

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2015
Harpswell Town Office
Approved on April 30, 2015

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

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

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator; Marguerite Kelly, Treasurer; and Ronald Ponziani, Road Commissioner

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 8; motion passed 3-0.

2. Public Comment: David I. Chipman announced that April 25 is roadside cleanup day. The local stores are providing free trash bags and there will be a pizza lunch provided to the volunteers at the Grange, noon. Mr. Chipman encouraged members of the public to clean along the road sides of their favorite areas and leave the bags along the side of a main road for him to pick up and dispose of. Ronald Ponziani, Road Commissioner, recommended that all the posted road signs be removed on April 28 except for Grassy Lane, Upland Lane and Sage Road. He recommended the postings on those three roads be removed on May 5. Mr. Ponziani stated the yield sign on Wharf Road has been ordered and will be put up soon along with a list of other road signs that need to be installed. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to remove the road postings on April 28 and three other road postings on May 5; motion passed 3-0.

3. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane stated Harpswell was a member of the Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG). A few years ago MCOG merged with Midcoast Economic Development District (MCEDD) to cover a larger geographic area. Some members were not paying the appropriate membership dues as they wanted to provide in-kind services in lieu of membership fees. MCOG is discussing separating the entities and obtaining the federal economic development district designation. MCOG held a meeting today to change its by-laws and is continuing the steps to separate. MCOG is hopeful more communities will join and as the entity becomes larger, it will be more successful and membership dues will decrease. Administrator Eiane offered to schedule John Shattuck, MCOG president, for a future agenda to discuss this matter further. Selectman Multer stated she would like to understand the financial picture, including how much in membership dues went unpaid. Administrator Eiane reported the Town received an updated MSAD 75 budget that reflected an overall \$500,000 reduction from the earlier budget the towns had seen, with a specific reduction to Harpswell of about \$200,000. Administrator Eiane welcomed Chuck Perow as the new Recycling Center/Transfer Station Manager. He will work with Fred Cantu on Saturday and begin full-time next week. Administrator Eiane thanked Fred Cantu for his years of service as an outstanding manager.

4. Selectmen's Announcements: Chairman Daniel announced he attended the closing on Wednesday regarding transferring the former West Harpswell School to Harpswell Coastal Academy (HCA). The property is officially in HCA's hands. Selectman Multer asked if the Board will place on a future agenda a discussion on whether the Town and HCA can mutually agree to change the buyback agreement; the Board agreed.

5. Consent Agenda: Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the consent agenda [approval of the 3/30 and 4/2 minutes; appointment of Fred Cantu as alternate Code Enforcement Officer and Chuck Perow, Jr. as Deputy Fire Warden; and authorize warrant #17 in the amount of \$690,200.98 and payroll warrant #16 in the amount of \$12,744.42]; motion passed 3-0.

6. Old Business: Consider Contract with Coastal Humane Society (CHS): Administrator Eiane stated the proposed contract between the Town and CHS has been amended with input from the Board and the animal

control officer; CHS reviewed and agreed with the changes. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the contract; motion passed 3-0.

7. Treasurer's Report: Marguerite Kelly, Treasurer, reviewed her monthly report for March (attached).

8. Paul and Susan Ciesielski Wharf Application, Map 48, Lot 86, 139 Tondreau Point Road: Removed.

9. Consider Request Re: Flood Plain Appeal for Blueberry Lane Area: Lee McIlvaine presented a technical review of the existing flood plain maps, flood plain history in Harpswell and the proposed changes affecting transect 145, more particular the Blueberry Lane area. Mr. McIlvaine stated his goal is to have the maps be accurate and if the proposed map changes go into effect, Blueberry Lane will have the highest flood plain, while other areas are being reduced. Mr. McIlvaine requested the Board hire Robert Gerber to model two sections in the area affecting his property and file an appeal at a cost of \$7,000. Selectman Johnson stated he was impressed with Mr. McIlvaine's knowledge and presentation but that he could not support having the taxpayers pay for the specific appeal. Selectman Johnson added there would be a flood of other requests to pay for appeals as well. He suggested Mr. McIlvaine work with his neighbors to proceed with the appeal together. Chairman Daniel stated Mr. McIlvaine has a good case and agreed he should proceed independent of the Town with his neighbors. The Board did not take action. Administrator Eiane stated if Mr. McIlvaine prepares an appeal, the Town can include it with the Town's appeal when the formal appeal period begins.

10. Public Hearing Re: Amusement License for Harpswell Inn, 108 Lookout Pt Rd, Harpswell: At 6:57pm, the Chair opened and closed the hearing. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the amusement license for the Harpswell Inn; motion passed 3-0.

11. Consider Renewal Liquor License for Harpswell Inn, 108 Lookout Pt Rd, Harpswell: Deputy Administrator Sawyer indicated there have not been any reports of alcohol-related calls with Cumberland County Dispatch for the establishment. The Code Officer has not responded whether the establishment is compliant with local regulations; Deputy Administrator Sawyer suggested if the Board approves the license that it could be conditioned on the Code Officer's input. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Chairman Daniel to approve the license pending the Code Officer's confirmation; motion passed 3-0.

13. Public Hearing First Time Vinous License Application for Live Well Farm, LLC, 1583 Harpswell Neck Road, Harpswell: The Chair opened the hearing at 7:00pm. Patty Ruppert, Live Well Farm owner, clarified in section 17 that beer will not be served, only wine for dinners provided by Live Well Farm. The hearing was closed at 7:02pm. Deputy Administrator Sawyer stated she spoke with both Patty and Scott Ruppert earlier regarding a question about the entertainment. As she understands it, the entertainment will be for weddings, etc. that will be catered by a licensed caterer and not under Live Well Farm's liquor license; therefore since the entity is not having live entertainment for events when wine is served under its license, an amusement permit is not required. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the license; motion passed 3-0.

12. Consider Amendment to Marine Support and Shellfish Conservation Services Contract: Administrator Eiane stated the Board entered into a contract last year with Resource Access International, owned by Darcie Couture, for marine support services. The Board held a workshop with Ms. Couture this week to discuss priorities for her to focus on in the new contract period. This amendment extends the contract through March of 2016 with the understanding there is a reduced budget for this time frame. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the contract amendment; motion passed 3-0.

14. Consider Request for Proposals for Sweeping of Certain Town Roads: Administrator Eiane stated the Road Commissioner would like to send out for bids to sweep certain Town roads. The sand on roads near the water will be removed and brought to the Transfer Station for storage and re-use. Selectman Johnson stated five

of the roads will be paved by Crooker this spring and he asked if Crooker is required under the contract to sweep them. Administrator Eiane stated she could check and if it is part of the contract, she would remove those roads. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to approve the request for proposals; passed 3-0.

15. Consider Application for Permit to Operate on a Posted Way: Deputy Administrator Sawyer stated this application is to haul a hull/cabin/motor over Pinkham Point Road on April 17. The truck/trailer and payload weighs 40,000 pounds, well under the 65,250 pound limit. The application is before the Board as the Ordinance requires all the non-steering axles to have 4 tires; only 2 out of the 5 axles have 4 tires and the remaining 3 have 2 tires. Selectman Johnson moved, seconded by Chairman Daniel to approve the permit; motion passed 3-0.

16. Consider Budgetary Impact of Mt. Ararat High School Renovations/Replacement: Chairman Daniel stated he asked for this to be on the agenda as he would like to ask staff to look into the possible budget affects on Harpswell relating to the replacement or renovations to the Mt. Ararat High School. Also to review whether a 10% annual increase is MSAD's operating budget will be the norm. Selectman Multer stated she has a call in to Sue Bowden, at the Maine Department of Education, to find out what Harpswell's projected costs are and she will provide to staff. Chairman Daniel also asked staff to gather information on what other municipalities pay per student for operations of elementary and high schools. The area could be from Scarborough to Rockland. The Board concurred.

17. Other Business: Selectman Johnson suggested removing the minimum bid requirement of \$5,000 for the generator. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to remove the minimum bid; passed 3-0. The Board discussed whether the minimum bid of \$2,500 for the vehicle should be removed. Selectman Johnson moved, seconded by Chairman Daniel to reduce the minimum bid to \$1,000; motion passed 3-0. Administrator Eiane reviewed the proposed public transportation route with Coastal Trans. Due to time, the route does not go down all the way on Orr's Island, and Bailey Island is not covered. Also Cundy's Harbor is on a separate route. The stops were reviewed and the Board agreed it was a good place to start. Administrator Eiane will begin discussions with the entities at the proposed bus stops to see if they are agreeable. The final schedule, agreement with Coastal Trans. and whether a fee should be charged will come back on a future agenda. The Board agreed to try to have the project implemented by Memorial Day. The Board agreed starting without a fee would be acceptable. Advertising the Routes will be key, via the Anchor, website, channel 14 and posters in multiple locations.

18. Public Comment: None.

19. Administrative Matters: The Board scheduled a workshop on April 28 at 5:30pm to discuss goals and objectives. The Board approved sole sourcing with Thomas Stevens to perform work at the Town's two cemeteries at a cost of \$5,995. The Board agreed to sole source with the Town's existing computer support company to replace both the Town's servers; the final proposal and costs will come back to the Board for approval.

20. Adjournment: At 7:55 p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator

Attachments: Treasurer's Report
[Attachments are available at the Town Clerk's Office or by email at harpswell@town.harpswell.me.us]