

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2014
Harpswell Town Office
Approved on January 8, 2015

5:05pm, Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(C) regarding possible acquisition of property; motion passed 2-0 (Selectman Multer arrived after motion). The Board returned to open session at 5:37pm. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(D) to discuss labor negotiations; motion passed 3-0. The Board returned to open session at 5:50pm and recessed.

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; Carol Eyerman, Planner; and Fred Cantu, Recycling Center/Transfer Station Manager

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 items 7 and 11; motion passed 3-0.

2. Public Comment: Jay McCreight stated she is the new representative for House District 51, which includes Harpswell. She offered to assist the Town in any way she can. She has requested to serve on several committees of the Legislature - Marine Resources, Health, Education and Judiciary.

3. Town Administrator's Report: Fred Cantu, Recycling Center/Transfer Station Manager, stated 12 applications were received for the employee position at the facility and three were interviewed. Mr. Cantu recommended the Board hire John Warner, Jr. due to his experience and outstanding references. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Chairman Daniel to hire John Warner, Jr. beginning January 2, 2015; motion passed 3-0. Administrator Eiane reported Maine Municipal Association is conducting a survey on how much municipalities spend on roads, for maintenance and capital. There is talk that the Governor may seek to switch some excise tax revenue from municipalities to the State. Administrator Eiane asked Representative McCreight to follow this topic. Administrator Eiane stated the Board asked staff to speak with commercial realtors regarding Mitchell Field and there is a meeting tomorrow with Don Spann. Administrator Eiane reported the Town was asked to support a grant application by Senior Spectrum to look at aging in place and unfortunately, the grant was not approved. However, Senior Spectrum will continue to look at this concept.

4. Selectmen's Announcements: Selectman Multer stated she heard on the radio that the Maine Arts Commission offers grants and she asked that staff contact it to learn what grants are available and on what basis they are distributed. Chairman Daniela and Selectman Johnson agreed.

5. Consent Agenda: Deputy Administrator Sawyer asked the Board to add another donation. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the consent agenda; motion passed 3-0 [12/3 minutes; acceptance of donations from All Saints' Chapel for \$450 and Lorna and Jack Flynn for \$200 for the heating program and \$50 from Arnold and Nancy Bennett for the bandstand; and warrant #56 in the amount of \$784,164.64 and payroll warrant #51 in the amount of \$14,442.73].

6. Old Business: Consider Response to the Request for Proposals for a Generator: Administrator Eiane stated the Board tabled this topic at the last meeting. Since then, she asked the County Director of Facilities to review the response. She was advised that as long as the Town does not plan on a major expansion to the Town Office, the proposed 38 kwh Kohler generator should be sufficient. The Town's current generator size is 25 kwh. Selectman Johnson noted that if the generator was larger than 38 kwh, the wiring and switches would also need to

be upgraded. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Chairman Daniel to accept the response from Kokernak Generators for \$16,415. Selectman Multer noted Mr. Tarbox, of the County, is very knowledgeable and she appreciates his input and the fact that the staff thought to check with him. Motion passed 3-0.

7. Consider Proposed Amendments to the Harbor and Waterfront Ordinance: Removed.

8. Consider Use of Economic Development Funds: Carol Eyerman, Planner, stated the Mitchell Field Committee would like to hold a series of workshops regarding the possible boat launch and pier, 3 forums in January and one in July. Barney Baker can provide technical expertise and background data for the meetings at a cost of \$2,487 that she requested come from the economic development fund. Ms. Eyerman stated the future of the launch/pier can draw people into Town which is a direct link to economic development. Chairman Daniel asked that the topic of how to fund the launch, such as with the State or other means, be included in the public process. Selectman Multer stated she is not interested in who wants a boat ramp, instead she wants to know who would use one. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to authorize the use of economic development funds; motion passed 3-0.

9. Consider Coastal Trans Proposal: James Huff, Coastal Trans Director, stated he has met with the Board to discuss implementing limited public transportation in Harpswell. The proposal is to have a route one day a week with various stops, beginning at Mitchell Field and ending at Cook's Corner where users could connect with the Brunswick Explorer. The exact stops need to be finalized and that it is key to keep the route under one hour. Using a cost of \$50 per hour and 9 hours per week, the cost would be \$23,040, with \$9,340 coming from a local match and \$14,040 from Federal and State matches. Mr. Huff suggested a mid-week day to run the route. The route will include the three peninsulas. Selectman Johnson asked what the user's cost would be. Mr. Huff responded that has to be finalized but the Brunswick Explorer is \$1.00. Any funds collected by fares are deducted off the total cost before the local share is calculated. Chairman Daniel stated it is very exciting to provide transportation from Harpswell into Brunswick. Selectman Johnson suggested when the van is on its way down to start the Harpswell route, it could bring people from Brunswick to Harpswell. Mr. Huff agreed perhaps from the Maine Street Station. Selectman Multer noted the Budget Advisory Committee approved the funds at yesterday's meeting. Administrator Eiane asked if the driver can assist people in and out of the vehicle; Mr. Huff responded yes to on and off but not into or out of a building. The vehicle can accommodate 12 passengers and is handicap accessible and can accommodate 2 regular sized wheel chairs or one larger one. The wheelchair lift is a hydraulic lift and not a ramp. Chairman Daniel encouraged Coastal Trans to add bike racks to the vehicles. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to direct staff to develop the details with the stops and budget; motion passed 3-0.

10. Marine Resources Coordinator Report: Darcie Couture, Town Marine Resources Coordinator, stated she applied for a grant to bring aquaculture to Harpswell. If approved, the \$100,000 will purchase equipment and implement the program. If the grant is not approved, Ms. Couture stated the Marine Resources Committee is dedicated to move forward on a smaller scale. Ms. Couture is drafting ordinance language to facilitate the program. Ms. Couture stated she presented a power point report to the Department of Marine Resources regarding the Strawberry Creek project and she will forward it for posting to the website. The final report is due in about a month. Chairman Daniel asked what the status is of the traps that Freeport loaned the Town. Ms. Couture responded the traps are out of the water and being stored at her facility until Freeport can retrieve them. Ms. Couture and the Committee are also working on fee and other ordinance changes that will be coming soon.

11. Consider Request from Cedar Beach/Cedar Island Supporters: Removed.

12. Other Business: Administrator Eiane stated the Fire and Rescue Committee discussed with the Emergency Management Agent whether continuing the 729-8000 emergency phone line is needed. The number was used prior to the implementation of 911 and has been maintained but not promoted. The Committee noted the line may

have been used by cell phone users but that cell phone calls appear to be processed appropriately now. The Committee recommended discontinuing the use of the 729-8000 number. The Board agreed.

13. Public Comment: None.

14. Administrative Matters: The Board reviewed possible letterhead designs created by a staff member. Suggestions were made to combine a fishing boat with water and trees for review. The Board set January 7 at 1:30pm to meet with the Budget Advisory Committee regarding the 2015 budget. The Board agreed to a brief meeting to authorize the warrant the last week in December.

15. Adjournment: At 6:55 p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator

Attachments:

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