

**Selectmen's Meeting
October 10, 2019, 6pm
Harpwell Town Office
Approved October 24, 2019**

Selectmen Present: Kevin E. Johnson, Chair; David I. Chipman and Jane S. Covey

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Marguerite Kelly, Town Treasurer; Mark Eyerman, Planner; Art Howe, Fire Administrator; and Fred Cantu, Code Enforcement Officer

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Johnson and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of the Agenda: The Board unanimously agreed to adopt the agenda with no changes.

Public Comment: David Brooks commented on the difficulties he had getting a permit approved for the installation of solar panels on his roof. According to his installer, Harpswell is the most restrictive of area towns when it comes to the installation of solar panels. Fred Cantu, Code Enforcement Officer, explained that the Town is following 2019 building and energy code standards. He acknowledged that exceptions are allowed and that he relies on feedback from the Town's Fire Administrator before making a decision. Selectman Chipman indicated he wanted to look into this further.

Selectmen's Announcements: None

Town Administrator's Report: Town Administrator Kristi Eiane asked Fire Administrator Art Howe to introduce firefighter candidate Dylan Therriault. Mr. Therriault is a licensed Maine EMT and certified Firefighter II who currently works for Delta Ambulance in Waterville. Selectman Chipman moved to hire Mr. Therriault as a municipal firefighter, seconded by Selectwoman Covey and passed 3-0. The Town Administrator spoke about the Open Houses being held at the three fire companies—two have been held to date, one at Harpswell Neck and one at the Orr's Island station. The Cundy's Harbor Open House is coming up on Wednesday, October 16, 3:30pm to 6pm. The companies have been welcoming the public to visit their stations, meet local responders and learn more about emergency preparedness. The Town Administrator thanked Deputy Administrator Terri Sawyer for running a successful flu clinic at the Town Office today with well over 100 people being inoculated.

Consent Agenda: Selectman Chipman moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following: Minutes of September 26, 2019; Tax Abatements for Gail Hollenbeck in the amount of \$128,300 for a reduction in taxes of \$859.61 and for Lester and Barbara Apigian in the amount of \$35,600 for a reduction in taxes of \$238.52; and Authorization of Warrant #41 in the amount of \$980,445.38, Warrant #41A in the amount of \$123,208.35 and Payroll Warrant #40 in the amount of \$20,445.58. The motion was seconded by Selectwoman Covey and passed 3-0. The Town Administrator briefed the Board on the visit from the Harvard Kennedy School graduate students.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Marguerite Kelly provided an overview of the Town's finances through September 30, 2019. (See report attached).

Preliminary Review and Feedback on Draft Ordinance Amendments: Town Planner Mark Eyerman summarized the work that the Planning Board has been doing with regard land use ordinance amendments. Main areas being addressed are: (1) removing remaining references to Timber Harvesting so that all regulation of Timber Harvesting is done by the Maine Bureau of Forestry under statewide rules; (2) revising the treatment of non-conforming structures in the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (SZO) to incorporate 2015 state guidelines with regard to the 30% expansion rule; (3) adding performance standards in the SZO dealing with hazard, storm-damaged and dead trees, exemptions from the clearing standards and requirements for revegetation; (4) revising how the Town measures the height of a building or structure so it is consistent with the state approach and increasing the maximum height to 35 feet; (5) converting parts of the dimensional standards from text to tables; and (6) other edits to make provisions in the SZO more consistent with state guidelines. The Planner noted that he wanted to make the Board of Selectmen aware of the preliminary proposals being discussed by the Planning Board. The Planning Board is still working on draft language and would be holding public hearings at a future time once the language is firmed up. Matthew Rich commented that the Town should consider doing more to ensure wastewater disposal and sanitary standards are met within the Shoreland Zone.

Baker Design Contract Regarding Mitchell Field Seasonal Floats and Ramps: Town Planner Mark Eyerman reported that the State is on board with the proposed contract with Baker Design Associates noting that the contract amount is not to exceed \$35,000. The full amount is not likely to be needed as the design is expected to change in some respects from what was originally proposed in the conceptual phase. It was moved by Selectwoman Covey to approve the agreement with Baker Design Associates for an amount not to exceed \$35,000; seconded by Selectman Chipman and passed 3-0.

Report from Legislative Officials: Representative Jay McCreight and Senator Brownie Carson provided updates on legislative activities. Representative McCreight serves on the Marine Resources Committee (Chair) and the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee. Senator Carson serves on the Environment and Natural Resources Committee (Chair) and the Education and Cultural Committee. Senator Carson mentioned that Harpswell will be receiving more revenue sharing under the new budget (from \$73,000 to \$103,000) and that MSAD # 75 received \$257,000 in state aid to education. He talked about the work he is doing on recycling reform that would involve assessing manufacturers of products and producers of packaging a fee in an effort to reduce the materials being used. It is intended that municipalities be beneficiaries of the fees collected to help offset recycling costs at the local level. Representative McCreight reviewed a number of legislative bills that she was involved in over the last session including one that now requires utility companies to be better prepared for widespread outages and allowing municipalities to charge up to \$50 for reviewing aquaculture applications. There was a lengthy discussion about the condition of state roads in Harpswell and how the state transportation budget will need to be increased to address these problems. Harpswell will have to keep pressure on DOT to do more than apply a skim coat of pavement every 7 years under the current system. Road Commissioner Ron Ponziani talked about maintenance matters, primarily a

number of blocked culverts, which he continues to bring to the attention of DOT. If maintenance was performed with more regularity, it would slow down the rate of road deterioration. He indicated that more funding will be needed at the state level to address the state's road problems.

Update on Bailey Island Ambulance: The Town Administrator reported that the ambulance with a new chassis will be delivered to Harpswell next Friday. Upon satisfactory inspection and performance test, the Town will need to (1) accept the new vehicle and lease it to the Orr's-Bailey Island Fire Department, (2) transfer ownership of the old chassis to Sugarloaf, and (3) return ownership of the loaner ambulance to Sugarloaf. In addition, changes will need to be made to the Vehicle and Facility Use agreement. Selectman Chipman moved to authorize the Town Administrator and Deputy Town Administrator to complete these transactions. The motion was seconded by Selectwoman Covey and passed 3-0.

Cable TV Franchise Renewal Advisory Work Group Draft Mission Statement: The Town Administrator provided the Board with a mission statement for a work group that would assist the Town with the Cable TV franchise renewal process. The Board expressed support for the draft statement and for the proposed composition of the group. The Board will consider adoption of the mission statement and the slate of members at its next meeting, allowing time for the Administrator to reach out to possible nominees.

Public Comment: Road Commissioner Ron Ponziani commented on the importance of ditching along State roads to keep the roads from deteriorating. He also reported on having vegetation trimmed along the sides of Robinhood Road; that the Town's capital road project is moving along well with the final coat of pavement expected to happen next week; and that at least one radar speed sign will be purchased before the end of the year. Bill Hitchcock of North Harpswell stated that Route 123 was in the worst condition he has seen in 43 years. He encouraged the planning process to begin for improvements to 123.

Other Business: None.

Administrative Matters: The Board agreed to hold a workshop regarding the HVAC report on October 24, 5pm.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi K. Eiane, Town Administrator