



Town of Casco

Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes

January 09, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Casco Community Center

Regular Meeting

1. 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 Plummer.

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

2. Approval of Minutes: December 5, 2023

The Selectboard moved and accepted to approve the December 5, 2023 minutes.

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by Fernandes.

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

3. Review and approval of the meeting agenda

The Selectboard moved and accepted to approve the meeting agenda.

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by Plummer.

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

4. Public Participation for non-Agenda items

There was no Public Participation.

5. Manager's Update

A. The Transfer Station Council met on December 20, 2023. The primary focus is the anticipated increase in costs associated with the upgrade projects. The engineer anticipates the costs increasing to over \$3.0 million. A multitiered RFP is being released this month with bids due by February 16, 2024. The next Transfer Station meeting will occur on February 22, 2024.

B. EcoMaine Board of Directors will be voting on a resolve to approve \$35,500,000 in capital improvement funding. The resolution is for \$25,800,000 for planning, designing,

constructing, and connecting a new MRF (Municipal Recycling Facility) at 90 Blueberry Road. \$7,250,000 towards replacing or improving land fills and \$2,450,000 towards upgrading facilities at the Waste to Energy Facility. The Town of Casco has a weighted vote as a Member Municipality during this process. Included in your packet is the complete resolve.

C. The Town Office is now open with their new operational hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm and Tuesday 8:30 am to 6:00 pm. To date, the transition is progressing positively.

D. The Town recently received a wetland survey for the 10-acres around the slat shed. We will begin digging tests pits to determine the feasibility of future development for Public Works garage. After obtaining these results, the next phase would be testing the ground for PFA contamination. The next phase after this would begin preliminary site and building designs for future Selectboard review.

Old Business

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

The Selectboard moved and approved a Special Town Meeting with a date of January 30, 2024 to be held at the Crooked River Elementary School at 6:30 pm.

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by Fernandes.

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

7. The Selectboard will consider the proposed Town Meeting Warrant for the Special Town Meeting

The Selectboard moved and approved to accept the proposed Town Meeting Warrant for the Special Town Meeting.

Motion made by Connolly, Seconded by Fernandes.

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

New Business

8. The Selectboard will consider members on the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee

After some discussion, the Selectboard chose to table this item until it is determined if the Comprehensive Plan is approved at the Special Town Meeting.

9. The Selectboard will consider a schedule for FY 25 budget meetings.

The Selectboard moved and approved the schedule presented for FY 25 budget meetings by the Town Manager, Tony Ward.

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

10. The Selectboard will consider authorizing Town Staff to apply for Community Development Block Grants and Maine DOT Municipal Stream Crossing Grant

The Selectboard moved and approved to authorize Town Staff to apply for Community Development Block Grants and Maine DOT Municipal Stream Crossing Grant.

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

11. The Selectboard will consider the FY 25 road projects and the release of an RFP for these services.

Public Works Director Mike Genest gave his recommendations for road projects. No action at this time. Discussion only.

12. The Selectboard will discuss Short Term Rental software offered by GPCOG and notification process.

After much discussion by the board and some members of the attending public there was no vote taken on this matter.

13. The Selectboard will consider a contract planner for the remainder of FY24.

The Selectboard moved and approved to hire a contract planner for the remainder of FY24.

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

Selectboard Comments:

Bob MacDonald would like a list of town owned properties due to non-payment of taxes.

Mary Fernandes spoke about Stone Road (which was brought up in the road project discussion) and how it has been on the top of the list for at least ten years.

Grant Plummer announced that Rabbit Run has withdrawn from the Site Plan Review. It is his impression this means all operations will cease. He asked if there was anything that can be done as a board to make sure operations have ceased. He also checked on salt/sand status. He asked if there was any way we can get some type of guidance from the state as to how to guide the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee.

Gene Connolly wanted to that the community for stepping up to attend meetings and volunteering for various committees.

Scott Avery announced Melvin Long passed away.

14. Adjournment

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)

January 8, 2024 @ 6:30 pm Planning Board Regular Meeting

January 16, 2024 @ 6:00 pm Special Town Meeting at Crooked River Elementary School

February 6, 2024 @ 6:00 pm Selectboard Regular Meeting

February 20, 2024 @ 6:00 pm Selectboard Regular Meeting