

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021
Harpswell Town Office
Approved September 30, 2021

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, Selectman Jane G. Covey

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator & Treasurer; William Wells, Code Enforcement Officer; Paul Plummer, Harbormaster and Marine Resource Administrator.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Chairman Johnson amended the agenda by moving Topic 7: Letters of Support to Topic 6, and moving Wharf Applications down. The agenda was accepted as amended.
2. **Public Comment:** None.
3. **Selectmen's Announcement:** None.
4. **Town Administrator's Report**
 - Town Clerk's Office Coverage: Retired Town Clerk, Rosalind Knight, has offered to assist the Town Clerk's Office to cover any leave time, to help cover the upcoming election and train new personnel. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey, to hire Rosalind Knight in the Town Clerk's Office, on an as needed basis at the rate of \$24.64 per hour. Motion passed, 3-0.
 - Town Administrator Eiane and Fire Administrator Art Howe recommend hiring Aurel Marks as a Municipal Firefighter for Harpswell. Marks has a background in firefighting and paramedic work. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey to hire Aurel Marks as the Municipal Firefighter for Harpswell. Motion passed, 3-0.
5. **Consent Agenda: 1. Approval of the Minutes; 2. 2021 Municipal Valuation Return; 3. Local Road Assistance Program Certification; 4. Authorization of the Warrants.** Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey to accept the consent agenda [Signed the Cumberland County Tax Assessment for \$1,347,176; approved warrant #38 in the amount of \$2,413,277.98 and payroll warrant #37 in the amount of \$21,470.04]. Motion passed, 3-0.
7. **Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program Grant-Town of Harpswell Application and Letter of Support; Harpswell Heritage Land Trust Letter of Support.** Reed Coles, Executive Director of the Harpswell Heritage Land Trust spoke about acquiring 57 acres of Land on Tondreau's Point that drains into Quahog Bay. Coles stated that placing the close to half mile of frontage into conservation would protect the fragile Quahog Bay that is conditionally closed to shellfish harvesting for most of the summer months. Local residents emailed and shared concerns with the Select Board about increased public use of Tondreau's Point road which is maintained by private road association funds. Coles stated that any decisions about parking would be made after finalizing of the purchase of the land, and the community would be consulted regarding

those decisions. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey to sign a letter of support for Harpswell Heritage Land Trust. A discussion followed the motion. The following residents shared their viewpoints with the Board: Jim (Raginis?), Ernest Mack, Mike Wing, and Bob Ditrich(?). The Board then voted on the motion; motion passed, 3-0. Mary Ann Nahf, president of the Conservation Commission, requested the Select Board approve the Commission's letter of support for HHLT's grant application. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey, to approve the Conservation Commission's letter of support for HHLT's grant application. Motion passed, 3-0.

6. **Wharf Applications:** William Wells, Code Enforcement Officer introduced Joe LeBlanc, who represented all of the applicants.
 - **Russell and Jennifer Smith, 23 Bayview Road, Map 34, Lot 52.** Joe LeBlanc described the project as the construction of a pressure treated wood 4'x36' access platforms and stairs, a 6'x10' platform/pier, 1 3'x36' aluminum ramp, an 8'x20' PT wood float, and in addition, a flip-up float storage frame. In the application, the Harbormaster recommended the Board conditionally approve the application for the months of April 1 through December 1, annually. Chairman Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman, to approve this application as the harbormaster indicates, there is no hazard to navigation, no injury to the rights of others in relation to fishing, fowling or navigation, with the condition the float be used only between April 1 and December 1 annually. Motion passed, 3-0.

[At this time, the Board paused Topic 6 and moved to Topic 8.]

8. **Set Public Hearing- September 16, 2021 at 6:30pm RE: General Assistance Ordinance Maximums.** Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey, to set the General Assistance Ordinance Maximums public hearing date to September 16, 2021 at 6:30pm. Motion passed, 3-0.

6. **Wharf Applications:** (Continued)

- **Mark Blondman & Susan Bakewell, 277 High Head Road, Map 7, Lot 157.** Joe LeBlanc described the project as the construction of a PT wood 4'x72' access system consisting of platforms and stairs; a 6'x35' pier, a 3'x40' aluminum ramp and 10'x16' float. Chairman Johnson moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman, to approve this application as the harbormaster indicates, there is no hazard to navigation, no injury to the rights of others in relation to fishing, fowling or navigation. Motion passed, 3-0.
- **McAuley Investment Trust, 58 Catlin Shore Road, Map 56, Lot 18.** Joe LeBlanc described the project as the construction of a PT wood 6'x10' platform, a 3'x30' aluminum ramp, a 4'x100' aluminum pier with one 8'x8' and two 10'x10' rock-filled cribs, a 3'x50' aluminum ramp, and a PT wood 10'x20' float. The Harbormaster is not in favor of approving the application, stating that the structure will cause 'injury to the rights of others.' The Select Board requested a site visit before deliberating further. The following people, spoke in favor of the Town approving the Sartini's application: Warren Galway, Joan Tancrede, Ken Catlin, and Connie Sartini.

[At this time, the Board continued with Topic 7]

7. **Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program Grant-Town of Harpswell Application:** Paul Plummer, Harbormaster, requested approval for submitting a grant application to fund the

Conservation Mooring and Eelgrass Restoration Project and a letter of support for the application. If funded, the Town is proposing to convert 20 traditional moorings within eelgrass beds to conservation moorings with helical anchors. Selectwoman Covey moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman, to approve the application and letter of support to the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program. Motion passed, 3-0.

9. Comcast Extension: Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey, to grant a second extension until December 31, 2021.

10. Public Comment: None.

11. Other Business: Selectwoman Covey stated that the current contract with HCBC expires this month. Covey suggested a draft of a 6 month agreement with HCBC be discussed to extend until Town Meeting in March. Administrator Eiane stated that the Road Commissioner recommends that the Town purchase an additional trailer to move electronic speed signs to various Town locations. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectwoman Covey, to approve the purchase of the trailer for \$4535.93. Motion passed, 3-0.

12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Matthews
Recording Secretary