

Town of Casco

Minutes of the January 9, 2018 Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Members Present:

Holly Hancock, Mary Fernandes, Grant Plummer, Calvin Nutting and Tom Peaslee

Staff Present:

Town Manager David Morton, Code Enforcement Officer Alex Sirois and Administrative Secretary Bob Tooker

Approval of Agenda:

The Selectboard moved (Plummer), seconded (Peaslee) and voted to approve the agenda for the January 9, 2018 Selectboard meeting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Approval of Warrants:

The Selectboard moved (Fernandes), seconded (Peaslee) and voted to approve bills and sign open warrants: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Approval of Minutes: (December 19, 2017)

The Selectboard moved (Plummer), seconded (Fernandes) and voted to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2017 Selectboard meeting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Town Manager's Update: (David Morton)

- Penny Bean has been hired for the position of Deputy Town Clerk to replace retiring Deputy Town Clerk Lucille Griffin.
- A retirement gathering for Lucille Griffin will be held at the Casco Community Center on Thursday, January 25 at 7:00 p.m.
- Brian Cole has been appointed as interim Fire Chief to replace retiring Fire Chief Jason Moen.
- A retirement gathering for Jason Moen will be held at Central Station on Monday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m.

- As a reminder, it is against state law to plow, shovel or blow snow into or across public roads.
- Vehicles, trailers or other items parked on Town roads during snow events may be removed at the owner's expense.
- The Town Office will be closed on Monday, January 15 for Martin Luther King Day.

Committee and Staff Reports:

None.

Public Participation:

David Kimball commented on his dispute regarding ownership of a parcel of land at Casco Tax Map 39, Lot 1.

Old Business:

1. Review of projects funded with bond proceeds.

David Morton reviewed expenses for the Pleasant Lake/Parker Pond dam project and road projects funded with 2017 bond proceeds. The Selectboard discussed the planning process for road projects and maintenance including priorities, budgeting and professional engineering. The Selectboard agreed to schedule a workshop to discuss the planning process in more detail.

New Business:

2. Discussion regarding a proposed consent agreement for improper subdivision of property.

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Sirois 1) described circumstances resulting in an apparent violation of the Town of Casco Subdivision Ordinance and Maine Municipal Subdivision Law; 2) described the Planning Board review process; and 3) responded to questions from the Selectboard. Yvonne Myers, a real estate agent representing Debbie Chute, described the circumstances as extenuating and time sensitive due the pending sale of a lot. Yvonne stated that the parties involved believed their actions were legal at the time the subdivision occurred and were surprised that an apparent violation was discovered.

David Morton stated that legal counsel advised him that the Selectboard could legally grant a consent agreement to accept the subdivision as legal or choose not to grant a consent agreement. David stated that the issue before the Selectboard is to decide whether or not it will even consider a consent agreement before any further action is taken.

The Selectboard agreed to 1) instruct legal counsel to prepare a draft consent agreement; 2) instruct the Town Planner to review the issues and incorporate his suggestion into the draft consent agreement; 3) add further discussion about a possible consent agreement to the January 23, 2018 Selectboard meeting agenda; and 4) aim for making a decision about whether or not to grant a consent agreement at the February 13, 2018 Selectboard meeting.

3. Review of Emergency Medical Services billing.

The Selectboard reviewed a list of overdue Emergency Medical Services (EMS) billing. Holly Hancock stated that a number of recipients of such services ignore instructions on invoices to contact the Selectboard if they need assistance with their bill. The Selectboard agreed that sending overdue bills to collections might not be necessary if recipients of such services with overdue bills offered a payment plan, attempted to work with the Selectboard or requested an abatement due to poverty or infirmity.

The Selectboard moved (Plummer), seconded (Nutting) and voted to send the Emergency Medical Services billing list dated January 8, 2018 to collections minus several accounts that are being looked into: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

4. Selectboard comments:

- Holly Hancock added an executive session to the January 23, 2018 Selectboard meeting agenda for the Town Manager's review.
- Holly Hancock stated that a new moderator may be needed after Jason Moen retires and noted that moderator training is available if needed. David Morton noted that Jason might be interested in continuing to serve as moderator after he retires.
- In response to an inquiry from Tom Peaslee, David Morton stated that winter plowing and sanding is going well, adding that some people are pleased and others not so much. David commented on the availability of road salt and the need to put up an additional stockpile of sand and salt.
- Calvin Nutting commented on plowed snow obstructing visibility at the intersection of Hawthorn Road and Raymond Cape Road.
- Mary Fernandes announced January events at the Casco Public Library including 1) a baklava cooking class on January 14 at 2:00 p.m.; 2) a showing of the movie Dunkirk at January's Thursday Night at the Movies event on January 18; 3) "Soup and Suspense" presented by best-selling author Bruce Coffin on January 21 at 1:00 p.m.; 4) yarn group and puzzle group meetings; and 5) a suicide prevention workshop on January 28. Mary noted that Maine ranks eleventh in the nation for suicides.

The Selectboard moved (Peaslee), seconded (Plummer) and voted to adjourn: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

ATTEST:

Robert Tooker
Administrative Secretary