

**Camden Select Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
January 4, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Karen Grove, Vice Chairperson Deborah Dodge, John French, Jr., Morgan Laidlaw, Martin Cates, and Town Manager Roberta Smith. Also present were members of the press and public.

**ABSENT:** Town Attorney William Kelly

***Contents***

**SELECT BOARD**

**1. Public input on non-agenda items.**

Library Grounds and Amphitheater Director Dave Jackson presented a plan to the Camden Select Board for the installation of a seasonal skating rink at the Bok Amphitheatre adjacent to the Camden Public Library.

David Jackson showed the board a drawing of the proposed rink, which would be installed by Michael Roy of Phi Home Designs. Mr. Jackson stated their idea is to have a place where children and families could enjoy outdoor skating all winter.

The rink would be constructed from a kit made in Minnesota and would require daily maintenance to keep the ice smooth. Mr. Jackson reported that a large number of volunteers have already come forward with offers to provide labor and staffing and that the \$6,000 needed to pay for the kit had already been donated. He said an additional \$2,000 could be raised to pay for optional snow removal equipment.

Mr. Jackson told the Board that the Library Board of Directors and the Parks and Recreation Department have endorsed the plan.

After brief discussion the Select Board also endorsed the proposal. Board members felt the rink would be much safer than skating on ponds at this time of year.

**2. Discussion with Planning Board regarding adopting an attendance policy for the Planning Board.** Planning Board Chair Chris MacLean presented the attendance policy which he told the Board is a consensus of the Planning Board.

Mr. MacLean stated that Planning Board deliberations often take place over a period of months, and that a member who misses four or more of the group's bi-monthly meetings was, in effect, missing two months of work. Such absences interfere with the Planning Board process. They feel strongly that emphasis needs to be placed on attendance for this Board.

Family emergencies, illnesses and once-in-a-lifetime events such as weddings and funerals of immediate family members would be considered excused absences. If a Planning Board member exceeded the three allowable unexcused absences then the chairman would speak to that member privately about the absences. If the pattern continued the Planning Board would ask the Select Board to consider not renewing that member's term to the Planning Board.

Board member Dodge stated she agrees with setting the standard and agrees with the Board's goal but not sure if three excusable absences is the way to reach that goal.

Board member French questioned why planned family vacations were not considered excusable absences.

Mr. MacLean stated most Planning Board members plan family vacations and other events so that they would not miss meetings, and that the board schedules their meetings to coincide with school vacations.

Board members suggested making a policy that the Planning Board will not accept seasonal citizens to serve as a regular member to the Planning Board and also to include on the form for this particular Board the commitments expected from Planning Board members.

The Board did not take a formal vote but agreed conceptually to approve the Planning Board's attendance policy and ask the Planning Board to create a separate form for citizens to fill out when they are seeking appointment to the Planning Board. Their form would have a statement indicating that the applicant understood the commitments expected from those serving on the Planning Board.

- 3. Approval of Friday night, February 11, 2011, reception at US National Toboggan Championships sponsored by Point Lookout Retreat and Conference Center.** Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Kuller presented a proposal for a Friday night reception at Toboggan Nationals. Point Lookout Retreat & Conference Center is offering to host the event. The proposal does include alcohol and Point Lookout has an off-site catering and liquor license. Since Friday is being developed as a more active day, the Police Department and Camden First Aid have added Friday to their standby schedules. The addition of this event to the weekend program is recommended by the Toboggan committee.

Jeff Kuller stated the goal of the event is to expand Friday activities, so that those participants arriving to register could mingle and get to know the terrain. Musicians and some vendors will be setting up early, and registration and other early activities will be moved to a different part of the grounds. The toboggan chute will be open for practice runs on Friday.

The event committee was approached by Point Lookout with an offer to set up a reception for that evening. Food would be served free of charge, and wine and beer would be available for a charge. Point Lookout would become a Silver Level Sponsor of the races.

Board member French expressed concern that this would set a precedent for alcohol being sold at a town-sponsored event. After further discussion,

*Morgan Laidlaw made motion to approve the Friday night Toboggan Weekend reception hosted by Point Lookout at the Camden Snow Bowl, with Point Lookout providing the insurance, catering and liquor licensing; provided that alcohol will not be served until the Toboggan Chute is closed. Deborah Dodge seconded this motion. The motion passed on 4-1-0 vote. (French opposed)*

- 4. Consideration of request from Scott Reynolds for a Hawkers & Peddlers permit to peddle seafood in the parking lot of Don Foshay's Discount Tire & Party Fundamentals.** Mr. Reynolds submitted an application along with necessary property owners' approvals for the permit.

*Martin Cates made a motion to approve a peddling permit for Scott Reynolds at 97 Elm Street. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 4-0-1 vote. (French abstained for personal reasons).*

5. **Acceptance of resignation from Bennett Bricker from the Energy Committee.** *This item was tabled.*
6. **Discussion of FY12 Budget Goals and approval of the FY12 COLA for non-union employees.** Manager Smith stated she is currently working with Department Heads on the development of the FY12 Budget proposal. It is always helpful if the Board provides some guidance on their overall goal for this year's budget. Manager Smith reported that the municipal spending limitation calculations are dictated by LD1.

It has also been helpful for the Board to approve a COLA at this time so that payroll calculations can be built into the budget proposal.

*John French made a motion to direct the Budget Committee to keep the budget within the spending limitation set by LD1 and to approve a 7/1/11 COLA of 2% for non-union employees. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

7. **Approval of a new Taxicab Business License for Camden Limousine at 401 Molyneaux Road.** A background check has been completed and the application has been signed off by the Police Chief.

*John French made a motion to approve the Taxicab Business License for Camden Limousine. Martin Cates seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

## 8. Committee Reports

- a. CEDAC: Board member Cates reported about the presentations scheduled for the next two CEDAC meetings on January 10<sup>th</sup> and January 24<sup>th</sup>. The January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will be the presentation Gateway 1 Planning Grant: Commercial Development Inventory and Economic Development Economic Development Analysis completed by Dr. Charles Colgan of the Maine Center for Business and Economic Research, and HNT. The January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting will be the presentation on the strategic plan that CEDAC and Mat Eddy have been working on for several months for the town.

## 9. Manager's Report

- a. Semi-annual Department Reports. Mrs. Smith provided in the Board's packets copies of several Department Head semi-annual reports. The Manager anticipates that she will provide reports from the balance of the departments the Board's next meeting.
- b. There will be a joint workshop meeting with the Planning Board to review the Gateway 1 Interlocal Agreement on 1/19/11 at 5:30 pm.
- c. Bill Allen of RM Davis will meet with the Endowment Trust Select Board liaisons prior to the next Select Board meeting to go over the town's year end investments.

*John French made a motion to close as Select Board and reconvene as Board of Assessors. Martin Cates seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

1. **Consideration of real estate and personal property tax abatements for multiple properties for the property tax year 2010-2011:**
  - a. **Application of Mr. C. Edward Libby for real estate taxes on Start Road in the amount of \$765.09**
  - b. **Application of Mr. Owen Dorr for real estate taxes at 17 Powder Mill Road in the amount of \$130.66.**
  - c. **Application of Bennett T. Scheuer Learning Center, LLC for real estate taxes at 1 Free Start in the amount of \$5,751.69.**
  - d. **Application of FCMIC Finance Corporation for personal property tax in the amount of \$87.56.**
  - e. **Application of Mr. Steven Lary for personal property tax in the amount of \$666.76.**

It was the consensus of the Board to table item c until the next meeting. More information has been provided on this application and the Board has not had sufficient time to review the information.

*John French made a motion to approve the applications for property tax abatements for item a, b, d, e and to table item c until the next Board meeting. Martin Cates seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

2. **Approval of a Supplemental Tax Warrant to Ms. Linda Cloutier at 10 Clay Brook Road in the amount of \$122.58.**

*John French made a motion to approve the Supplemental Tax Warrant as stated above. Deborah Dodge seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

*John French made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

**Respectfully submitted,**

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Janice L. Esancy  
Recording Secretary