

Town of Casco

Minutes of the April 23, 2019 Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Sirois, Planning Board Assistant Sandy Fredricks and Administrative Secretary Bob Tooker

Approval of Agenda:

Holly Hancock amended the agenda to include review of an application for games of chance, review of an application for relief from emergency medical services costs, consideration of a nominee for the Spirit of America Award and an executive session to discuss applications for the Town Manager position.

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the agenda for the April 23, 2019 Selectboard meeting as amended: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Approval of Warrants:

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve bills and sign open warrants: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Approval of Minutes: (April 9, 2019)

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2019 Selectboard meeting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Town Manager's Update: (David Morton)

- The Maine legislature is working on a tax revenue sharing program for communities that opt in to allow retail marijuana sales in their communities.
- The School Administrative District (SAD) 61 budget vote will take place at Lake Region High School on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- The SAD 61 budget ratification vote will take place on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at the Casco Community Center. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Heavy load road postings are lifted and heavy load trucking is permitted.

Committee and Staff Reports:

Tom Peaslee read a letter from Keith Morehouse to the Selectboard announcing his resignation from the Open Space Commission effective April 22, 2019.

Public Participation:

Joshua Appleton commented on the potential increase in tax revenue for Casco as it relates to the State's proposed tax revenue sharing program for communities that opt in to allow retail marijuana sales in their communities. Joshua commented on his plans to invest in substantial greenhouses on his properties in Casco for the cultivation of marijuana.

New Business:

1. Discussion with R.N. Willey Excavating regarding the upcoming Point Sebago Road construction project.

Jim Willey from R.N. Willey Excavating stated that he plans to begin the Point Sebago Road construction project between mid-June and early July and complete the project in about a month. Jim 1) commented on logistical plans; 2) stated that no work will be conducted on Saturdays; and 3) stated that he does not foresee any traffic management problems or significant delays. The Selectboard emphasized the importance of public safety and the need to consider making the road safer for pedestrian traffic by widening road shoulders in certain areas.

2. Joint meeting with the Casco Planning Board.

Code Enforcement Officer Alex Sirois stated that the public hearing on this evening's agenda arose from the Planning Board's agreement that a request to include campgrounds as a permitted use in the Commercial Zone makes sense. In response to an inquiry from Holly Hancock, Alex explained proposed revisions to filling and kennel ordinances. Alex stated that 1) a public hearing on proposed revisions to filling and kennel ordinances has already taken place; and 2) proposed revisions to those ordinances have been drafted for Selectboard review and Town Meeting warrant articles. Holly added a review of proposed revisions to filling and kennel ordinances to the May 14, 2019 Selectboard meeting agenda.

Alex Sirois stated that after the public hearing, the Planning Board would need to vote to send proposed ordinance revisions to the Commercial Zone to allow campgrounds as a permitted use to the Selectboard.

3. Public hearing regarding proposed changes to the Casco Code regarding campgrounds in commercial districts.

It was moved, seconded and voted to table the April 23, 2019 Selectboard meeting agenda and move to public hearing: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Holly Hancock opened the public hearing. Town Planner Jim Seymour stated that the request to include campgrounds as a permitted use in the Commercial Zone was submitted by Point Sebago. Jim stated that after discussing the proposed ordinance changes with Code Enforcement Officer Alex Sirois, neither of them were able to determine why campgrounds were not allowed as a permitted use in the Commercial Zone in the first place. In response to an inquiry from Grant Plummer, Jim stated that new campgrounds would require a comprehensive site plan review by the Planning Board.

Jim Seymour stated that as a point of order, a motion to send proposed ordinance revisions to the Selectboard would need to be made by the Planning Board.

There being no further comments, it was moved, seconded and voted to close the public hearing: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

2. Joint meeting with the Casco Planning Board (continued).

Planning Board member Jim Macklin moved that the Planning Board send the campground ordinance change to the Selectboard for review, hopefully to be incorporated into the June 12, 2019 Town Meeting warrant with Planning Board support. The motion was seconded and passed by the Planning Board: 3 in favor, 0 opposed 0 abstentions.

Holly Hancock added a review of proposed ordinance revisions to the Commercial Zone to allow campgrounds as a permitted use to the May 14, 2019 Selectboard meeting agenda.

Planning Board member Ray Grant moved to close the Planning Board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by the Planning Board: 3 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

4. Discussion of financing for two large proposals for Town Meeting (Memorial Field completion and Fire Department capital budget including fire truck and generators).

The Selectboard reviewed bonding proposals for two potential June 12, 2019 Town Meeting warrant articles. One article would seek approval of an expenditure of up to \$875,000 for 1) a fire truck; 2) generators for the community center, central fire station, and South Casco fire station; and 3) a boiler for the central fire station. A separate article would seek approval of an expenditure of up to \$698,000 for improvements to recreation areas at Memorial Field.

The Selectboard considered 1) the high cost of interest in the bonding proposal, particularly with longer term bonds; and 2) potential cost saving measures. The Selectboard discussed the need for a creative thought process to try to remove some of the items from the bonding proposal and fit them into the regular budget over the course of several years. Grant Plummer stated that he would prefer spending available funds more wisely, staggering expenditures over time and, if necessary, bonding over the shortest term. Tom Peaslee expressed that the whole plan needs some work. Holly Hancock encouraged Selectboard members to bring any recommendations they may have to the May 14, 2019 Selectboard meeting.

5. Review of an application for games of chance.

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the Casco Fire Association's games of chance application for beano at Casco Days: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

6. Review of an application for relief from emergency medical services costs.

It was moved, seconded and voted to write off the amount of \$250.00 for patient 184404: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

7. Discussion regarding possible nominees for the Spirit of America Award.

Holly Hancock stated that Wendy Betts has done grant writing for the Memorial Field project, taken CPR classes and contributed a significant amount of her time. Grant Plummer mentioned the senior meal site as a candidate, adding that he thought Wendy Betts would be a great choice for this year's award.

It was moved, seconded and voted to nominate Wendy Betts for the Spirit of America Award: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Old Business:

8. Selectboard comments.

- Holly Hancock commented on the progress of clean-up on the former Jackson property. Holly stated that in Town Manager David Morton's absence, she made an executive decision to have the contractor tear down a garage determined to be in poor condition.
- Holly Hancock stated that the Crooked River Snowmobile Club is working on a plan to build a structure for use as a club house and an office for Casco Days.
- Mary Fernandes 1) stated that an opt in for retail marijuana sales would need to be approved by the Town; and 2) commented on potential tax revenue if the Town were to opt in. Tom Peaslee called for further discussions by the Selectboard. Mary stated that she would try to

invite State Representative Jessica Fay to the May 14, 2019 Selectboard meeting.

9. Discussions regarding applications for the Town Manager position. (Requires executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(F), to discuss information in records received by the Town that are confidential under 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 2702(1)(A), specifically, applications for the Town Manager position.)

It was moved, seconded and voted to adjourn to executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(F), to discuss information in records received by the Town that are confidential under 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 2702(1)(A), specifically, applications for the Town Manager position: 5 in favor, 0 abstentions, 0 opposed.

The Selectboard entered executive session at 7:45 p.m.

The Selectboard returned from executive session at 8:07 p.m.

No action was taken.

It was moved, seconded and voted to adjourn: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

ATTEST:

Robert Tooker
Administrative Secretary