

- PUBLIC MEETING -
Rockport Select Board via Zoom
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 13, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.
Streamed at <https://livestream.com/Rockportmaine>

Remotely Present: Chair Debra Hall, Vice-Chair Denise Munger, Mark Kelley, and D. Michelle Hannan and Richard Anderson. Present at the Opera House: Town Manager William Post and Video Technician. Absent from the Meeting: Jeffrey Hamilton

I. Call Meeting to Order – Chair Hall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Public Hearing

- a. Public Hearing to give interested members of the public an opportunity to comment on the Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-H effective October 1, 2020

Chair Hall opened the public hearing at 5:30 p.m. and explained that the purpose of the public hearing was to give members of the public an opportunity to comment on the Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A- H effective October 1, 2020.

Town Manager Post stated that the Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the Maine Municipal Association updates the maximum allowed amounts for general assistance. These amounts make up the appendices in the General Assistance Ordinance. The maximum allowed amounts are for basic needs such as housing, heat, electricity, and food. DHHS and MMA do a market review in each area of the state.

Chair Hall asked Town Manager Post if there was public comment. Town Manager Post replied that there were not any comments in email or through the livestream.

Chair Hall closed the public hearing at 5:32 p.m.

III. Town Manager’s Report/Update

Town Manager Post reviewed the Financial Report for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2021 and reviewed the Town Manager’s Report (see attached).

IV. Public Input on Non-agenda Items – None

V. Amendments to the Agenda – None

VI. Consent Agenda

- a. Meeting Minute(s):
 - September 8, 2020

Vice-Chair Munger moved to approve the amended September 8, 2020 Select Board Meeting Minutes. Board Member Hannan seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

VII. Action Items

- a. Act on Committee Application(s):
 - Richard Anderson – Economic Development Committee

Richard Anderson stated that he was eager to be a part of the Economic Development Committee and thanked the Board for considering him. He explained that he is active on the Camden Rotary and with their efforts toward regional economic development he is well connected in terms of knowing the region.

Vice Chair Munger moved that the Board appoint Richard Anderson to the Economic Development Committee for a term ending June 30, 2023. Board Member Kelley seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- Susan Kauck – Rockport Parks and Beautification - Regular to Alternate

Vice-Chair Munger moved that the Board appoint Susan Kauck from Regular Member to Alternate Member of the Rockport Parks and Beautification Committee with the term ending June 30, 2022. Board Member Kelley seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- Douglas Cole – Rockport Parks and Beautification Committee – Regular

Vice-Chair Munger moved that the Board appoint Douglas Cole to the Rockport Parks and Beautification Committee Member with the ending June 30, 2023. Board Member Hannan seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- b. Act on General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-H

Board Member Kelley moved that the Board approve the General Assistance Ordinance Appendices A-H as presented. Vice-Chair Munger seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

- c. Act on Personal Property Tax Abatement – Mid-Coast Tech

Town Manager Post reported that Mid-Coast Tech formerly was located at 534 West Street in Rockport. This business moved and opened in Belfast in 2018. The current year tax amount was abated by the Assessor. The Board needs to abate the taxes for the 2018 and 2019 tax years. The amounts are \$170.50 plus interest for 2019 and \$164.02 plus interest for 2018. These abatements are for personal property tax only.

Vice-Chair Munger moved that the Board approve the Personal Property Tax Abatements in the amount of \$170.50 plus interest for 2019 and \$164.02 plus interest for 2018. Board Member Hannan seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

VIII. Discussion Items – None

IX. Select Board Liaison Reports

Board Member Kelley reported the Budget Committee met to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair. Finance Director Megan Brackett was quite instrumental in answering some questions for the committee.

Board Member Hannan reported the West Rockport Fire Station Building Committee met to look at initial drawings. Board Member Hannan reported there is a lot more work to do but it was a great meeting to have and to see some of the initial plans.

Vice-Chair Munger reported the Opera House Committee met last week and the Committee is working together with Opera House Manager Drew Weber and Town Manager Post on a reopening plan. Vice-Chair Munger stated that there are still some safety precautions that must happen in the building such as installation of plexiglass at the box office, but the Town is looking at the possibility of having one to three performers on stage with a socially distanced audience.

Town Manager Post also added that the Town will be setting up an electronic ticketing connection for the Opera House so that that electronic tickets can be purchased online and then the tickets will be scanned when audience members go to a performance.

Chair Hall reported the RES Redevelopment Task Force met and the Task Force debriefed on Terry Dewan's presentation to the Select Board. Chair Hall stated that in regard to the RES request for qualifications some members suggested that it may need more details. Other members suggested a master plan might be developed. Chair Hall also mentioned that it was observed by real estate agent Martin Cates that the most frequently asked question from people coming to the area right now is, "what are the broadband capabilities."

X. Executive Session

- a. Convene in Executive Session for Discussion of a Personnel Matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S. Section 405 (6) (A)

At 6:29 p.m. Board Member Kelley moved to enter Executive Session for Discussion of a Personnel Matter pursuant to 1 M.R.S. Section 405 (6) (A). Board Member Hannan seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

At 6:52 p.m., Vice-Chair Munger moved to exit the Executive Session and go into Regular Session. Board Member Hannan seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

XI. Adjourn

Vice-Chair Munger moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. Board Member Hannan seconded the motion. VOTE: 4 FOR – 0 OPPOSED

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hamilton
Executive Assistant as Recording Secretary