

**Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2022
Harpwell Town Office**

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

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

1. **Adoption of the Agenda:** The agenda was accepted with the addition of an abatement to item 16.
2. **Public Comment:** None
3. **Selectmen's Announcements:** Selectman Chipman reported that his review of the street lights was 60% complete. Selectman Covey announced that the Selectboard would be attending the Harpswell Democrats Zoom meeting on January 19, 2022 to discuss the board's goals for the coming year.
4. **Town Administrator's Report:** Administrator Eiane thanked Deputy Administrator Sawyer for her hard work while the administrator was on leave. She announced that AT&T should be operational on the tower at Mitchell Field by January 21. She recommended individuals with other carriers contact their carrier to request they add their equipment to the tower. She also reported that the town is looking into grant funding for the tower on Orr's island and that we will learn by late spring if that will be available for 2023. She also announced that there will be information going up on the town website to get public input on how to best spend the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.
5. **Consent Agenda:** 1) **Approval of the Minutes;** 2) **Adopt IRS Mileage reimbursement rate;** 3) **Authorization of the Warrants.** Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to accept the consent agenda. [12/30 minutes, IRS Mileage rate of \$.585, warrant #2 in the amount of \$794,155.87, and payroll warrant #1 in the amount of \$21,286.37] Motion passed 3-0.
6. **Midcoast Hospital Paramedic Fly Car Option:** Dave Hudson, supervisor of the Paramedic Program reported that a paramedic vehicle was totaled in an accident in last Friday's snowstorm. He is asking the town to consider leasing a vehicle, which is being returned to the town from the Sherriff's Department, to the Paramedic Program. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to lease the vehicle to Maine Health (Mid Coast Hospital) for \$1 per year. Motion passed 3-0.
7. **Contract with Allegiance Fire & Rescue for emergency vehicle – pumper truck.** Administrator Eiane requested that the board authorize the Chair to sign a contract for a pumper truck. The town would join the Houston-Galveston Area Cooperative to purchase the truck through Allegiance Fire & Rescue. The price of the vehicle would be \$554,000. Fire Chief Wallace recommended using HGAC and reported that the price would increase 20% if the agreement was not in place by January 20, 2022. Selectman Covey moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman that the board authorize the Chair to sign the contract with Allegiance as soon as it has been approved by legal counsel and to join the HGAC co-op. Motion passed 3-0.

8. **Cumberland County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Fire Administrator Howe recommended the town adopt the County plan in order to have access to FEMA funds. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to adopt the Cumberland County Hazard Mitigation Plan and for administration to complete the required letter. Motion passed 3-0.
9. **Voluntary testing for Covid 19 Policy:** Art Howe presented the board with the administration's recommendation for a voluntary Covid 19 testing policy. Town employees will be able to acquire test kits from the Fire Administrator, the Town Administrator or the Deputy Administrator. Selectman Covey moved, seconded by Selectman Chipman to adopt the policy. Motion passed 3-0.
10. **Concerns on Navy's PFAs remediation program:** Mary Ann Nahf, Chair of the Conservation Commission, reported on the upcoming remediation at Brunswick Landing of the Picnic ponds at the head of Harpswell Sound for PFAs from March through July. The board agreed that Paul Ciesielski, the town's representative on the Naval Air Station restoration advisory board, should notify Marine Resources and look into the need to test shellfish during the restoration for PFAs.
11. **Climate Resilience Implementation Task Force Report:** Mary Ann Nahf, Chair of the Climate Resiliency Task Force, reported that the task force is looking at what the town needs to do to maintain infrastructure through 2050 with 1-2 feet of sea level rise. She reported that in order to receive additional grants from the state, the task force recommends becoming a Community Partner with the state. She also recommended the board appoint two new members and asked the board to consider turning the Task Force into a standing Committee, at some point.
12. **Robert Boyce Intertidal Lease application for Long Reach:** Robert Boyce presented the board with his application for an intertidal lease in Long Reach. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey that the board authorize Robert and Hunter Boyce to conduct a lease on the intertidal flats. Motion passed 3-0.
13. **Maine Shellfish Resilience and Restoration Grant Request:** Selectman Chipman moved seconded by Selectman Covey to submit a grant application for the Maine Shellfish Resilience and Restoration Grant in the amount of \$17,175 and to sole source with FB Environmental for water sampling services to be paid for with those funds. Motion passed 3-0.
14. **Letter Agreement to assign Baker Design contract to GEI:** Administrator Eiane reported that Baker Design had been acquired by GEI. She requested the board transfer the contract for the Coastal Cohort project to GEI. The services would continue to be provided by Barney Baker and his staff. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to assign the contract for the Coastal Cohort project to GEI from Baker design and to authorize the Chair to sign it. Motion passed 3-0.
15. **2021 Carryover List:** Administrator Eiane reported to the board the list of Reserves, Special Projects and Contingencies that could be carried over to 2022. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey that \$1,482,925, be carried over to 2022. Motion passed 3-0.
16. **Request to abate taxes pursuant to 36 MRSA § 841 (3) due to inability to pay:** 1) Administrator Eiane reported that the mobile home was no longer on the property. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to abate the taxes of \$143.66. Motion passed 3-0. 2.) Owner request for abatement based on value as of April 1 for 47 Laurel Point Road. Selectman Chipman moved, seconded by Selectman Covey to abate taxes in the amount of \$738.87. Motion passed 3-0.
17. **Public Comment:** Chairman Johnson reminded the public that if anyone was in need of heating assistance to call the town office.

18. **Other Business:** None
19. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronda Peek
Recording Secretary