



Town of Casco

Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes

December 05, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Casco Community Center

Regular Meeting

PRESENT

Scott Avery
Eugene Connolly
Robert MacDonald
Mary Fernandes
Grant Plummer

1. Review and approval of the meeting agenda

The Selectboard moved and accepted to approve the meeting agenda.

Motion made by Plummer, Seconded by Connolly.

Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes, Plummer

2. Approval of bills and signing and approval of all open warrants

The Selectboard moved and accepted to approve all open warrants.

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by Fernandes.

Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes, Plummer

3. Approval of Minutes: November 15, 2023

The Selectboard moved and approved the November 15, 2023 minutes.

Motion made by MacDonald, Seconded by Fernandes.

Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes

Voting Abstaining: Plummer

4. Public Participation for non-Agenda items

Donna Norton of 918 Meadow Road spoke regarding the 9 "dog attacks" in her area and her concern of the situation.

5. Manager's Update

Managers Update was read by Selectboard Chair Scott Avery in Town Manager Tony Ward's absence.

A. The Transfer Station Council is having a meeting on December 13, 2023. The primary focus is the anticipated increase in costs associated with the upgrade projects. The increased costs associated with this project will be shared with the Selectboard once received.

B. Mike Genest and I are working with local geo engineers and soil/wetland experts to examine the Town owned property where the sand/salt shed is located. In the near future, we should have initial data to discuss the feasibility of a public works facility on this property.

C. The Town's Code book is finally updated and available in hard copy and digital. The Town recently added 6 years of updated ordinances that were approved at Town Meetings. This year long project was extensive and challenging. Staff and I are ensuring these updates shall occur on a yearly basis. Staff and I will also examine other companies to assist with future updates because the General Code fee structure seems excessive.

D. The Maine Department of Transportation recently released the notice of Municipal Stream Crossing Grant Program. This competitive grant project has a maximum award of \$200,000 with a \$5,000 local match. With the assistance of Gorrill Palmer, I plan on apply for this grant for the Edwards Road culvert near Davis Farm Road. The grant application is dure by January 19, 2024 . The grant notification is in your packet

E. Cumberland County recently announced the Community Development Block Grants are coming out in the near future. Allsion Griffin and I are participating in the initial informational programs and will seek additional guidance from the Selectboard in near future.

F. Included in your packet is the financial information for the year to date. The Town's expenditures and revenues should be at 44.23%.

G. Beginning in 2024, I will cease sending out the agenda through our e-mail distribution list. Anyone can register on our website to receive all our agendas and news notifications. I will additionally send an e-mail to the current distribution list with information on how to register for these automated notifications. The sign up is located on the home page or interested individuals can go to <https://cascome.municodemeetings.com/newsletter/subscriptions>

H. The Town received 4 applications for the truck driver/laborer position. The applicants will be interviewed prior to this Selectboard meeting. We anticipate hiring one of the applicants with a start date of December 26, 2023.

Old Business

6. The Selectboard will discuss goals for FY24 and review of FY23 Goals

No action. Discussion only.

7. The Selectboard will reconfirm the allowing domestic partners on employee's health insurance with an updated motion.

The Selectboard made the motion and approved to authorize allowing Domestic Partner Coverage for the Health Trust Benefits.

Motion made by Fernandes, Seconded by Connolly.

Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes, Plummer

New Business

8. The Selectboard will discuss the current status of the Fire Department

Fire Chief Brian Cole updated the Selectboard regarding apparatus, staffing at both stations and his vehicle issues.

9. The Selectboard will discuss the current status of Public Works operations and equipment.

Public Works director Mike Genest updated the Selectboard about staffing, current projects and goals for the future.

10. The Selectboard will consider a Special Town Meeting and the date of the Special Town Meeting.

The Selectboard set the date to sign the warrant for the Special Town Meeting during the meeting on January 2, 2024 and hold the Special Town Meeting on January 16, 2024.

11. The Selectboard will discuss the development of a Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee

No action. Discussion only.

12. Selectboard Comments

Grant Plummer wanted to share the points being addressed with legal in executive session. Chairperson Avery complied with his request.

Scott Avery reminded everyone about community events and meetings coming up.

Grant Plummer wanted to let everyone know that he is doing a private citizen request for information from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Executive Session

13. Executive Session to discuss Concealed Weapons Permits per Title 25, Part 5, Chapter 252, Section 2006 for applications 12/05/2023A, 12/05/2023B, & 12/05/2023C, 12/05/2023D & 12/05/2023E

The Selectboard moved and approved to enter Executive Session to discuss Concealed Weapons Permits per Title 25, Part 5, Chapter 252, Section 2006 for applications 12/05/2023A, 12/05/2023B, & 12/05/2023C, 12/05/2023D & 12/05/2023E

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by MacDonald.
Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes, Plummer

14. Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A.405(6)(E) Consultation with legal counsel.

The Selectboard moved and approved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A.405(6)(E) Consultation with legal counsel.

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by MacDonald.
Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes, Plummer

15. Adjournment

Motion to exit Executive Session at 8:27 pm. Motion to adjourn at 8:28 pm.

Motion made by MacDonald, Seconded by Connolly.
Voting Yea: Avery, Connolly, MacDonald, Fernandes, Plummer

Reminders to the Attending Public: Selectboard meetings are open to the public, but the public may not speak unless recognized by the Board Chair or Vice Chair in their absence. Except during a public hearing, comment time is limited to 2 minutes per speaker during public participation or on agenda items. Matters related to personnel will not be heard.

Future meeting dates (subject to change)

Month DD, YYYY at HH:MM PM Meeting Name

12/11/2023 @ 6:30 PM Planning Board Regular Meeting

12/13/2023 @ 6:00 PM Casco/Naples Transfer Station Council

12/18/2023 @ 6:00 PM Open Space Commission

12/19/2023 @ 6:30 Pm Joint Public Hearing of Selectboard and Planning Board on proposed Comprehensive Plan

01/02/2024 @ 6:00 PM Selectboard Regular meeting

01/08/2024 @ 6:30 PM Planning Board Regular Meeting

01/16/2024 @ 6:00 PM Selectboard Regular meeting