

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2015
Harpswell Town Office
Approved on March 5, 2015

At 4:00pm, the Selectmen attended a workshop regarding the winter road maintenance contract.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator and Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator

The meeting was recorded and broadcast live on Harpswell Community Television and streamed.

1. Adoption of the Agenda: Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to adopt the agenda as amended by removing item 11; motion passed 3-0.

2. Public Comment: None.

4. Selectmen's Announcements: None.

5. Consent Agenda: Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the consent agenda [appointment of Susan Daignault as a Town land steward; and warrant #7 in the amount of \$3,655.14 and payroll warrant #7 in the amount of \$13,749.31]; motion passed 3-0.

6. Consider One-Year Contract with Goodall Landscaping for Winter Maintenance: Chairman Daniel stated the Town and Goodall Landscaping entered into a 3-year contract for winter road maintenance that ends in April of this year. Ben Goodall asked the Board to consider another contract and the Board is considering a one-year contract. The proposed contract adds a few new Town locations to be plowed and requires Goodall to have 8-9 trucks in Harpswell. The 2014-2015 contract price is \$331,018 and the proposed one-year contract from October 2015 through April 2016 is for \$344,258. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectmen Multer to approve the one-year contract; motion passed 3-0.

8. Consider Purchase and Sales Agreement with Harpswell Coastal Academy (HCA): Chairman Daniel stated the Town and HCA had hoped to finalize a purchase and sale this week but the HCA President is on vacation so it will be on the agenda next week. The Selectmen reviewed two options for a warrant article regarding the sale of this property to HCA. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to place option one on the Town Meeting warrant; motion passed 3-0.

3. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane stated the amount of snow is taking a toll on property owners and work crews. She encouraged the public to be aware of the amount of snow on roofs, and take action if necessary.

9. Consider Interim Options to Provide Planning Services: Administrator Eiane stated the Planner's last day is February 20 and the Board has indicated it wants to explore options on how to proceed with providing planning services. Administrator Eiane stated if the Board wants to consider entering a short-term contract for planning services, hourly rates range from \$60 - \$100. Chairman Daniel stated for the interim he could agree with contracting and suggested the Board consider a workshop to discuss the long-term plan, including expanding the Planner's job description. Selectman Johnson stated he does not believe Harpswell needs a full-time planner and there are other options such as expanding one of the Code Officer's job descriptions. Selectman Multer agreed with contracting for several months and then hold a workshop to evaluate how that period worked and what the future needs are. Mary Ann Nahf suggested it would be helpful at the workshop to hear what the Selectmen's overall vision of a planning role should be above and beyond everyday tasks. Selectmen Multer suggested the

contract should include economic development. Selectman Johnson was opposed to focusing on economic development in general given Harpswell is a small business and fishing town. The Board agreed to consider a contract with Midcoast Council of Government for the interim to help determine what the Town's specific needs are in this area. Administrator Eiane asked for clarity on whether an economic development background is required of the contracted planner; Selectman Multer responded not required but a plus.

10. 2015 Warrant/Budget Review: Administrator Eiane highlighted the articles that were amended since the last meeting. The Board of Selectmen set the interest rate on outstanding 2015 taxes and abated taxes at 6%. Selectmen Multer asked for a clarification on the parking ordinance amendment on what the definition of area was. If additional language is needed and is considered substantive, Selectman Multer agreed to proceed but asked that the change be made next year. Administrator Eiane stated that recommendations are by Selectmen required for secret ballot articles relating to money but that it has been Harpswell's tradition to list recommendations on floor articles. Each Selectman recommended each article. Regarding the proposed Noise Ordinance, Administrator Eiane stated when the Town attorney first reviewed the proposal, there was not a clear understanding of the policy the Board wanted to achieve. Upon further review, the Town's proposal involves a criminal statute; generally municipal ordinance violations are civil. Administrator Eiane indicated the Ordinance is likely not ready for Town Meeting and needs some more work. The Board agreed not to place the proposed Noise Ordinance on the Town Meeting warrant. Jim Knight spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance. Chairman Daniel stated the Board tried to fill a gap when neighbors are not respectful about using heavy equipment at 3:00am even when asked to stop.

11. Consider Placing Generator for Bid: Removed.

12. Other Business: None.

13. Public Comment: None.

14. Administrative Matters: None.

7. Public Hearing for Ordinance Amendments and New Ordinance: The hearing was opened at 6:30pm. Selectmen Johnson stated the Marine Resource Committee reviewed the final changes in the Shellfish Ordinance and are ready to proceed. Administrator Eiane stated the Shellfish Ordinance amendments and the new Aquaculture Ordinance will be sent to the Department of Marine Resources' Commissioner. No members from the public commented on the Shellfish, Aquaculture, Harbor & Waterfront or Property Tax Assistance Ordinances.

15. Executive Session: At 6:35, Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)(A) regarding an employment matter; motion passed 3-0.

16. Adjournment: At approximately 7:00pm, the Board returned to open session and adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator