

Town of Casco

Minutes of the October 16, 2018 Selectboard Meeting

Selectboard Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Town Manager David Morton and Administrative Secretary Bob Tooker

Approval of Agenda:

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the agenda for the October 16, 2018 Selectboard meeting: 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: (September 25, 2018)

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2018 Selectboard meeting: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Town Manager's Update: (David Morton)

- Recyclers including ecomaine are facing diminishing returns. Please pay attention to recycled materials placed in bins as contaminated recycle loads are now being charged as municipal waste, which results in additional costs to taxpayers.
- An illegal shoreland zone tree cutting issue on Parsons Point has been referred to the Town attorney.
- Adjustments are being made to sixty-eight tax accounts affected by homestead exemption errors. Folks who receive notice must file a new and updated homestead exemption form in order to receive the exemption next year.
- The Maine Department of Transportation will be reducing speed limits on Route 11 from Cooks Mills Road to Pikes Corner and from Webbs Mills Road to Camp Cedar Road.

CSB 10.16.18

- The November 13, 2018 Selectboard meeting will be held at the Fire Station at 637 Meadow Road.
- A recently formed committee will be working with a consultant to review options for updating and renewing the Town's cable television franchise agreement with Charter Communications.

Committee and Staff Reports:

None.

Public Participation:

None.

New Business:

1. Review and signing of annual recycler permit for Skip's Auto.

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the recycler permit for Skip's Auto: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

2. Review with Rich Robinov of "Dr. Herbs and Headie Yeti" regarding interest in cannabis sales in Casco.

Rich Robinov and his business partners presented their business plan to purchase property at 224 Roosevelt Trail and establish a medical cannabis growing and distribution facility. Rich stated that their business plan will eventually include retail sales of recreational cannabis products. The presentation emphasized full disclosure, transparency, a commitment to cooperate fully with the Town and the importance of Selectboard support.

David Morton stated that 1) the growing and distribution of medical cannabis products is a legal business activity that should be treated the same as any other legal business activity; and 2) retail sales of recreational cannabis products in Casco would need to be enabled by a new Town ordinance. The Selectboard 1) discussed the process and the length of time typically required for the adoption of a new Town ordinance; and 2) suggested that Rich and his business partners seek examples of enabling legislation from other towns as a helpful next step.

3. Review and adoption of updated state guidelines for the Town's General Assistance ordinance. (7:00 p.m. public hearing)

The Selectboard reviewed proposed changes to the Town's General Assistance ordinance for the period from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019. The Selectboard 1) noted that overall maximums vary among towns based on the metropolitan area in which towns are grouped by the

State of Maine; and 2) called for research into why Casco was grouped in the Portland metropolitan area instead of the Cumberland County metropolitan area along with towns including Bridgton, Naples and Harrison.

It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the proposed changes to the General Assistance ordinance for the period from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Old Business:

4. Review and discussion of the process for meeting with representatives of private roads with the acknowledgement of a public easement that receive winter plowing services from the Town.

David Morton updated the Selectboard on his meetings with representatives of private roads. David stated that certain representatives will likely be approaching the Selectboard soon to request waivers or extensions related to the October 31, 2019 deadline for compliance with 1972 minimum road standards in order to continue to receive plowing services from the Town. In response to an inquiry from Grant Plummer, the Selectboard agreed that representatives requesting waivers or extensions should be prepared to justify their request with a basic explanation along with a plan and quotes for costs. The Selectboard agreed that it would be better for representatives to find out this year if they may have a problem instead of finding out next year just before the deadline.

5. Discussions regarding the search for a new Town Manager.

Holly Hancock distributed a packet of Town Manager job descriptions and compensation information from other towns and encouraged Selectboard members to review it in preparation for discussion at the October 30, 2018 Selectboard meeting.

6. Selectboard comments.

- Holly Hancock distributed a card from the Lake Stewards of Maine thanking the Town of Casco for its generous donation.
- Tom Peaslee commented on the Open Space Commission's recent open invitation walk through Town-owned property on State Park Road where tree harvesting was recently completed.
- David Morton stated that the October 30, 2018 Selectboard meeting will include a presentation by the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office on procedures for monitoring and communicating about convicted sex offenders. In response to an inquiry from Tom Peaslee regarding the adoption of ordinances related to convicted sex offenders, David Morton stated that the presentation is 1) intended to address that issue; and 2) in part a response to concerns

raised by residents from a neighborhood in which sheriffs knocked on doors to inform residents that a convicted sex offender moved into the neighborhood.

- Mary Fernandes noted that 1) the November 13, 2018 Selectboard meeting will be held at the Fire Station at 637 Meadow Road; 2) David Barrett from the Maine Municipal Association will be discussing the search and hiring process for a new Town Manager; and 3) the Open Space Commission will be reporting on Town-owned open space properties. Mary encouraged anyone with questions or concerns related to the Open Space Commission to participate.
- Holly Hancock noted that Fire Chief Brian Cole will attend the November 13, 2018 Selectboard meeting to comment on the number of calls and activities of the Fire Department and answer any questions.

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

ATTEST:

Robert Tooker
Administrative Secretary