

**MINUTES**  
**Casco Board Of Selectmen**  
**October 27, 2009**

Members Present:

Calvin Nutting, Barbara York, Susan Witonis, Carroll Morton and Paul Edes

Staff Present:

David Morton and Lucille Griffin

Guests Present:

Jim Macklin, Beverly White, Patricia Troy, Gilbert Avery, Jeff Stern from Thompson Lake Environmental Association and Sandy Fredricks

The Board of Selectmen approved bills and signed warrants.

**The Board of Selectmen moved (Nutting), seconded (Edes) and voted to approve the minutes of October 13, 2009 as written. The vote was 4-0-1.**

**Invited Guests:**

- Planning Board Appointment:

Jim Macklin was in to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss his interest in being appointed to the Casco Planning Board. Mr. Macklin owns the Pleasant Lake Bed and Breakfast in the Casco Village area. Calvin Nutting asked if he would be serving as an alternate to the Planning Board. Town Manager David Morton said that at this time there is an alternate position open. Appointment to the alternate position would be for a three year term beginning in January of 2010. It was suggested that there could be a couple of months added to the term to cover the period from now until January 2010.

**Following a brief interview and a few questions from the audience, the Board of Selectmen moved (York), seconded (Witonis) and unanimously voted to appoint Jim Macklin to the Casco Planning Board, Alternate Position #2 for three years, starting now through March of 2011.**

- Thompson Lake Environmental Association:

Jeff Stern, from Thompson Lake Environmental Association, gave a presentation to the Board of Selectmen on the Thompson Lake Environmental Association watershed survey. Mr. Stern said that 105 erosion sites were found in Casco and Poland. Four of those sites were on Casco town roads. TLEA has sent out letters to all the landowners with erosion problems and some landowners have e-mailed Stern already and others are sort of ho-hum. Calvin Nutting asked if TLEA was applying for any grants or were they just expecting the towns and the landowners to foot the bill. Stern said TLEA has applied

for grants but they do not have any grant money for Casco and Poland at this time. Town Manager David Morton said that they had received grants in the past; however there are no resources to maintain the work that had been done with a previous grant. Town Manager Morton said he would be interested in getting together with Mr. Stern next spring, in April or May.

### **Old Business**

#### - Community Center Project:

Town Manager David Morton gave an update of the Community Center project. Morton noted that the trusses are up and the project is partially sheathed. It is moving ahead quite well.

#### - Sebago Technics Proposal:

The Board of Selectmen reviewed a proposal by Sebago Technics for changes to the proposed Zoning Ordinance that was defeated at the June 2009 Town Meeting. Town Manager Morton had approached the planners from Sebago Technics regarding making changes to the ordinance. Sebago Technics proposal will cost approximately \$6,500. (See Sebago Technics proposal.) Town Manager Morton suggests sitting down with people to see what they liked or did not like about the ordinance and then go back and look at those issues to see what needs to be revised and what does not need to be revised. Hopefully, we will have a revised proposal for the June 2010 Town Meeting.

Calvin Nutting noted that he has been asked by several people what our connection is to Sebago Technics and asked if this shouldn't go out to bid. Town Manager Morton said that when this was first brought up he said he would contact Sebago Technics regarding the Zoning Ordinance revisions. Nutting said that he feels we should bid out this project. Town Manager Morton responded that Sebago Technics has already acknowledged a working relationship and he has used them for many projects.

Barbara York noted that they are our town planners. Town Manager Morton said the planner that would be working on this would have an advantage as he has worked with the Planning Board.

Calvin Nutting noted that, at one time, we did have an over \$2,000 limit for bidding out projects. Nutting said we should find out if someone could do it for less or not. Nutting asked who their competition was. Town Manager Morton said there are a lot of engineering firms and when we interviewed for someone to work with our Planning Board we had four or five firms that we interviewed.

Susan Witonis said she understands both sides; either go out to bid or use Sebago Technics. We have been going on with this Zoning Ordinance for some time now. Witonis referenced the time frame for the Community Center. If we start over it would be another four or five years. Witonis recommended staying with Sebago Technics.

Town Manager David Morton said that whatever the Board of Selectmen decides is what it is. He noted that he is presenting it to the Board but he has no particular recommendation. This is a one time effort to make changes to the document for voter consideration.

Paul Edes agrees with Witonis that it may be a step backwards if we put it out to bid.

Carroll Morton does not agree. C. Morton stated that the next thing that comes up will be handled the same way if we do not go out to bid.

Gilbert Avery said that if the group that developed the Zoning Ordinance had listened to what people had to say it might have been different. That group would not listen. Town Manager Morton said he did not know why some things could not be changed. People like Gil came in with recommendations and had done a lot of homework. Town Manager Morton thinks it is important to have input from some citizens. We will have to go to public hearings after that.

Patricia Troy commented that Sebago Technics is already in the planning process and that they are already familiar with the planning. Troy agrees with Witonis. There is a lot of work to be done in the next five or six months.

Barbara York said she is in favor of staying with Sebago Technics. They already know what we have.

Town Manager Morton said that they have worked with the rejected ordinance. They worked with us on the Shoreland Zoning part that was required by state law and that we were required to adopt.

Susan Witonis made a motion to accept the Sebago Technics proposal to do the zoning for \$6,500 and have Town Manager David Morton tell them that we were concerned about the price of the bid and would like to get it as cheaply as possible. There was no second for the motion.

Calvin Nutting asked if this was a bid. Town Manager Morton said it was not a bid. He did not ask them for a formal bid and thinks they are hoping it will culminate in a signed proposal as they included a signature page.

**The Board of Selectmen then moved (Witonis), seconded (Edes) and voted to authorize Town Manager David Morton to enter into a contract with Sebago Technics for an amount not to exceed \$6,500. The vote was 3-2-0; Calvin Nutting and Carroll Morton voted no.**

Carroll Morton asked if this means that Sebago Technics automatically gets anything else that comes up. Witonis said no, that was not necessarily the case. This is because they have worked with the town on planning. It is not an automatic thing that everything that comes up in town will go to Sebago Technics.

Gilbert Avery said that he wrote to Senator Bill Diamond regarding the Zoning Ordinance. Gil said he got a call back from a lady and he asked her what happens with the state if a town defeats a proposed Zoning Ordinance. Gil said he never heard anything more back from Diamond's office. Town Manager Morton gave information on what challenges might come up if townspeople took the town to court regarding either the old or new ordinance.

After the vote, Town Manager Morton said that it was good that he could go back to Sebago Technics and tell them it was a split vote. Morton said they will treat us fairly.

- Paving:

Town Manager Morton referenced a memo that he had sent to the Board of Selectmen regarding the paving on Quaker Ridge Road. Pike Industries had trouble at their plant and did not have the paving material to finish Quaker Ridge Road at that time. (See Memo.)

- Winter Sand:

Town Manager David Morton said he has two prices for screening the sand at the sand/salt facility. One from Martin & Sons at \$3.50 per cubic yard and one from R. N. Willey & Sons for \$2.52 per cubic yard. Morton noted that he is waiting for two prices for obtaining more winter sand if needed. In the next couple of weeks we will be in the process of stockpiling the material into the sand/salt building.

**Public Participation And Comment:**

- There was no public participation or comment.

**Other Business:**

- Town Manager David Morton updated the Board of Selectmen on the beavers that have been plugging up our culverts on Leach Hill Road, the Lily Brook and on Edwards Road. We will have some trappers going in to clean out those beaver dams. We are aware of these three sites and there may be more that we haven't heard of yet. Barbara York asked what they do with the beavers. Town Manager Morton said they try live trapping first and after that alternate measures are used. Calvin Nutting noted that they are also in Dingley Brook. He loses two or three trees about this time every year.

- Susan Witonis said that Naples Selectmen voted to accept credit cards and wanted to know if Casco could do that too. Town Manager Morton gave information on the use of credit cards for municipal transactions and said that the law has recently changed. The municipality can now add the fees for the transactions onto the customer's bill. As soon as we have information on how it will work in our accounting system and how it will work in the computer, we will come back to the Board with this information. Morton would like to bring this back to the Board for a vote after we have all the information.

- Susan Witonis noted that the Board of Selectmen's workshop will be on November 17, 2009 and asked if it could be designed so that public participation is almost nil until the very end of the workshop. Witonis has had people comment that the workshop is for the Board and that the public is dominating the workshop. Town Manager Morton said our notices on the workshop agenda state that the public is welcome to attend but may not be allowed to participate. This upcoming workshop is going to be a busy workshop. Witonis wanted to know who would be invited to attend. Town Manager Morton said any elected officials would be invited; however he could invite whoever the Board wished to invite. Department heads and committee members will not need to have the in depth information that the elected officials need. Barbara York said she does not have a problem inviting them, however she does not feel it needs to be mandated.

- Paul Edes said that the paving at the junction of Spiller Road and Pavillion Road needs to be fixed. If it is not fixed we will lose it during the first snow storm. Town Manager Morton said that they will be going back to do the shoulders. Also, Spiller Road where it comes into Route 11 needs to be fixed.

- Paul Edes advised that there is a new road sign on the ground on Webbs Mills Road by Lawrence Proctor's.

- Paul Edes asked for copies of the Rescue monthly billing report from Medical Reimbursement Services. Edes noted that he has not seen a report for two or three months.

- Calvin Nutting asked why, where the ditches are higher than the road already, that they go and build them up more. Town Manager Morton said it is to keep people from slipping off the roadway.

- Patricia Troy noted that she has not received the Town Report and asked where it is and when it will be out. The Town Report will not be out until after the elections in November.

**There being no further business to come before this meeting, the Board of Selectmen moved (Witonis), seconded (Nutting) and unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.**

ATTEST:

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Lucille D. Griffin, Deputy Town Clerk