

**ROCKPORT SELECT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2014  
7:00 P.M.  
ROCKPORT OPERA HOUSE**

Present: Chair, William Chapman, Vice-Chair Charlton Ames, Tracy Lee Murphy, Kenneth McKinley, and Geoffrey Parker. Also present: Richard C. Bates, Town Manager, Virginia Lindsey, Finance Director, Mike Young, Public Works Director, Stephen Beveridge, Assistant Public Works Director, William Najpauer, Community Development Director and Planner, the press and members of the public

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – William Chapman, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:52 P.M.

a. Approval of the minutes of the Monday, January 13, 2014 meeting of the Select Board

**Tracy Murphy moved to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2014 meeting as amended (page 1, 1b change time to “6:30”; page 4 first sentence add “ a grant income of” before \$30,000 and page 7 first sentence add “present at their January meeting” after quorum). Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

b. Next Regular Select Board Meeting on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., televised on Channel 22

c. Announcements:

d. Upcoming Select Board Workshops

e. Committee Openings:

f. Agenda Changes – None

g. Public Comment - None

II. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT – see attached

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

Bill Chapman made a presentation to Steve Beveridge, former Public Works Director. He gave him two framed photographs of Steve (himself), thanked him for his service to the Town of Rockport and for staying on as Assistant Public Works Director.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING - None

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Committee Resignation(s)  
None this month

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- b. Committee Application(s):  
None this month
- c. Presentation by the Camden-Rockport Pathways Committee (part of the annual presentations by each Select Board appointed committee)

The presentation was given by the Chair, Geoff Scott of Camden. Also present from that committee was Helen Shaw and Leni Gronros. Their short term goals are as follows: update the Pathways Master Plan; complete a Sidewalk Inventory; redesign Route 1 around Hannaford; stay engaged with the RES future planning to provide a sidewalk with a connection across Route 1; check on any grant opportunities and work with the Comp Plan Committee. Their long range plans are: Pascal Avenue high sidewalk; Route 90 pathway; sidewalk from the Town Office to downtown; sidewalk along Warrenton Street from Route 1 past the Samoset Resort; and a sidewalk extending along Route 90 past RES to the Recreation Center. The Towns formed the Pathways Committee in 2000 when the Union Street pathway was built. They discussed a connector pathway behind the schools which did not happen. They came up with a Master Plan in 2008 and will update it this year. He talked about trails on Beech Hill, making cross country trails behind the High School and a pathway from the Camden line to Leonards. The Committee would like this pathway to go all the way to the Route 90 intersection.

Ken McKinley, the liaison for the Committee remarked that the Chair of this Committee has unbounded energy and does a great job.

- d. Presentation by the Parks Committee (part of the annual presentations by each Select Board appointed committee)

The presentation was given by David Jackson, Chair of this Committee. The Committee is comprised of five members: Linda Posson, Sani Fogel, James Sady, Noni Ames and himself. He expressed how pleased they are that Mike, Public Works Director has taken such an interest in the Marine Park. Their budget is a modest \$2,000. They will be planting 14, 12" tall Northern Bay Berry Bushes at the bottom of Mary Lea Park. This will cost \$600.00. They are still distressed over the fence and sign at Mary Lea Park and want to change it and get rid of the "penalty box". They want to make a pathway through the park. The present one is in hard shape.

Marine Park – the northeast side, they have removed several trees

Veterans Memorial Park – will prune the trees and clean up.

Goodridge Park – want to move one of the benches to a place higher up on the slope.

Walker Park – the roof on the picnic shelter needs attention.

The Committee is working with the Garden Club as they are very helpful with plantings and cleanup.

Roger Jones stated the he does not feel that the Recreation and Parks Committee should have been divided in two separate committees.

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e. Report regarding Mt. Pleasant Street (Mike Young and Steve Beveridge).

Steve – when he started work with the Town of Rockport, the road was not passable. Today, it is one of the better dirt roads in the county. In 1985, his predecessor did a lot of blasting and digging at a cost of \$180,000. In 1987, during the mud season, the town put in 2,500 yards of premium grade crushed gravel. There are a dozen places in the road that cause concern (soft spots). Before proceeding with a costly repair (\$510,000 to pave), we have to listen to the drivers of school buses, mail carriers and emergency crews.

Mike & Steve – talked about rebuilding one section at a time which are the soft spots. They would start with the section that serves the most homes. The cost would be about \$7,500 per area as they would have to dig out the area, fix the problem and refill it.

Jack Lane – we are not asking you to fix it all at once. He stated that he was in complete agreement with their recommendation.

Mr. Payson – encouraged the Town to fix the issue before it becomes an unexpected expense. You have done a great job and I want to thank you.

Steve – explained how the roads went from dirt to liquid tar to asphalt. Paved roads need less intense maintenance.

f. Report on Sewer Extension Process (Mike Young and Steve Beveridge)

Steve – everything was coming up roses until a couple of days ago. We have 270 pages of documents. The timetable for the project is to bid it out and advertise in this weekend's paper. However, a lady from the DEP has some concerns about the project. Should we wait until we know if there is a problem? We are not sure if this is a technical or personality issue. Nate McLaughlin of Woodard & Curran will be talking to her boss. Maybe this person sees something I don't. Red flags went up after she saw the study. The goal is to have substantial completion of the project before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

g. Approval of the Bond Application Note for the Sewer Extension (Ginny Lindsey)

Ginny – Camden National Bank will be awarded the bid at .75%. We will take this as a lump sum on March 3<sup>rd</sup> with a payback of October 1, 2014. If this is okay with Rick, I will start the process.

**Kenneth McKinley moved that the resolution entitled, “Resolution Authorizing \$885,000 Bond Anticipation Note for the Town’s Sewer Extension Project,” be approved in form presented to this meeting, and that the Clerk file an attested copy of said Resolution with the minutes of this meeting. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR - 0 OPPOSED**

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h. Acceptance of Grants from the following agencies:

a. Boating Infrastructure Grant from MDOT, total cost \$133,300.00

Bill Najpauer- there will be four power pedestals. We will need to supply 100 amp service.

**Charlton Ames moved to accept the Boating Infrastructure Grant for lightening and power pedestals and other improvements to the Rockport Marine Park. The total project cost is \$133,300 and includes \$99,975 from Maine MDOT and a \$33,325 match from the Town of Rockport. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR - 0 OPPOSED**

b. Small Harbor Improvement Grant (SHIP) from MDOT, total cost \$53,400

Bill N. – this will create more space across the front of the pier.

**Tracy Murphy moved to accept the Small Harbor Improvement Grant for the installation of new floats to the Rockport Marine Park. The total project cost is \$53,400 and includes \$26,700 from Maine MDOT and a \$26,700 match from the Town. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR - 0 OPPOSED**

c. Project Canopy Tree Grant from the Department of Agriculture, total cost \$8,370.00

Bill N. – we will plant the trees on the north side of the harbor.

**Geoffrey Parker moved to accept the Project Canopy Tree Grant from the Department of Agriculture, total cost \$8,370 including a \$4,185 from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forest and a \$4,185 match from the town. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

i. Approval of the list of Provider Agencies to be placed as an insert with the 2014 tax bill

Bill – stated his objection to Merryspring being on the list

Ken – questioned Red Cross' service to Rockport

After discussion, the consensus of the Board was to allow taxpayers to have the opportunity to donate to all eight agencies if they so choose.

**Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the proposed list of Provider Agencies to be placed as an insert with the 2014 tax bill as presented, all eight of them. (See attached). Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

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- j. Approval of the 2014 Lobster SUP Cup Race at Rockport Harbor on Sunday, August 10, 2014

**Tracy Murphy moved to approve the request of event organizers Thor Emery and Mark Benjamin for the SUP Cup to be held at Marine Park on Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup> with overflow parking to be at the RES site. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

- k. Proposed 2014-2015 Select Board Calendar (Bill Chapman)

The Board discussed this item, approval was not necessary.

- l. Proposed date of the Select Board Candidate Workshop: April 3, 7:00 p.m., Richardson Room, Town Office

It was the consensus of the Board that any Board member who is running for reelection should not take a leadership role in this workshop.

The Board discussed this item, approval was not necessary.

VI. WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS

**Tracy Murphy moved to leave as Select Board and enter as Wastewater Commissioners. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

- a. Commitment of Residential Sewer User Rates for the period of December 2013

**Tracy Murphy moved to commit the December 2013 Wastewater User/Debt Fees totaling \$109,358.79 to the Treasurer for collection. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR - 0 OPPOSED**

**Tracy Murphy moved to leave as Wastewater Commissioners and reenter as Select Board. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

VII LIAISON REPORTS

Reminders:

Conservation Commission reports in March

Historical Resources and Preservation Committee reports in March

Tracy – nothing to report this month.

Ken – ORC is into the work process and it is going well. The Pathways Committee cancelled their last meeting. The Cemetery Committee did not meet.

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Geoff – the Opera House met and they discussed the possibility of hiring an Opera House manager. The Harbor Committee did not have a quorum and therefore did not meet.

Charlton – the Parks Committee is new. They are very aware that they need to collaborate with the Garden Club. The Conservation Committee meets on Friday with members of the Merryspring Nature Center.

Bill – the MCSW Strategic Planning Committee had a meeting and the discussion was regarding single stream recycling to increase the volume. All recycle products will go into one bin.

Rick – our rate of recycling has stagnated. The tipping fees are going up to \$80.00 a ton.

Bill – the Library Committee met and is going to have a Steering Committee going forward. There will be eight members, chosen from people that attended the listening tours. They will meet two times per month and have suggestions by the end of May or early June. The members so far are Richard Anderson, Bill Leone, Judy Lindahl, Jan Rosenbaum, Pat Messler, and Warren Erickson. Bill, Charlton and Rick will also participate in the meetings. They will review the possibilities – renovating the present library, tearing down the library and rebuilding on the site, and evaluate an alternative site.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. None this month

IX ADJOURNMENT

**Geoffrey Parker moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. Tracy Murphy seconded the motion. VOTE: 5 FOR – 0 OPPOSED**

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA M. GREENLAW  
TOWN CLERK as RECORDING SECRETARY