

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

Minutes for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Mr. Collins called the meeting to order at 7:04pm with Mr. Donaldson and Ms. Tudor via ZOOM. The Town Administrator Tyler Washburn and Finance Director Mary McDonald were also present. Others in attendance: Jessica Weller, Alison Freeman, Susan & Terry Taylor, Bob Trabona, Judie and Dave Teller, Aria Eee, Jen Dobransky, Mike McDiarmid, and Meg McDiarmid.

Public comment: There was no public comment.

Items to be added to agenda (if approved by chair and board): *A Letter from the US Department of the Interior* will be added to the Agenda under New Business.

Scheduled appointments: None

Minutes: On a motion from Mr. Donaldson, seconded by Ms. Tudor, the Board voted to approve minutes of June 27th Select Board Meeting as presented.

Review: The Board was informed that the Warrant would be available on Wednesday, July 12th, for signature.

Assessing items: Nothing new at the time of the Select Board meeting.

Correspondence:

Sagadahoc County Sheriff – June Incident Report

Other Correspondence: None

Continuing Items:

Receipts for pumping: None

Maine Waste Discharge License *renewal* / transfer applications : Frank McDonald (11U-007), 9 Harbor Way

Maine Waste Discharge License *approvals* : Estate of Mary Calia (14U-048/50), 46 Lewis Road

PBR / NRPA : none

Committee Updates:

Planning Board Update from Mr. Donaldson—Little River Farms Association

The Little River Farms Home Owners' Association (HOA), off Indian Point, currently states in their association declaration that any amendments or changes to their HOA need to be approved by the association and then signed off by the Town Planning Board. Mr. Donaldson spoke with MMA's Legal Department about this issue and their advice was that the next time the Planning Board gets an official request from the Little River HOA, the Board should vote to remove themselves from their association declaration of so that the Georgetown Planning Board is no longer involved in association decisions. The Little River HOA is attempting to clarify the verbiage in their HOA agreement to only involve the Planning Board in issues that the town has jurisdiction over.

Conservation Commission Update from Ms. Tudor

The Commission met on July 10 and reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Town and the School for the school's project adventure course and outdoor learning structures. The Commission had no issues with it for this year, but they intend to clarify in next year's MOU that the school is responsible for inspecting ropes course equipment on the trail and the Conservation Commission is responsible for the trail maintenance.

Upcoming Conservation Commission Programs:

History of Farming on Georgetown's Marshes and Restoring the Marshes for the Future. When and where?
Tuesday, August 1st at 6:30pm at GHS

Summer Potluck. When and where? August 19th behind the School (rain date on August 20th)

Coastal Clean-up. When and where? September 30th from 9-12pm at the Transfer Station.

Recreation Committee Update from Mr. Collins

The Fall Frolic and Art Show with Friends of Reid State Park is coming up on Saturday, September 16th. The Recreation Committee will be printing tickets and handing them out to community members to make sure that all attendees of the event have a ticket and can gain access to the park for the event.

Deer Roadkill Removal Update from Mr. Collins

Mr. Collins reviewed the protocol for the removal of dead deer in town. During regular business hours, the Town Office should be called about any dead deer and the Office will make the appropriate calls. If a call comes in outside of regular business hours, the outgoing message and the town website will ask people to call the Chair of the Select Board, Mr. Collins, and he will make the appropriate calls and/or remove the roadkill.

It was further discussed that because Route 127 is a state road, Sagadahoc County Dispatch should be called and they will forward the call to State Police or Maine Warden Service to have the deer removed. The Town of Georgetown is responsible for deer roadkill on our town roads. Anything out of the right of way, falls on the homeowner. The Maine Warden should be notified about all dead deer so that they can keep track of the herd population.

Old Business:

S/V Whisper update

The Select Board is waiting for an update from the Harbormaster.

MacMahan Island – update from Mr. Donaldson re: Legal Opinion

MMA's Legal Department said that the Private and Special Law re: MacMahan Island is very ambiguous and that the law did not say that MacMahan Island residents cannot use our Transfer Station. Their advice was to allow them to use it as they have historically and there are a few options moving forward. One option was that the law can be amended. Ms. Tudor was in favor of further research into the current law and the precedents of other island communities in Maine. Mr. Donaldson would like to research how to amend the current law for a special review.

Action: Ms. Tudor moved to allow Mr. Donaldson to research the current law and the precedents of other island communities in Maine. The motion was seconded by Mr. Collins and approved 3-0.

Ordinances back from legal for review – There was nothing to report.

Little River Farms Associates update – See Above

New Business:

Memorandum of Understanding for GCS Adventure Trail for approval

Action: Ms. Tudor moved to approve and sign the MOU for the GCS Adventure Trail as it stands. Mr. Donaldson seconded, and it was approved 3-0.

Request from School Committee Chair for utilization of School Facilities Reserve Fund in an amount not exceed \$15,250 for removal of asbestos tiles in the office.

The school committee had an Emergency Meeting on July 11th and voted to request from the Select Board permission to utilize the reserve funds (up to \$15,250). Principal Willette had been working with Northeast Test Consultants for about a year regarding this issue.

The Select Board expressed concerns regarding the communication around and timeline of the project, given its closeness to the end of budget season and the beginning of the fiscal year. There were also questions about how the contractor was found and if an RFP was put out to multiple contractors. Given that it was mid-July, however, time was of the essence to get this work done before the start of the next school year.

Action: Ms. Tudor moved to approve the request. Mr. Donaldson seconded, and the Board approved the utilization of reserve funds unanimously, 3-0. Ms. Tudor further suggested that a memo be sent to the School Committee and Principal that states that because the Town owns the school building, the Select Board would like to be made aware well in advance to any future changes to that structure.

Letter from the US Department of the Interior

The Georgetown Planning Board and Georgetown Historical Society received letters from the Department of the Interior regarding joining a Working Group through the University of Maine that is looking at wind research sites in the Gulf of Maine. The Governor's Energy Office seeks to lease a 15.2 sq mile site in the Gulf of Maine to install the nation's first floating offshore wind research site in federal waters.

There could be some impacts to the Town regarding powerline locations and concerns about impacts to local fisheries. There is also concern about whether or not this windfarm could be seen from Seguin Light. The proposed location is 15 miles out to sea from Seguin Island and there are concerns that this could impact the effectiveness of the light. Mr. Donaldson reported that he did sign us up to be a participant in the Working Group.

Items For Signature: The MOU between Georgetown Central School and the Town was signed.

Public comment: Aria Eee recalled asbestos being discussed at one past School Committee meeting. She suggested that the School Committee be asked about their processes to resolve any questions or concerns that the Select Board has.

Executive Session: *Under 1 MRS §405(6)(if needed)*

No Executive Session was needed.

Adjournment: On motion, the Board voted to adjourn at 7:59pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Weller