

**ROCKPORT SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013
7:00 P.M.
ROCKPORT OPERA HOUSE**

Present: Chair William (Bill) Chapman, Vice-Chair Charlton Ames, Kenneth McKinley, and Geoffrey Parker. Tracy Lee Murphy was absent. Also present: Richard C. Bates, Town Manager; Department Head: Jason Peasley, Fire Chief; and Library employee, Ann Filley; press (Dwight) and members of the public.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER – Bill Chapman, Chair called the meeting to order at 7: 02 P.M.

a. Approval of the minutes of the

- Monday, August 12, 2013 meeting of the Select Board

Charlton Ames moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2013 meeting of the Select Board with a correction on page 3, line two of the motion, “ expiration of “ to “expire on“. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 3 FOR – 0 OPPOSED - 1 ABSTAINED (W. CHAPMAN)

- Monday, September 9, 2013 meeting of the Select Board

Geoffrey Parker moved to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting of the Select Board with corrections on page 7, 4th paragraph, “ and might “ to “that make“ and item l delete “the” and “action”, next sentence change “Meeting” to “Workshop” and page 8 item c. add the word “gallons” after 50,000. Charlton Ames seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

b. Next Regular Select Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2013

c. Announcements

d. Upcoming Select Board Workshops:

e. Committee Openings

f. Agenda Changes –

Geoffrey moved to defer liaison reports to after wastewater business. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

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g. Public Comment – None

II. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT – see attached

III. LIAISON REPORTS - moved to end of agenda

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Change to the Select Board By-Laws:

Geoffrey Parker moved to approve the change in the by-laws regarding moving the Liaison reports to the end of the meeting. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

b. Setting dates for the Public Informational Meeting for the November Warrant Articles (suggesting Monday, October 21st)

V. PUBLIC HEARING – No Public Hearing

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Committee Resignation(s):

- Nicole Lutkemuller – Conservation Commission

Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the resignation, with regret, of Nicole Lutkemuller, from the Conservation Commission. She has moved to Belfast. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

b. Committee Application(s)

- Bruce S. Kapp – Conservation Commission

Geoffrey Parker moved to appoint Bruce S. Kapp to the Conservation Commission to a term ending June 30, 2016. Charlton Ames seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 - FOR – 0 OPPOSED

c. Recognition of the Rockport Garden Club’s contributions to the Town of Rockport

Unfortunately, there weren’t any members present at the meeting. Bill wished to recognize them for all their contributions to the Town of Rockport.

d. Presentation on cooperative effort between Rockland and Rockport regarding the vision for the possible future of Camden Street (in Rockland) and Commercial Street (in Glen Cove) – Jane LaFleur, Friends of MidCoast Maine

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They have been working for almost a year “Unlocking the Potential” and have held eight workshops talking about, what the priorities, values are; economics; walkabouts (5 minutes or ¼ mile); roundabouts and designs.

The redesigns for Rockport are Willow Bake Shop, Nicole’s Hair Salon and Claddaugh Motel. The possibilities are for new buildings, multi family, single family, townhouses, cottages and professional offices, mixed use and public green space. They could use roundabouts and calming measures such as trees and flowers lining the middle of Route 1.

The final presentation will be on Tuesday, November 26 at 5:00 p.m. at Rockland City Hall.

e. Library Committee report on “Listening Tour” – Committee Chair Kathleen Meil

Kathleen made her presentation – talking about a press release that was issued at the end of July outlining the future of the library. What do we want for our library, what are the needs for the future? The community needs a voice. In the next several weeks we will be holding several listening tours- 22nd at the Masons’ Lodge in Simonton Corner, 29th at the Opera House in the village, November 9th at the Lakeview Presbyterian Church in Rockville, December 3rd at the Riley School in Glen Cove, and the one in West Rockport to be announced.

Kathleen expressed the desire to have new faces attend the meetings, so that their voices can be heard. Jane Haskell will be the professional facilitator for all of these meetings. We want everyone to be heard for the big picture, “our hopes and dreams”. In January we will have a final meeting outlining the results.

The idea is to gather information regarding the services offered, parking concerns and the inadequate building space.

Jan Rosenbaum – suggested smaller groups work better, everyone should keep an open mind and that a larger report be compiled and not just a one page summary.

f. Harbor School Financial Impact on Rockport – Elaine Nutter, Superintendent of Five Town CSD/MSAD #28

Judy Gove, Director of Special Education gave the presentation. “We provide special education services to the Harbor School.” Fees are paid per services that need to be identified in order to get reimbursed from the state. Last years’ students were not identified as needing special education, which costs us \$20,000 in funding. This has impacted the taxpayers of Rockport. Students are placed there by the Department of Health and Human Services. They are from all over the state. We are working on correcting the status of the students being identified as special education students.

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- g. Vote to accept the King Foundation grant for the purchase of new fire fighter equipment – Chief Jason Peasley

Since he has been employed by the Town, he has applied for five grants. He has received a \$25,000 grant from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation to be used on replacing firefighting gear. These funds will be used to buy several sets of gear for the firefighters to use when fighting fires.

Charlton Ames moved to accept the King Foundation Grant, with gratitude, for the purchase of new firefighter equipment in the amount of \$25,000. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- h. Creation of a Junior Fire Fighter Program – Chief Jason Peasley

Jason reported that they have two applicants, through the Vo-Tech School, that are interested in being junior firefighters. Their families have never been involved in fire service. He feels that this will be a great asset to the town and the department.

Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the creation of a Junior Firefighter Program and to approve the policy as presented. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- i. Request by Penobscot Bay Medical Center (PBMC) for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Holly Miller and Betsy Saltonstall of PBMC Grant Funding Office and a representation from Kno-Wal-Lin gave the presentation.

The Grant will be for approximately \$390,000 and the creation of thirteen new jobs. They are constructing a 9,740 square foot Hospice House and expect to open in July of 2014. This project will be fully funded through fund raising. They are applying for federal grants and private donations.

Mike, of Kno-Wal-Lin explained that this is considered the end of life care. The facility will have seven rooms for now.

Holly – the staff will consist of a manager, nurses, nurses' aides, housekeeper, Chaplin and social worker. Eighteen months is the time frame when one could expect to reach a breakeven point. The jobs would be offered to low to moderate income individuals. They are working with Chris Schrum on the grant.

The Board had several questions and some concerns. They also wanted to know how much a Special Town Meeting would cost as part of the approval process. There would probably have to be one in February. Bill Najpauer and Rick will work on the timeline and schedule.

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- j. Renewal of the Inter-Agency Cooperative Agreement with Knox County and the Towns of Rockport, Camden and Thomaston and the City of Rockland

Charlton Ames moved to approve the Inter-Agency Cooperative Agreement with Knox County and the Towns of Rockport, Camden and Thomaston and the City of Rockland. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- k. Review of Committee Presentation Schedule; reminding Harbor Committee of their November 12 presentation to the Select Board and discussion of their long-range plan and priorities for 2014-2015

Geoff will remind Abbie to be at the meeting next month for a presentation for the Harbor Committee.

- l. Consideration of a workshop to discuss “the interim future” of the old elementary school property (suggesting Monday, November 25)

Bill – what do we think should happen on this site? It is the gateway to Rockport and we should make it look better.

Ken – we need a short term plan, something that will improve the appearance of the land for the next year or two.

Geoff- how do we make it look better? We should involve the Parks Committee, the Recreation Committee, Pathways Committee and Public Works to see what they recommend.

Charlton – we should have a landscaping plan that will make the site more attractive while causing minimal disturbance. The ball field should be used for recreation and we should also explore the alternatives.

Kathleen Meil – feels that they should wait until after the listening tours for the Library to see what the outcome of the results of the meetings is.

- m. Set the polling hours for the November Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm in the Rockport Town Office Richardson Room

Geoffrey Parker moved to set the polling hours for the November Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, November 5, 2013 from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm in the Rockport Town Office Richardson Room. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

VII. WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS

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Kenneth McKinley moved to exit as Select Board and enter as Wastewater Commissioners. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

a. Commitment of Commercial Sewer User Rates for the period of August 2013

Kenneth McKinley moved to approve the commitment for Commercial Sewer User Rates for the period of August 2013 in the amount of \$31,592.03 to the Treasurer for collection. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

b. Wastewater Abatement Request – Black Bros. Builders., 1126 Commercial Street

Geoffrey Parker moved to table this item until the November meeting. Kenneth McKinley seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

Kenneth McKinley moved to exit as Wastewater Commissioners and reenter as the Select Board. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

VIII. Executive Session – No executive session

Liaisons Reports –

Geoff – the Opera House Committee met – working on a unified strategy to spend money to promote the rental of the building. Do they need a house manager? They will be giving a report to the Select Board in December.

Ken – The Cemetery Committee met and they are an excellent group. They are working on the By-Laws, a mission statement and amending the Rules and Regulations Booklet.

The Pathways Committee will present a 5-10 year plan in February.

The Sewer Ordinance Review Committee has wrapped up there work and the new ordinance will go before the voters in November. They will then bring Rules and Regulations to the Board to enact. They have done a lot of work

The Ordinance Review Committee will be starting up soon. Bill will be presenting a proposed work plan to us for approval.

Charlton – The Water Quality Committee – has done excellent work with Bob Kennedy. They are planning a smoke detection project.

Conservation Commission – will have two new members and Charles is very optimistic that the work will get better and better.

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Parks Committee – not well attended, but going to be an excellent committee. They are enthusiastic.

Bill – Library – you heard from tonight and they will be starting their listening tour soon.

IX ADJOURNMENT

Kenneth McKinley moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 p.m. Geoffrey Parker seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

Respectfully submitted,

LINDA M. GREENLAW
TOWN CLERK as RECORDING SECRETARY