



**Town of Camden**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**September 22, 2015**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Select Board Vice Chair Don White, Select Board Members Martin Cates, James Heard, and Leonard Lookner and Town Manager, Pat Finnigan.

**Excused:** Select Board Chair John French.

Don White called the Select Board meeting to order at 630 p.m. The Board then convened as the Board of Assessors.

**A. Board of Assessors**

- 2015 Tax Commitment.** Assessors Agent Kerry Leichtman provided an overview to the Board regarding the assessing process and the assessing activities he and Assessors Clerk Caitlin Anderson have performed.

Assessors Agent Kerry Leichtman reported that the Town's tax base had increased by approximately \$10 million due primarily to new residential construction. The total assessed value is \$1,120,912,067. He then explained that the Town is allowed by law to have an overlay which is intended to fund any tax abatements or supplemental assessments as necessary during the year. The Select Board discussed the amount of overlay and the total amount of taxes needed to be committed to fund the FY 2016 municipal and school budgets. The amount of taxes that needed to be collected was \$16,874,054.59.

Based on the information provided by the Assessors Agent regarding the total assessed value of the Town, Martin Cates made a motion to set the tax rate at \$15.13. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 to 0, with John French absent.

Martin Cates made a motion to adjourn as the Board of Assessors and resumed meeting as the Select Board. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1

**B. Select Board**

- Bid award: Wastewater Department sewer pipe camera inspection equipment.** The Town Manager reported that the Wastewater Department's 20 year-old camera inspection equipment had broken and replacement parts were no longer available. She said this is an essential piece of equipment that needs to be replaced. The FY16 budget contained funds to replace it. The Town received 3 bids. Wastewater Superintendent Dave Bolstridge recommended that the Select board award the bid to the low bidder, Aries Industries in the amount of \$72,326.

Leonard Lookner made a motion to award the bid to Aries Industries in the amount of \$72,326. Martin Cates seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1.

## **2. Request by Pop!Tech to use the Village Green October 22-24**

Pop!Tech will hold its annual conference at the Opera House on Oct. 22 to 24. They requested permission to use the Village Green for an interactive musical acidity that is intended to involve the people of all ages from the community.

Martin Cates made a motion to approve Pop!Tech's request to use the Village Green. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1

## **3. Energy Committee Mission Statement**

The Select Board appointed an Energy Committee at the September 15 meeting. The Board discussed the charter and purpose of the committee. Jim Heard said that he thought the mission statement should be amended to include "sustainability" as one of the committee's purposes. The Board discussed the importance of having this committee which can help not only the Town government but the entire community learn how to reduce energy usage.

Jim Heard made a motion to amend the second paragraph to read as follows: "The Committee shall be comprised of people who are knowledgeable about energy-related issues, energy conservation, and sustainability." The motion was seconded by Leonard Lookner. The motion passes 4-0-1.

The Chair asked for public comment. Marc Ratner, who was appointed to the Committee, asked when the committee would be notified that they had been appointed, whether the committee would have a budget, and

The Chair asked if the Select Board was ready to vote on the amended mission statement. Jim Heard made a motion to pass the mission statement as amended. Martin Cates seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1.

## **4. Disposition of tax acquired properties:**

The Select Board approved a Policy regarding disposition of tax acquired properties at its last meeting. The Board discussed whether to table this item until the next meeting, when Chair John French could attend. Martin Cates made a motion to take action until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Heard. The motion passed 4-0-1-

**5. Adjourn.** Jim Heard made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Martin Cates. The motion passed 4-0-1.

Respectfully submitted,

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Patricia A. Finnigan  
Town Manager