. Short-term, if vehicles can park behind the fog line, we can install signage for both pedestrians and motorist. Giving both users of the roadway warning of each other. Long-term consider Route-52 for and MPI with DOT, widening the shoulder along that stretch. McKellar brought up the SLOW ME DOWN campaign, www.bikemaine.org. Falciani requested preparing the ordinance change, also staff work with DOT moving forward and place signage.

11. Renewal of Town Managers Contract:

3-year contract ending June 30th, 2023. Amend contract regarding residency in paragraph 12 Section B, to include “unless approved otherwise by select board”. **Ratner motioned to approve the contract with one change regarding residency. McKellar seconded. No discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.**

Town Manager Caler-Bell jumped in at this point to do her Managers report, is anyone interested in the MMA policy committee? McKellar volunteered. **Ratner motioned for Alison to be the nominee to the MMA policy committee. Jenna seconded. No further discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.**

Reminder - July 14th, the town office will be closed to the public because all staff will all be working at the polls. She is also on a quest to replace three utility poles on Mechanic Street that have wires hanging down. Will report back the outcome. Have not forgotten or given up!

Rater motioned to adjourn the meeting as select board members and reconvene as the Wastewater Commissioners. Benzie seconded. No discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). Motion passed 5-0-0.

AS WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS

1. Approval of quarterly billing and certificate of Commitment of Sewer Bills for January 17, 2020 – April 16, 2020 in the amount of \$306,569.02. ***Ratner moved to approve the quarterly billing as stated. Lookner seconded. No discussion. Roll call: 5 (Ayes). 5-0-0.***

ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Select Board Chair Falciani entertained a motion to adjourn. ***A motion was made and seconded to adjourn as Wastewater Commissioners at 8:18 p.m. No discussion. Roll Call: 5 (Ayes). The motion passes 5-0-0.***

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15nkHIFHCKM> to view the entire select board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caitlin Thompson
Recording Secretary