

Special Selectmen's Meeting
April 3, 2013
Harpswell Town Office
Approved on May 30, 2013

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Selectmen Present: Elinor Multer, Alison S. Hawkes and Richard A. Daniel

Others Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator, Sally Daggett, Town Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Hawkes to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(C) to speak with the Town Attorney regarding possible public easements; motion passed 3-0.

The Board returned to open session at 6:15 p.m.

Chairman Multer stated the Board has reviewed the Town Meeting warrant article, the Cedar Beach/Cedar Island Supporters (CBCIS) April 1 letter and discussed both with the Town Attorney. Chairman Multer stated the Board agrees that CBCIS has more than one way to facilitate what it wants regarding receiving tax deductible donations to cover expenses. The warrant article approval is valid until 12/31/14 and CBCI could file to become a 501(c)(3); partner with another 501(c)3 entity; could include the legal costs with all expenses into a single offer of sale to the Town; could sell the easement(s) to the Town at the appropriate real estate interest and the Town could agree to purchase same at the \$220,000 funds approved by Town Meeting along with whatever funds are received through gifts and/or grants; or CBCIS could make a similar arrangement with property owner(s) to wrap all costs into a single purchase price. All options would be proper and in accordance with the warrant article. Chairman Multer stated the Board is not prepared to disburse money from gifts or grants except as part of a total deal to be paid whether to CBCIS, a property owner(s) or another 501(c)3. That is the Board's position. CBCIS left the room to caucus.

Martin Eisenstien, of CBCIS, stated the group caucused and is not prepared to respond at this time. CBCIS may or may not come back to the Selectmen on this topic after discussing with the CBCIS Board of Directors and other members. He stated his appreciation for the time the Selectmen took to explain their position. Mike Helfgott, CBCIS, stated he is disappointed as he understands the points the Board made noted but that the Board was not responsive to the needs expressed in CBCIS letter. Costs are likely to exceed \$220,000 and section c of the warrant article came about as CBCIS expressed the need to raise money and it never occurred to CBCIS that it would not be able to draw down on funds it raised that were donated to the Town.

Administrator Eiane reminded the Board it will meet on Friday at 3:30 p.m. to address a few timely matters.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator