

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 4, 2021
Approved March 11, 2021
Harpswell Town Office
Via Zoom

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

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

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

Others Present: Monique Coombs

Members of the Board, staff and presenters were participating by Zoom. The meeting was also being broadcast live on Harpswell Community Television and live streamed. The Chair read aloud the procedure for how members of the public could participate; such instructions were also included on the published agenda and on the website.

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda:** The agenda was accepted as written.
- 2. Public Comment:** Administrator Eiane referenced a public comment from Gary Vincent from 2/10/21. Mr. Vincent suggested that the Town have a wireless and broadband strategy and mentioned that the Town's wireless communications ordinance may need to be updated. Vincent also suggested that the Board consider forming a work group to address this issue. The Board will have the Energy and Technology Committee take a look at this issue. Mr. Vincent also commented on the Town proceeding with a solar array at Mitchell Field. Mr. Vincent participated by phone and noted that the Mitchell Field Committee is exploring the solar array matter.
- 3. Selectmen's Announcements:** Selectman Chipman stated that the John Gilliam Cleanup Day will be April 24, 2021. Selectman Chipman is looking for someone to take over coordinating the event.
- 4. Town Administrator's Report:** Administrator Eiane reminded residents of the election coming on March 13, 2021, for electing a Selectman and a School Board member. Absentee ballots are available at the Town Office until the close of business Wednesday, March 10. Absentee ballots must be returned by Friday, March 13 at 5pm. For residents looking to vote in person, the polls will be open at Harpswell Community School from 9-5. The budget, ordinance changes and other business will be voted on in June with the school budget. A Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) for phase two of the Cundy's Harbor Library is being recommended to the County Commissioners for \$40,000, which is in addition to the phase one grant for \$69,000+. RA Webber, a local business, has generously donated labor and materials to the project. The generosity of the donation combined with the additional grant money will likely be enough to finish the project. Eiane stated that the deadline for dog registration has been extended until June 2,

2021. Administrator Eiane asked the Board for permission to sell a generator that is no longer in use at Harpswell Community Television. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey, to put the generator up for sale. Motion passed, 3-0.

5. Consent Agenda: 1. Approval of the minutes; 2. Election Worker Appointments; 3. Committee Appointment; 4. Accept Harpswell Heritage Land Trust Grant for Community Garden; 5. Authorization of the Warrants. Chairman Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman, to approve the consent agenda [Approval of 2/18 and 2/24 Minutes; Election worker appointments: Linda Creamer, Susan Lowery, Sharon Oehmig and Marolyn Bibber; Committee Appointment: Mark Leuchtenberger to the Marine Resource Committee; HHLT Community Garden Grant Amount of \$5,900.] Motion passed, 3-0.

6. Consider Support LD 101: An Act to prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development: Monique Coombs, resident of Orr’s Island and Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association representative, spoke in support of LD 101: An act to prohibit Offshore Wind Energy Development in the Gulf of Maine. She expressed concerns that the industrializing of the coast of Maine would not only endanger the health of the ocean, but jeopardize the culture and future of Maine fishing families. Coombs also spoke about how the negative ripple effect of developing the Gulf of Maine cannot truly be predicted. Matt Gilley called in and stated that Harpswell has the most registered fishermen for any town in the state and that the Town should take a stand to support its fishermen by supporting LD 101. Tony Barrett, Harpswell, stated that instead of a prohibition of wind development in the Gulf, that perhaps amending the Wind Act of 2008. Howard Marshall, South Harpswell, also called in, objecting to the permanent nature of the language of LD 101, banning future research opportunities. Caller Gary Vincent supported Tony Barrett’s comment about adjusting existing laws versus creating a ban on all future opportunities. There was consensus among Board members to do more research before revisiting this topic in two weeks.

7. 2021 Budget Review: The Board reviewed the proposed 2021 budget amounts for the accounts listed below, and increased the Midcoast Hunger Prevention budget from \$6,000 to \$10,000.:

5300	WELFARE: SOCIAL SVCS	\$ 26,730
6000	CULTURAL	79,311
6000	CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY	154,907
6000	HCBC	64,000
6420	RECREATION: GENERAL	66,095
6410	TRUFANT-SUMMERTON FIELD	2,000
6420	REC: PROGRAMS	9,100
7000	DEBT SERVICE	310,000
9200	PROJECTS: CAPITAL RESERVES	195,000
9200	CAPITAL ROADS	50,000
9200	DEDICATED EM SER VEHICLE	260,000
9200	MITCHELL FIELD WATERFRONT PLAN	50,000
9400	MITCHELL FIELD	22,600

A borrowing of \$650,000 for a capital road project [Grover Lane, Gurnet Landing and part of Basin Point Road] was discussed. Another borrowing for Phase II of the Recycling Center project will likely be put on hold until more information is obtained from Central Maine Power on extending three-phase power to the site.

- 8. Accept Donations:** Chairman Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman to accept the following donations: Emily and Norman Breitner, \$100, bandstand; Burbine Investment \$250, heating; William Chase, \$200, heating; Elizabeth Ann Huston, \$250, heating; Celeste Perkins \$150, heating; Robert Gill, \$250, heating; and Kenneth Baily \$100, heating. Donations totaled \$1,300. Motion passed, 3-0.
- 9. Public Comment:** None.
- 10. Other Business:** A workshop to update the Board on the OBI tower replacement project was scheduled for Monday March 15 at 1pm.
- 11. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned without objection at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Matthews
Recording Secretary