

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes**  
**May 12, 2016**  
**Harpswell Town Office**  
**Approved May 25, 2016**

At 4:30pm, the Selectmen attended a workshop with the Town Lands Committee.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Selectmen Present:** Richard A. Daniel, Elinor Multer and Kevin E. Johnson

**Staff Present:** Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator; William Wells, Code Enforcement Officer; and James Hays, Harbormaster

**1. Adoption of the Agenda:** Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to adopt the agenda; motion passed 3-0.

**2. Public Comment:** None.

**3. Administrator's Report:** Administrator Eiane reported pursuant to the Town's Economic Development Policy, that she was contacted by an entity interested in aquaculture at Mitchell Field. She will email the company and indicate that its request is on hold while the Town is in discussions with the Harpswell Coastal Academy. Administrator Eiane stated the Town's winter road maintenance contract ended in April and she asked the Selectmen to review the contract for any changes they may want to make prior to requesting bid proposals. Selectman Johnson will join the workshop with the Road Commissioner and staff regarding the winter maintenance. Administrator Eiane reported she is still trying to communicate with the Transportation Director of Waldo Transportation regarding public transportation in Harpswell and she is not certain something could be implemented this year. She noted the Harpswell Aging at Home (HAH) Group is working with People Plus on a volunteer network transportation system. There have been six new drivers participating in fulfilling Harpswell's transportation needs. Administrator Eiane announced there will be a public hearing on the June 14 secret ballot items on Monday, May 16 at 7:00pm. One matter involves a boundary line and the other relates to title issues, both at Mackerel Cove.

**4. Selectmen's Announcements:** Chairman Daniel stated that he and Administrator Eiane attended a meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the contractor that tests the wells at Mitchell Field. The well test results have shown the site is clean and the DEP is ready to remove the restrictions relating to water and soil. The test wells will be capped or removed and only the small landfill in the woods will remain off limits to digging. The DEP does suggest, as it does for all potable water supplies, to filter for arsenic and manganese.

**5. Consent Agenda:** Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the consent agenda [April 14 minutes; appointments of David Mercier as the Harpswell Neck Fire Chief and to the Fire and Rescue Committee; authorization of warrant 20 in the amount of \$65,882.50 and payroll warrant 20 in the amount of 14,844.94]; motion passed 3-0.

**6. Notice to Remove Personal Property from Tax-Acquired Parcel:** Deputy Administrator Sawyer stated the Town recently acquired, due to nonpayment of property taxes, a small parcel on Graveyard Point that abuts the Town landing. The lot contains a small fish house and other personal property that needs to be removed. Marguerite Kelly, Treasurer, has spoken with one of the four previous owners and indicated the notice to remove the personal property by May 31 would be forthcoming. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to send the notice to remove the personal property to the former property owners; motion passed 3-0.

**7. Selection of Wood Grinding Contractor and Contract:** Administrator Eiane reported two responses were received to the Town's request for proposals for wood grinding. The Recycling Center/Transfer Station Manager recommends proceeding with the higher priced company based on performance standards, noting the price may

also be negotiable. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to contract with Cross Excavating; motion passed 3-0.

## 8. Wharf Applications

- **Douglas and Susan Bane, 1241 Harpswell Islands Road, Map 35, Lot 196:** Joe Leblanc, owner's representative, reviewed the application for a 4'x8' access platform, 4'x10' access stairs, 6'x50' pier with pilings, 3'x40 aluminum ramp, 10'x 20' float, and 10'x40' haul out. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the application as the Harbormaster indicates there is no hazard to navigation and there is no injury to the rights of others for fishing, fowling and navigating; motion passed 3-0.
- **Ralph and Beverly Merriman, 10 Bufflehead Lane, Map 15, Lot 53:** Ben Wallace, owner's representative, reviewed the application for a minimal structure to assist the owners in having access to the shore. Chairman Daniel stated when the application was first received; the Assessing Agent determined the deed did not provide sufficient evidence of right, title or interest (RTI). Since then, the Town Attorney reviewed the applicant's attorney's opinion and the Town Attorney concurs that the applicant has proven sufficient RTI evidence. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the application as the Harbormaster indicates there is no hazard to navigation and there is no injury to the rights of others for fishing, fowling and navigating; motion passed 3-0.
- **Walter Moody, Sr., Wallace Shore Road, Map 53, Lot 63:** Bill Wells, Code Enforcement Officer, stated this application is incomplete and untimely before the Board. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to table the application until after the Planning Board reviews it and it is complete; motion passed 3-0. Deputy Administrator Sawyer asked Mr. Wells to review the riparian rights of the proposal.

**9. Legislative Update from State Representative Jay McCreight:** State Representative Jay McCreight provided a House District 51 legislative update (attached). There was a discussion regarding the issues with wormers and what could be done. Ms. McCreight indicated the bill she supported regarding wormers failed but she would be willing to try again. There was a discussion regarding the Land for Maine's Future funds and to Ms. McCreight's knowledge, no property acquisition opportunities failed due to the delay in the funding. Ms. McCreight thanked Hugh Hardcastle for heading up the volunteer transportation effort for the Harpswell Aging at Home group in Harpswell and for being a driver.

**10. Harpswell Coastal Academy Request for Use of Mitchell Field:** Administrator Eiane stated this proposal has been brought to the Board because of the proposed long-term use. Harpswell Coastal Academy (HCA) is seeking permission to use Mitchell Field for a science project – trees within a 1/10 acre area will be tagged and the growth of the trees will be studied over time. Don Miskell, Mitchell Field Committee member, met with HCA and a not-heavily-used site was selected and a small sign may be erected to explain the project. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to authorize the use as outlined in the application. Selectman Multer cautioned on placing a sign as sometimes it may encourage vandals. Motion passed 3-0.

**11. Harpswell Historical Society to Observe 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ewing Narrows Bridge:** David Hackett, President of the Harpswell Historical Society, stated everyone realizes how much the Ewing Narrows Bridge has changed our lives. It has been 40 years and it is time to celebrate with a parade and a few speakers on July 10 at 2:00pm. For the celebration, the bridge will be closed for about 40 minutes – the Town will coordinate with the Department of Transportation and the Sheriff's Office. Selectman Johnson stated it would be nice to see the history of the bridge. Selectman Multer suggested there be something symbolic reflecting bringing the two sides together. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the recognition; motion passed 3-0.

**12. Sign June 14, 2016 Town Meeting Warrant:** Administrator Eiane stated there will be a special Town Meeting on June 14 by secret ballot at three sites. Harpswell Neck and Mountain Road voters will vote at a new location – the Fellowship Hall at Elijah Kellogg Church; Orr’s and Bailey Islands voters will vote at the Old Orr’s Island Schoolhouse; and Great Island voters will vote at the Cundy’s Harbor Community Building. Polls are open from 8:00am to 8:00pm. The two articles relate to the Town’s property at Mackerel Cove: one is to clarify a boundary line and the other is to resolve a title issue by allowing an 8-foot easement. There will be a public hearing on Monday, May 16 at 7pm. Absentee ballots will be available next week. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to sign the June 14 warrant; motion passed 3-0.

**13. Consider Revision to Purchasing Policy:** Administrator Eiane stated this comes to the Board as suggested by Selectman Multer. The revision increases the Town Administrator’s authority to approve purchases in value up to \$4,000. Selectman Multer suggested replacing “unit” with “all purchases”. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the amended purchasing policy; motion passed 3-0.

**14. Accept Donations:** Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to accept \$80 from Ned Simmons for the heating program and \$350 from Bill Muldoon for the Bandstand; motion passed 3-0.

**15. Other Business:** Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to appoint John Loyd as an associate to the Town Lands Committee; motion passed 3-0.

**16. Public Comment:** None.

**17. Administrative Matters:** The Board signed two Orr’s Island Bridge leases and scheduled the following: non-resident taxpayer meeting for July 11, committee-wide meeting for June 22 at 4:30pm, the Board’s May 26 meeting moved to May 25, goals and objectives workshop for June 9 at 4:30pm, and the employee appreciation lunch for the last non-meeting Thursday in July.

**18. Executive Session:** At 7:00pm, Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) re: personnel evaluation; motion passed 3-0.

At 7:52, the Board returned to open session. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve a 1.5% salary increase for the Town Administrator; motion passed 3-0.

**22. Adjournment:** At 7:53 p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer  
Deputy Town Administrator