

Town of Casco

Minutes of the January 23, 2018 Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Members Present:

Holly Hancock, Mary Fernandes, Calvin Nutting and Tom Peaslee

Staff Present:

Town Manager David Morton and Administrative Secretary Bob Tooker

Approval of Agenda:

The Selectboard moved (Fernandes), seconded (Peaslee) and voted to approve the agenda for the January 23, 2018 Selectboard meeting: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Approval of Warrants:

The Selectboard moved (Fernandes), seconded (Peaslee) and voted to approve bills and sign open warrants: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Approval of Minutes: (January 9, 2018)

The Selectboard moved (Fernandes), seconded (Peaslee) and voted to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2018 Selectboard meeting: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Town Manager's Update: (David Morton)

- The Town has used approximately 2,500 yards of winter sand and 120 tons of road salt thus far this season. The winter sand and salt stockpile will be renewed beginning later this week.
- The timber harvest on the Town's State Park Road property is being completed.
- As a reminder, do not park on public ways during winter storm events or storm clean-up.
- Jason Moen has retired as Fire Chief for Casco. Brian Cole has been appointed interim chief. It is anticipated that Brian will eventually serve as Fire Chief.
- Penny Bean has been hired as Deputy Town Clerk to take over the reins from retiring Deputy Town Clerk Lucille Griffin. Lucille has provided guidance and service to the Town for over

thirty years. A reception will be held at the Casco Community Center this Thursday, January 25 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Committee and Staff Reports:

None.

Public Participation:

None.

Guest Speakers: (Presentations by Senator Bill Diamond and Representative Jessica Fay)

Senator Bill Diamond presented an official expression of sentiment in honor and recognition of retiring Fire Chief Jason Moen:

“Be it known to all that we, the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, join in recognizing Jason Moen of Naples who is retiring after more than twenty years in the firefighting service including ten years as Chief of the Casco Fire and Rescue Department. We congratulate Chief Moen and send him our best wishes. Be it ordered that this official expression of sentiment be sent forthwith on behalf of the 128th Legislature and the People of the State of Maine.”

Representative Jessica Fay presented an official expression of sentiment in honor and recognition of retiring Town Clerk Lucille Griffin:

“Be it known to all that we, the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives, join in recognizing Lucille Griffin of Casco who is retiring as Town Clerk of the Town of Casco after thirty years of service. Ms. Griffin began her career in March 1987 after serving as a fire and rescue dispatcher and paramedic for the town. We extend to Ms. Griffin our congratulations on her retirement and offer her our best wishes. Be it ordered that this official expression of sentiment be sent forthwith on behalf of the 128th Legislature and the People of the State of Maine.”

Both official expressions of sentiment are signed by President of the Senate Michael Thibodeau, Secretary of the Senate Heather Priest, Speaker of the House Sara Gideon and Clerk of the House Robert Hunt.

Holly Hancock noted that Town Manager David Morton will soon be recognized for forty years of service as Town Manager.

Old Business:

1. Review of projects funded with bond proceeds.

David Morton reviewed remaining costs for the Edwards Road and Johnson Hill Road projects. In response to an inquiry from Holly Hancock, David stated that estimates for future road projects will arrive soon. The Selectboard discussed current and future road projects.

New Business:

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

David Morton stated that legal counsel prepared a draft consent agreement that did not include recently submitted comments from the Town Planner. David stated that the Town Planner 1) based his comments on current requirements for new subdivision approval; and 2) called into question a number of issues related to possible violations of the Town of Casco Subdivision Ordinance including road access, road width, road frontage, utilities, drainage, setbacks and other concerns. David stated that the Selectboard needs to balance the circumstances related to the proposed consent agreement with the Town Planner's comments and decide whether or not to consider a consent agreement. The Selectboard agreed to include action on the proposed consent agreement as an agenda item for the February 13, 2018 Selectboard meeting.

3. Selectboard comments.

- Calvin Nutting expressed his opinion that an estimated \$150,000 for paving on Raymond Cape Road is not enough to include necessary drainage work.
- In response to an inquiry from Tom Peaslee, David Morton stated that the Town has used 120 tons of road salt thus far this season and ordered an additional 120 tons. David stated that road sand and salt usage this year is a little more than normal and not yet over budget.
- Holly Hancock noted that the buyer of a recently sold tax acquired property who no longer works for the same employer listed the property for significantly more than the sale price without completing the clean-up required as a condition of the sale. Holly stated that the Selectboard may need to consider what action it might take if the property does not sell and the required clean-up is not completed. Mary Fernandes commented on the need to develop a policy for how to handle such circumstances. Holly Hancock included a discussion about the protocol and time frames related to such circumstances as an agenda item for the February 13, 2018 Selectboard meeting.
- Tom Peaslee commented that 1) buyers of tax acquired properties sometimes attempt to resell them for significantly more than they paid for them; and 2) he would like to think the Town could get more money for those types of properties when they are sold.

4. Review of applications for abatement of taxes due to poverty or infirmity. (Requires executive session subject to Title 1 M.R.S.A., subsection 405, paragraph 6, part F, and pursuant to Title 36 M.R.S.A. subsection 841(2).)

5. Town Manager annual performance review. (Requires executive session pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A., subsection 405, paragraph 6, part A to discuss the employment, assignment, duties, compensation or evaluation where public discussion could violate the individual's right to privacy.)

The Selectboard moved (Hancock), seconded (Fernandes) and voted to adjourn to executive session to review a request for abatement of taxes due to poverty or infirmity subject to Title 1 M.R.S.A., subsection 405, paragraph 6, part F, and pursuant to Title 36 M.R.S.A. subsection 841(2); and to adjourn to executive session for the Town Manager annual performance review pursuant to Title 1 M.R.S.A., subsection 405, paragraph 6, part A to discuss the employment, assignment, duties, compensation or evaluation where public discussion could violate the individual's right to privacy: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

The Selectboard entered into executive session at 7:13 p.m.

The Selectboard returned from executive session at 8:59 p.m.

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve an abatement for account 1-23-18-A in the amount of \$998.35 representing the balance of taxes due for tax year 2016: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

It was moved, seconded and voted to adjourn: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

ATTEST:

Robert Tooker
Administrative Secretary