

**Camden Select Board  
Minutes of Meeting  
October 25, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Martin Cates, Vice Chairperson Morgan Laidlaw, John French, Jr., James Heard, Donald White, and Town Manager Patricia Finnigan. Also present were members of the press and public.

**ABSENT:** Town Attorney William Kelly

*Contents*

**SELECT BOARD**

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

- a) Board member White thanked all those public & private who made the planting of the tree in the public landing possible. Roberta was very much excited and surprised and there will be a dedication sometime in the near future when the rock & plaque are put together.
- b) Board member White thanked all those public & private who made Pop!Tech possible. We made TV news locally and nationally when the President of Iceland spoke on Thursday afternoon.
- c) Board member Laidlaw welcomed Pat Finnigan, new Town Manager to her first official Select board meeting. Board members French and Heard echoed Morgan's comment.
- d) Board member Heard thanked Pop!Tech for their generosity in allowing the proceedings be cast live stream. Because of that he was able to see the President of Iceland speak and two other speakers. His own sense is in America there is a lot of whining going on about where we are in the world and he was just amazed to hear these three people who come from very different backgrounds talk about the good things going on around the world. It was very impressive and he was very pleased that they were here and able to present their views in the Town. There was a lot of positive vibration going on in Camden those couple of days.
- e) Resident Susan Taylor also stated she was very impressed to hear that Pop!Tech had speakers at an assembly at the Camden Hills Regional High School where her grandson is a student.

**2. Approval of Select Board Minutes from September 6, September 20, and October 4, 2011.**

Donald White suggested the following corrections to the minutes of September 6, 2011:

pg. 5 line 216 – add the word Vice in front of Chair

pg. 5 line 237 – add the word truck in front of committee

pg. 9 line 393- John French made a motion and seconded check notes and change to whomever seconded the motion. Don thinks it might have been him. (Conrad question – release of town's rights)

*John French made a motion to approve the Select Board Minutes as presented with the corrections made to the September 6<sup>th</sup> minutes as suggested by Board member Donald White. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

- 3. Presentation from Knox County representatives regarding upcoming \$2.5 million Public Safety Bond Referendum scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2011.** County Commissioner Roger Moody and County Administrator Andrew Hart attended the meeting and gave a brief overview of the upcoming bond vote for November 8, 2011. The question will be whether or not towns in Knox County will authorize a vote on a \$2.5 million public safety bond. The project consists of three elements: 1) A \$900,000 investment in modern, enhanced dispatching equipment and infrastructure, 2) acquisition, renovation and expansion of land and building at 301 Park St. in Rockland (approximately \$1,340,000), which is adjacent to the existing County Jail and 3) the remaining funds will be used for generator backup, driveway and access, moving, some furnishings, and professional fees (approximately \$260,000).

In 2009, a standards-based space needs study was done and the architects concluded the project would cost in excess of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) and would require some 25,000 square feet. The Knox County Commission and County staff have worked diligently to sharply reduce the scope of the project to just the most essential needs to last the next 20 years. Together these agencies currently occupy just 4,900 square feet and are spread out across locations at the Courthouse and Jail (also short of room). The proposal to be voted upon combines these inter-related agencies under one roof, shares common spaces, maximizes emergency operational and response efficiency, creates many operational cost savings, and requires just 10,300 square feet. and will cost \$2.5 million. There is a possibility that may only need \$1.8 million.

A consultant's study clearly illustrated The Sheriff's Department, Emergency Management Agency and KRCC are located in significantly cramped quarters. Unsecured storage is in hallways, the parking and training areas are small and shared by the three agencies. Police and dispatchers have no separation or privacy, arrested people are processed in public areas, and there is no longer any room to secure evidence. The offices have no fire suppression or climate control systems, and several other life safety code issues. In 2000, KRCC dispatched for just 11 agencies; they now dispatch for 39. The need to expand work areas, add privacy, security and storage, and to modernize emergency communication equipment has become critical.

The communications equipment used by the Knox Regional Communications Center (KRCC) needs to meet the FCC's "narrow band" requirement, needs to grow from 4 to 6 dispatching consoles (population in Knox County has risen by 10% or more each decade), needs additional receiver sites to remove "dead zones" in radio coverage, and will utilize microwave technology, all of which will improve the public's safety and the safety of emergency responders.

The term of the bond is 15 years, and the improvements are designed to last 20 to 25 years. With the current low interest rates, the tax impact for Camden would be approximately \$2.46 per \$100,000 of taxable value.

- 4. Approval to conduct Fire Department training on November 6, 2011.** Fire Chief Farley reported training will provide our firefighters a valuable training opportunity so they are better prepared to deal with structure fires more safely. He brought this training exercise to the Board so they would be aware, as well as inform the public prior to the live burn training exercise taking place. He is hoping to keep one lane open on Hosmer Pond Road during this training exercise.

*John French made a motion to support the training exercise and to thank Edith Baker for making her property available for the live burn training. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

5. **Approval of acceptance of donated Fire Department equipment.** Atlantic Engine Company No. 2, a non-profit 501(3)C raised funds to purchase water rescue equipment. With the many water bodies in our area, the fire department saw the need to provide an additional service to the region. The AEC sought donations to purchase the equipment and earlier this summer eight of Camden's firefighters participated in 6 days of training that was provided by a nationally recognized water rescue instructor. The value of the equipment purchased to support the Fire Department's rescue swimmer service to date is \$6579. The members of the Atlantic Engine Company No. 2 want to donate all the water rescue equipment to the Camden Fire Department and have the equipment become the property of the town for use by the Camden Fire Department.

*Donald White made a motion to accept the donation of water rescue equipment from Atlantic Engine Company No. 2 to be used by the Camden Fire Department. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

6. **Request for the Select Board to send a letter of support regarding the Maine Coast Economic Alliance (MCEA) application for a Smart Growth America technical assistance grant regarding regional transit and transit oriented development.** Brian Hodges, Camden's Development Director reported that a significant amount of interest has been raised about the subject of transportation in the midcoast region. This has been evidenced by the efforts of Gateway 1 and conversations held within the individual communities. The idea of a bus service between communities has been brought up and a request was made at a joint meeting of the area's community and economic development advisory committees to have a workshop on the subject.

Smart Growth America has announced a grant opportunity for Technical Assistance covering a number of different areas, one of which being Transit Oriented Development. Justin Holmes, Executive Director of the Maine Coast Economic Alliance (MCEA) facilitated a meeting with the region's economic development directors and a decision was made that it would be worthwhile for a grant application to be submitted. The Town of Camden would significantly benefit from such a service as it is often seen as a destination from other communities in the region. Therefore it is recommended that the Select Board send a letter of request to support this regional application which encompasses multiple communities.

*Donald White made a motion that the Select Board send a letter supporting the Maine Coast Economic Alliance's request for a technical assistance grant for transit oriented development. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

7. **Request for the Select Board to authorize the Town to submit a grant application to develop a Regional Open Space Guide.** Brian Hodges, Development Director reported when he first began working on this with Jeff Kuller & Beth Ward from Parks & Recreation they decided it would be best to expand it beyond Camden's borders because residents and visitors alike tend to take advantage of a region's offerings. A work group was created consisting of representatives from MCEA, Chamber of Commerce, Midcoast Magnet, Coastal Mountains Land Trust, Knox County Health Coalition, Pen Bay Health, Camden Rockport's Pathways Committees along with himself, Jeff and Beth. Significant interest in such a guide

has been raised by the group and they are now ready to begin looking at funding sources. The recent submission for the Maine Arts Commission's "Creative Communities = Economic Development" grant has earmarked funds to support this Guide. Currently there isn't a single source displaying all that is offered across the region. The region is a very special place that invites visitors and residents to explore and enjoy a diverse array of parks and open spaces.

The Penobscot Bay YMCA has funding through the Y-USA's Healthier Communities initiative to distribute grants of up to \$3,000 under a program called Action Communities for Health, Innovation, and Environmental Change (ACHIEVE). The only cost is that of time to prepare the grant application and to administer the funds.

*Morgan Laidlaw made a motion to authorize staff to submit a grant application to the YMCA ACHIEVE mini-grant program. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

**8. Request for Knox County to support funding of the Maine Coast Economic Alliance.**

Justin Holmes, Executive Director of Maine Coast Economic Alliance (MCEA) formerly known as Knox Waldo Regional Economic Development (KWRED) stated MCEA is a regional economic development partnership comprised of municipalities and businesses private sector, whose purpose is to increase economic development in this region. Originally funded by Camden, Rockland and Belfast, in FY 2010 Knox County recognized that MCEA plays an important role in enhancing the region's economy and has funded MCEA. The Knox County Budget Committee will be considering funding for MCEA in the upcoming budget. Mr. Holmes is requesting that Select Board send a letter of support to Knox County budget committee for continued funding for MCEA. The Budget Committee will be discussing this at a meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup> and MCEA will have representatives there to speak in support of MCEA.

*Martin Cates made a motion to endorse the work of Maine Coast Economic Alliance (MCEA) and send a letter to the Knox County Budget committee to support continued funding. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

**9. Approval of agreement between Camden First Aid Association and the Town of Camden for Emergency Medical Services.** Camden First Aid Association is the Town of Camden's designated primary emergency medical service provider. This agreement sets forth the level of service that Camden First Aid Association will provide, and the Town agrees to pay \$10,000 for this service for the period July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012.

*John French made a motion to approve the contract with Camden First Aid Association. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

Chairperson Martin Cates read the rules and regulations for conducting public hearings in preparation of the public hearing to be held this evening.

**10. Public Hearing regarding the following:**

- a. Adoption of Appendixes A, B, C of the General Assistance Ordinance for 2011-2012.** By Maine law, each municipality is required to administer a program to assist people in need of basic necessities, who meet certain income guidelines. The allowed amounts are adjusted annually. The recommended amounts are prepared

by the Maine Municipal Association. These updates to the General Assistance Ordinance are provided annually to comply with the State law.

Chairperson Cates asked to hear from any proponents. There were none.

Chairperson Cates asked to hear from any opponents. There were none.

Chairperson Cates closed the public portion of the hearing, no Board deliberation followed.

*John French made a motion to adopt the 2011-2012 Appendixes A, B, and C of the General Assistance Ordinance. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

- b. **Road name request to change Seaverns Drive in the Mountain Arrow Subdivision off High Street to Mountain Arrow Circle.** Resident Susan Taylor came before the Board to request the name change. She lives in the Mountain Arrow Village Green and the name of the street, Seaverns Drive has become a problem for deliveries to her home because the correct pronunciation of the name is Severns, but it is often pronounced Seeverns and sometimes Severance. She is the only house on the street and she is hoping the Board will consider the name change she suggested. Trygve Bratz, the developer of the subdivision is okay with the name change. She believes the most logical name would be Mountain Arrow Circle. Most people know of the Mountain Arrow development and Mountain Arrow Drive, and Seaverns Drive is a short extension of Mountain Arrow Drive, so it makes sense to her to change the name to Mountain Arrow Circle.

In a memo from the Addressing Officer, it indicated that the Police Chief and Fire Chief have reviewed the request and approve the name change to Mountain Arrow Circle.

Chairperson Cates asked to hear from any proponents. There were none.

Chairperson Cates asked to hear from any opponents. There were none.

Chairperson Cates closed the public portion of the hearing, no Board deliberation followed.

*Donald White made a motion to approve changing the name of Seaverns Drive to Mountain Arrow Circle. Morgan seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

- 11. Discuss rescheduling of November 15 Board meeting due to the conflict with the Chamber's Annual Dinner.** Manager Finnigan asked the Board if they wanted to shift the meetings around in November due to interest of Board members attending the Chamber's Annual Dinner. There are five Tuesdays in November. So perhaps the Board may want to consider the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, the only problem is the second Tuesday is election night.

After discussion it was the consensus of the Board to amend the Select Board's regular meeting schedule for November as follows:

November 1<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 pm Workshop with Select Board & Town Manager  
November 8<sup>th</sup> – Election night – no meeting

November 15<sup>th</sup> – Chamber’s Annual Dinner  
November 22<sup>nd</sup> – no meeting Thanksgiving Holiday  
November 29<sup>th</sup>- 6:00 pm continuation of workshop with Manager; 7:00 pm  
regular meeting

12. **Approval of Taxicab Operator’s License for Gordon Gill, Jr.** Manager Finnigan reported Police Chief Gagne has reviewed and approved the application.

*John French made a motion to approve the Taxi Operator’s License for Gordon Gill, Jr. Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

### 13. Committee Reports

- a. Planning Board: Donald White attended the 10/6/11 meeting where they discussed the Maine Uniform Building & Energy Code (MUBEC) and associated fees for building inspections. The fee schedule may be changed to reflect the field inspection field and change for permitting cost factor. Two CCC members Doug Johnson and Bob Gassett discussed projects they could and should collaborate with the Planning Board and it was agreed that the two groups would work on town-owned properties. The Board had a short discussion on the signage and that project is moving forward, they also reviewed possible ordinance amendments that would appear on June 2012 Town Meeting Warrant. Within 6 months they will begin a process of reviewing the Town’s Comprehensive Plan.
- b. Historic Resources Committee: Donald White attended the 10/11/11 meeting and they discussed the development of a historic walking tour using the QR codes. They are working with different groups including the Downtown Business Group and the Chamber. They discussed the Historic Ordinance and they may seek some changes to allow their committee to look into historic private residences but still a working project. They also discussed the painting of the Curtis Island lighthouse mentioning the fact the ME Historic Preservation had rejected the proposed program that has been offered and suggestions are coming forward from a local group.
- c. Cemetery Association: Donald White attended their meeting on 10/12/11. Two major items discussed were the flat headstones versus the upright headstones of Oak Hill North and the contract to replace the pillars at the Oak Hill South.
- d. Opera House Committee: Donald White attended their meeting on 10/16/11. Maryanne Shanahan a new member agreed to be the secretary. They tabled the Camden Civic Theater agreement as the house theater group. The group agreed to have Opera House Manager research resident theater companies’ status elsewhere. It was agreed that certain storage areas afforded the CCT will not be available as the Camden Opera House needs the space.
- e. Camden Library Trustees. They discussed a block grant from EPA to replace rod iron fencing. Management was given permission to continue discussions with the town Development Director Brian Hodges. The trustees voted Leslie Curtis as a new trustee and reappointed Ed Collins for a second term.
- f. Camden Conservation Commission: Morgan Laidlaw told the Board he spoke with Bob Gassett and he told them they had a meeting with the Planning Board to discuss ways to collaborate and perhaps develop a greater profile and greater participation. He also gave him a copy of the tree survey that was done along the multi-use trail at the Snow Bowl. They identified 64 significant trees along this trail that they had taped prior to construction. It appears that the construction has been completed

- and none of those trees were damaged or even touched. They think it's important that the trees remain in high profile and remain protected.
- g. Camden Affordable Housing Committee: James Heard attended their meeting on 10/7/11. They had concerns with combining the Select Board and Planning Board. They felt by doing this rather than having a business friendly attitude it would be an adversarial relationship which is not how they read the Comp Plan.
  - h. Parks & Recreation Committee: James Heard attended their meeting on 10/12/11 and positive discussion with CR Pathways Committee regarding working together on projects.
  - i. CR Pathways Committee: Same discussion as Parks & Recreation Committee general consensus that this could workout in some fashion.
  - j. CEDAC: Town Manager Finnigan attended the 10/24/11 meeting and Joanne Campbell from Camden Housing Committee attended to talk about the importance of development of workforce housing to our overall economic development strategies and what the town could do to support them with that. CEDAC was very definitive in terms of thinking that the housing committee needed to continue and it should be not be absorbed by CEDAC but they also got the impression that CaHC did not feel supported by the Select Board and Planning Board primarily because of the Lupine Terrace Subdivision. There was considerable discussion regarding workforce housing and to think that Camden is ever going to be able to fulfill all their needs for housing all employees in Camden is probably not realistic and we need to look regionally to that because we have limited amount of area that can be developed for housing. Since the economic development is regional then we should try to have partnerships with the surrounding communities to do that and perhaps it is something that could be done at the County level. Board member French stated it's too bad that CaHC feels adversarial because the Planning Board was just doing their job with the Subdivision process. They had to meet the same rules as anyone else and to say the town is not supportive is wrong.

#### **14. Manager's Report**

- a) The manager reported this was her first experience with Pop!Tech and it is a wonderful thing for this community. The behind the scenes work that our staff does to make this go well is exemplary. For such a small staff and to be able to pull this off is really good. We received nothing back but positive feedback from the participants at the event.
- b) The manager reported the town office hosted a group of students from the Zenith Program and it went very well. They came in with very low expectations about what happens at the town office and thinks they left thinking we do a lot of things that they did not know about. They were really focusing on how taxes are set because they are watching the occupational Wall Street demonstrations across the country and how that relates to them.
- c) The manager reported she has been out and about attending committees so she has been able to meet a number of people. A number of committee chairs have invited her to meetings.
- d) The manager reported she and Brian Hodges are working on a business visitation program. She has gotten out to visit most of our facilities. She has visited Seabright and the other dams, and Seabright is now producing power.
- e) On Sunday, 10/23/11 there was a mock Emergency at the Snow Bowl with a chairlift that was not functioning so we had to activate an Emergency Action Plan with the Snow Bowl Ski Patrol and Fire Department Staff. Certainly there are things

that we could improve upon and something we hope we never have to use but they did a really great job.

*John French made a motion to close as Select Board and reconvene as Wastewater Commissioners. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

#### **WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS**

1. **Approval of a new application for a Master Drainlayer for 2011.** Wastewater Superintendent Ross Parker is recommending an additional Master Drainlayer for 2011.

*John French made a motion to approve the application of Dwight Brewer for a new Master Drainlayer for 2011. James Heard seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

*John French made a motion to close as Wastewater Commissioners and reconvene as Board of Assessors. Morgan Laidlaw 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 2011-2012:** After careful review of supporting material submitted by Assessor's Agent, Wes Robinson,

*John French made a motion to approve the following:*

- a. *Application of Williams Scotsman, Inc. for personal property taxes on 20 Lions Lane in the amount of \$16.17*
- b. *Application of Steven Lary, OD for personal property taxes on 38 Curtis Avenue in the amount of \$592.24*
- c. *Application of Louise Wagner for real estate taxes at 380 Belfast Road in the amount of \$122.48*

*Donald White seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.*

*John French made a motion to adjourn at 9:30 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