



Town of Casco

Selectboard Minutes

February 1, 2022

Selectboard Chair Mary Fernandes opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Selectboard Members Present: Mary Fernandes (Chair), Scott Avery, Eugene Connolly, Robert MacDonald (Vice-Chair) via Zoom.

Selectboard Members Absent:, Holly Hancock

Staff Present: Town Manager Tony Ward, Brian Cole, Penny Bean

Public: Tom Mulkern

Chair Fernandes asked for motion to approve the agenda.

1. Review and Approval of the Meeting Agenda.

The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (Connolly) to approve the agenda: 4 in favor .

2. Approval of Bills and Signing and Approval of All Open Warrants.

The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (Connolly), and voted to approve bills and sign and approve all open warrants: 4 in favor.

3. Approval of Minutes for January 4, 20022.

The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (Connolly), and voted to approve minutes as presented. 3 in favor; 1 abstained (Fernandes).

4. Approval of Minutes for January 18, 2002.

The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (MacDonald), and voted to approve minutes as presented. 3 in favor; 1 abstained (Connolly).

Approved at 02-15-2022 Selectboard Meeting.

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5. Approval of Minutes for January 18, 2002 Special Town Meeting.
The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (MacDonald), and voted to approve minutes as presented. 3 in favor; 1 abstained (Connolly).
6. Managers' Report
- Manager sought seeking guidance on the Budget meetings schedule. Last year you meet every Thursday to discuss certain budget lines. Would the board prefer to maintain this type of schedule? Would you like a budget committee to be convened for this budget process?
 - The Town's assessor recently completed the Town's 2022 Preliminary report for tax rate calculation and advised that our ratio is currently at 78%. This drop in our ratio is due to changes in state law that recently took effect and the booming housing market. While the assessor originally anticipated a 2025 reevaluation, he is recommending the process begin during the FY23 and FY24. He recommends a complete reevaluation and not a market analysis because of the complex and ever-changing market. Reviewing of previous budgets reveal no funds have been placed into a general fund for this service. The anticipated cost for a complete reevaluation should be in the area between \$257, 460 and \$275, 850 (\$70-\$75 per parcel). This change in ratio proportionally changes the amount of homestead received by our residents. Instead of a \$25,000 Homestead exemption, our residents will receive \$19,500. The Town will receive reimbursement of 73% on all the Homestead Exemptions.
 - The Ad Hoc Committee on Short Term Rentals will reconvene next week. I anticipate a draft short-term rental and noise ordinances being available in the near future for Selectboard review and being prepared for June Town Meeting.
 - An internal survey of employees related their benefits is being conducted. Employees have until end of day today for completion of the survey. Included in your packet is a copy of the survey.
 - A new sign was installed on Friday morning and is in full operation. The signs capabilities greatly improve our communication abilities.
 - Two icing problem continue on Town roads even with Mike Genest working on these areas daily. The areas are Heath Road and Quaker Ridge Road at the power lines. Both of these icing problems are designed related and Quaker Ridge Road problem is compounded by the snow mobile trail. Future ditching and culvert work should resolve the repeated icing difficulties.
 - Included in Selectboard packet is a synopsis of building permits issued between November 16, 2021 and January 27, 2022.

Old Business

8. The Selectboard will discuss Road Maintenance Plan with Gorrill Palmer.
No Action. Discussion only.

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9. The Selectboard will consider modifications to Selectboard Rules of Order and Procedures
Tabled

10. The Selectboard will consider options for adapting to Cumberland County budget changes.
No Action. Discussion only.

11. The Selectboard will discuss Selectboard Goals
No Action. Discussion only.

12. The Selectboard will consider ARPA Funds
Tabled

New Business

13. The Selectboard will consider Tax Acquired Property bids
The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (MacDonald voted accept all highest bids for the foreclosed property as presented. 4 in favor.

14. The Selectboard will discuss future Tax Acquired bids
Tabled.

15. The Selectboard will discuss a joint meeting with Planning Board regarding Recreational/Medicinal Marijuana and Elimination of Water Extraction.
The Selectboard determined to have a joint workshop with the Planning Board on March 1, 2022 prior to their regularly scheduled meeting.

16. Public Participation- None

17. Selectboard Comments: None

18. Executive Session to discuss Concealed Weapons Permits per Title 25, Part 5, Chapter 252, Section 2006 for applications 02/01/22A and 02/01/22B.

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Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (Connolly) to proceed into executive session to discuss Concealed Weapons Permits per Title 25, Part 5, Chapter 252, Section 2006 for applications Case 02/01/2022A and Case 02/01/2022B @ 6:48 PM.

19. The Selectboard moved (Avery), seconded (Fernandes) to adjourn at 6:52 PM. 3 in favor.

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