

**Town of Damariscotta
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2017 5:30 p.m.
Damariscotta Town Hall**

The Board of Selectmen met on Wednesday, June 7, 2017. Members present were Robin Mayer, Ronn Orenstein, George Parker, James Cosgrove and Mark Hagar. Staff present were Matt Lutkus-Town Manager and Michelle Cameron-Town Clerk, Others attending were Maia Zewert-LC News, Gina Hamilton-Wiscasset Newspaper, Amy Leshure-resident, Jim Campbell-resident, Linda Cosgrove-resident, Natalie House-resident, Bill Crocker-resident, Mark Lazzari-resident, Lorraine Faherty-resident, Andrea Keushguerian-resident, Bruce Garren-resident.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. Call to Order:** R. Mayer opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- III. Minutes:**
 - 1. May 17, 2017 Meeting:** On motion Mayer/Orenstein moved to accept the minutes for the May 17th meeting. **Vote 4-0, M Hagar abstained**
- IV. Financial Reports:**
 - 1. Payroll Warrants #54 and 55:** On motion Orenstein/Parker moved to approve PY Wrnts #54 and #55. **Vote 5-0**
 - 2. Accounts Payable Warrant# 56:** On motion Parker/Orenstein moved to approve AP Wrnt #53. **Vote 5-0**
- V. Presentations: Ranger Langdon-Regarding plastic bags:** Langdon stated that he is a resident of Newcastle and that he works for Hannaford Supermarket. He said that other towns have banned or charge up to a 5¢ per bag for plastic bags used at stores. He stated that he is in favor of a fee for plastic bags and that he is concerned about pollution.
Hagar asked where the 5¢ revenue would go.
Langdon answered that sometimes it goes to charity or to the business issuing the bags.
Hagar said that it's important to know where the money would go and that it should not subsidize the business.
Mayer stated that the Board will take under consideration.
- VI. Citizen Comments and General Correspondence:** Jim Campbell asked about the exemption tax list in the current town report. He said that the columns were not the same as last year.
Lutkus said that the staff would look into it.
There was discussion about parking tickets and an article that was in the Lincoln County News regarding tickets.
Lutkus said he would clarify what the article said.
- VII. Town Manager Items:**
 - 1. County Assessment for FY 2018:** Lutkus said that the Town received the notice for next year's County assessment last week. The assessment will be \$446,656.61 which is \$2,321.47 or .5 percent higher than last year's assessment. Lutkus mentioned that the town has no say over what the assessment will be. Mayer gave kudos for the County Commissioners office for sharpening their pencils and keeping the budget steady.
 - 2. Idea for Seasonal Parking Pass In Municipal Parking Lot:** Lutkus stated that he had talked with the Twin Village Alliance. What they would like to do is to continue working with the businesses for employee parking so they don't take up the parking for customers and visitors. He said that the feeling from some of the businesses downtown is to continue to have the parking for three hours and not extend that. He said he thought here were some areas around town where employers could lease parking spots and that should be pursued before we encourage employees to park in the municipal parking lot. He mentioned that if the town had seasonal passes, it would take away from the spaces available for shoppers and visitors.

Mayer asked if someone wanted to talk someone about leasing a parking spot would we refer them to the Twin Village Alliance.

Lutkus answered that people can talk to him about the free parking spaces in town and some options, but leasing would be up to the employer.

3. **Interviews for Board Vacancies:** Lutkus said that because we have seven people interested in serving on the Planning Board and we have two open seats, he suggests that the Board hold ten to fifteen minute interviews on the evening of Wednesday, June 28th. The Board will make appointments at their first meeting in July and this would help them make a decision for Planning Board appointments.

Parker asked why there is sudden interest.

Lutkus answered that it has to do with the concern about the perspective development in town.

Cosgrove asked what training is available for people who join boards and committees.

Lutkus answered that MMA had training and that the town covers the cost of the classes. He also mentioned that there will be in-house orientation as well.

4. **Welcome Sign for Town Launch Area:** Lutkus said that the Damariscotta River Association will be restoring the kiosk what the maritime history display is and the Sanitary District is to be totally rebuilding that electrical board they have there and building something similar to the kiosk on the opposite side of the launch. They have asked us if we would like to use the back of the kiosk for sign space. He said that a map of the town and an information board would be put there but the back of the kiosk would be facing the water. Lutkus felt it would make sense to make a welcome sign. He would like to see if the town of Newcastle would also be interested in this as a "welcome to the Twin Villages" sign focused on the incoming boaters and other people who use the harbor. He would like to have both town seals on the sign with "Home of the Damariscotta River Oyster" on the bottom. He said that 80% of the oysters in Maine come from the Damariscotta River. He would be asking the aquaculture industry if they would be willing to contribute that sign. Lutkus reassured the Board that he has checked with the Code Enforcement Officer, Stan and looked at the ordinances and that it will be in compliance.
5. **Reception Prior to Annual Town Meeting:** Lutkus reminded the Board that there will be a reception with light fare at GSB School at 6:00 p.m. on June 14. This is to honor the Spirit of America Volunteer Recipients.
6. **Jake Day Artwork:** Lutkus shared that the town reports are available and then gave a history of the carved art piece that represents the administration of the town government. He said that it would be displayed in the town office and that we owe a debt of gratitude to the Dan and Sandy Day for this display.

VIII. Official Action Items:

1. **Date for Second Meeting in June:** Lutkus said that during the past several years, the Board has held its last meeting of the fiscal year prior to the Annual Town Meeting. If the Board would like, we can schedule your second June meeting for 5:30 PM on the 14th at the School. The Board would not need to meet again in June unless there was a reason for a special meeting. **On motion Parker/Orenstein moved to change the date for the second regular meeting in June to June 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Great Salt Bay Community School. Vote 4-0, Cosgrove abstained**
2. **Closure of Town Office for Fiscal Year Closeout 12-5 p.m., June 30:** Lutkus informed the Board that the staff would like to close the office for public business on June 30th for the afternoon. It is helpful to do this so that staff can complete their year-end reports and financial processing for the State and the auditors. **On motion Mayer/Orenstein moved to approve the closure of the Town Office on June 30, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Vote 5-0**
3. **Transfer of J. Ewing Walker Jr.'s Cemetery Deeds:** Lutkus explained that these deeds were for transferring ownership to relatives. Lorraine Faherty, Cemetery Committee member, explained that you cannot sell a Cemetery deed to a person or persons but you can sell it back to the town. You can give it to relatives however. **On motion Mayer/Orenstein moved to approve the three Cemetery and Perpetua care deeds that transfer Bethlehem lots from J. Ewing Walker, Jr**

to: Jonathan C. McCall, Jr and Alston W. Nelson; Kate Curran, Jonathan C. McCall, Jr and Alston W. Nelson; Kate W. Curran. Vote 5-0

IX. Selectmen's Discussion Items:

1. Hagar stated his concern about the cost of being a Service Center to the Damariscotta tax payer. He would like people to keep this in mind with any development discussions that may come up.
2. Cosgrove said he had a conversation with a Boothbay Harbor Selectman about generating revenues. He said that Boothbay Harbor generates revenue through boat mooring. He wondered if Damariscotta could do this.

Lutkus answered that this is jointly done with the town of Newcastle. They manage the moorings while Damariscotta manages the Shellfish licensing. Newcastle has an online service to collect the funds.

Lutkus said that the town was probably not going make revenue on that because the fees collected cover the administrative costs.

Orenstein wanted to recognize Jim Cosgrove for his service on the Board.

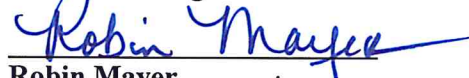
Mayer also thanked him and said he would be missed. She reminded everyone that there was an upcoming election and town meeting next week.


X. Adjournment: On motion Cosgrove/Hagar moved to adjourn at 6:19 p.m. Vote 5-0

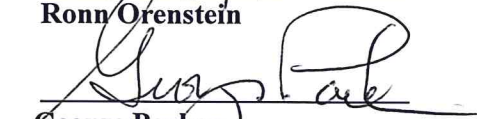
Respectfully Submitted,


Michelle Cameron, Town Clerk

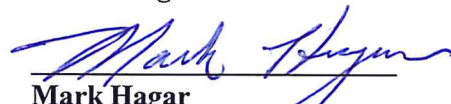
We, the undersigned, do hereby approve as written, or with corrections as noted, the minutes of the above-designated Board of Selectmen meeting.


Robin Mayer


Ronn Orenstein


George Parker

James Cosgrove


Mark Hagar

Town of Damariscotta, Board of Selectmen

Signed this date 7/5/17

