

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2019
Harpswell Town Office
Approved March 28, 2019

1:00 pm, the Board interviewed candidates for MSAD 75 School Board Directors. At 2:45pm after interviewing three candidates – Frank Wright IV, Molly Perry and Claudia Frost – Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to enter executive session pursuant to 1 MRS 405 (6) (A) to discuss the candidates for appointment; motion passed 3-0. The Board returned to open session around 3:15pm and reported the appointments would be made at the 6:00pm meeting.

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

Selectmen Present: Kevin E. Johnson, David I. Chipman and Jane G. Covey

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator; Fred Cantu, Code Enforcement Officer; and Paul Plummer, Harbormaster

1. Election of the Chair: Selectman Chipman, seconded by Selectman Covey to nominate Selectman Johnson as Chair; motion passed 2-0 (Chairman Johnson abstained).

2. Adoption of the Agenda: Agenda item 10 was moved to after item 6.

3. Public Comment: Bruce Flaherty, of the Maine Chapter of Spirit of America, explained what Spirit of America is and its Spirit of America Foundation Tribute for outstanding community service. Mr. Flaherty encouraged the Board to nominate someone for this year's award by June 30.

4. Selectmen's Announcements: Chairman Johnson and Selectman Chipman welcomed Jane Covey as the new Selectman.

5. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane stated that at the last meeting the Board asked that the Energy and Technology Committee review how the Town could livestream meetings. The Committee is unfortunately down to one person in Town and cannot take on more tasks at this time. Staff will look into livestreaming and report back to the Board. Selectman Chipman asked that the Agreement with the Harpswell Community Broadcast Corp. be put back on the next agenda; Chairman Johnson agreed as the Town can still pursue livestream. Administrator Eiane reported the Town's Harbormaster has worked with Representative McCreight regarding legislation to allow municipalities to assess fees for municipal review on aquaculture applications. Another bill the Town is following requires Central Maine Power to make clearing roads a priority during widespread outages. The bill has been reviewed through two sessions and has had some tweaks with more to come.

6. Consent Agenda: 1) **Approval of the Minutes;** 2) **Set 2019 Commercial Shellfish Lotteries;** 3) **Policy for Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wages & Benefits;** 4) **Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for State Fees;** 5) **Authorization of the Warrants:** Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to accept the consent agenda [approved February 28 minutes; set March 29 at 5:30 as the resident shellfish lottery and 6:00 for non-residents; approved both policies regarding the employee wages & benefits warrants and the State fees warrants; warrant #11 in the amount of \$809,449.91, and payroll warrant #10 in the amount of \$19,410.64]; motion passed 3-0.

10. Appointment of Harpswell's Representative to the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB): The Board recognized David W. Chipman for his work on behalf of the Town on the RAB. Mr. Chipman reviewed what his role has been on the RAB. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to appoint Paul Cieslski on the RAB; motion passed 3-0. Mr. Cieslski stated he would be making a report in the near future of what the Navy needs to do about the pollutants on the base that are working their way to Harpswell Cove.

7. Tax Anticipation Note Financing: Deputy Administrator Sawyer stated the Treasurer is requesting approval for sending a request for proposals for short-term financing (tax anticipation note financing) for \$3.1 million. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to approve the request for proposals; motion passed 3-0.

8. Auditor's Report on 2018 Financials: Christina Howe, of RHR Smith & Company (Town audit firm), reviewed the highlights of the Town's 2018 financial statements and audit.

9. Kathryn Hirst Wharf Application, 66 Lombos Hole Road, Map 41, Lot 31: Fred Cantu, Code Enforcement Officer, introduced the application. Joe Leblanc, applicant's representative, reviewed the application. He stated that both the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) look at the possible impact on eel grass and he conducted two site investigations by boat and walking the shore. This proposed system will be 30-40 feet from the eel grass. Paul Plummer, Harbormaster and Marine Administrator, recommended the Board not take action on the application until the DEP and ACOE review the application as the site has eel grass. Eel grass grows between May through October and it's hard to see at other times. Mr. Plummer stated Mr. Leblanc did not submit pictures of the eel grass and based on the 2018 State eel grass maps, this area contains sensitive eel grass areas. Mary Ann Nahf asked if the agencies will conduct a site visit given the Town's concerns. Mr. Leblanc stated he notified the agencies of the eel grass and reviewed his August site investigation and what the status of the site is. Mr. Leblanc stated that the Code Office won't issue a permit until all other agency permits are received. Selectman Covey noted that if the Board delays action then it won't change the schedule of permitting. Chairman Johnson stated he wants to delay Board review until the other agencies have reviewed the application. Selectman Covey moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman to table the application pending the ACOE and DEP review; motion passed 3-0.

11. Appointment of MSAD 75 Directors: Chairman Johnson stated the Board interviewed three excellent candidates and he moved to appoint Frank Wright, IV and Molly Perry, seconded by Selectman Chipman. Selectman Covey stated all three candidates were excellent and as the appointments are for one year, next year will come a time for nominations and an election. Motion passed 3-0.

12. Set Public Hearing Re: Bethel Point Parking Ordinance Amendments: The Board discussed its schedule and Chairman Johnson will not be available March 28 or April 4. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to set March 28 at 6:30pm as a hearing regarding proposed amendments to the Bethel Point Parking Ordinance; motion passed 3-0.

13. Contracts

- **Midcoast Humane:** Administrator Eiane stated the contract is essentially the same as past years (except for some service rates) and municipalities are required to have a place to bring animals. The new Coastal Humane Society name is Midcoast Humane. Selectman Covey moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman to approve the contract; motion passed 3-0.
- **Department of Transportation (DOT) for a SHIP (Small Harbor Improvement Program) Grant for Mitchell Field Floats:** Selectman Chipman stated there was some concern expressed at Town Meeting about the site being open to the public beyond Harpswell. Selectman Chipman asked if approving this commits the Town. Staff responded that since Town Meeting approved authorizing the Board to accept the grant, the grant contract is before the Board. The contract commits the Town and if there are any concerns, it should not be approved. Selectman Covey stated she heard as the chair of the Mitchell Field Committee that there were more concerns regarding the public boat launch. She noted Town Meeting approved the floats and ramp and the Town could possibly one day charge a fee for use. The Town has previously accepted a SHIP grant for the Pott's Point site. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to move forward and sign the contract; motion passed 3-0.

14. Easement Deed to Clover LLC for Utility Line Under Abner Point Road: Administrator Eiane stated Town Meeting authorized an easement allowing this entity to put power lines under Abner Point Road similar to another Abner Point Road resident [previously approved by Town Meeting]. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to approve and sign the easement; motion passed 3-0.

15. Selectman Committee Liaisons: The Board agreed to the following liaison roles: Chairman Johnson: Emergency Vehicles, Fire and Rescue Planning, Harbor & Waterfront, Marine Resources. Selectman Chipman: Bandstand, Energy and Technology, Mitchell Field, Recycling. Selectman Covey: Budget Advisory, Conservation Commission, Recreation, Town Lands.

16. Public Comment: None.

17. Other Business: None.

18. Administrative Matters: None.

19. Adjournment: At 6:53 p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator