

CASTLE HILL SELECT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

7:00 PM– Town Office

Minutes

Call to Order at 7:01PM by Chair McGlinn

Present- Chair Gerry McGlinn, Shari Cheney, Maylen Kenney, and Herman Condon

Absent- Allen Michaud

Staff Present – Sandra Fournier, Town Manager; Lisa Foster, Treasurer; Christina Kidney, Town Clerk

Public Comment- None

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting September 14, 2022

Motion by Cheney to accept the September 14, 2022 minutes as presented.

Second by Kenney

Motion passed 4-0

Review, Approve, and Sign Treasurer Warrants # 70-78

Warrants 70-78 were discussed and signed

Motion by Kenney to accept the Treasurer's report on expenditures

(warrants), investments, and financial reports as prepared and presented.

Second by Condon

Motion passed 4-0

Old Business-None

New Business

Approve and Sign 2022 – 2023 General Assistance Ordinance

A discussion of maximum increase was explained by the Town Manager. Fournier explained there were slight increases in the maximums in certain categories. Income Maximums increased by \$37- \$99 dollars, depending on household size. Food maximums increased by \$17.91-\$108.61, depending on household size and each additional person increased by \$58.00. In the category of housing unheated maximums increased by \$18.00-\$22.00; heated increased by \$64-\$143.00, depending upon household size. Utilities increased as well, electricity without electric hot water increased \$25-\$32.50; with an electric hot water increase \$38-\$75.50, depending upon household size. In addition, Immigration Relief language and guidelines have been included in the General Assistance program. Fournier also spoke on this year's Ordinance containing a provision for residents residing in a Recovery Residence.

Motion by Kenney to approve 2023 General Assistance Ordinance.

Second by Condon

Motion passed 4-0

Discuss Tax Collector's Waiver of Foreclosure Request

2020 Real Estate Property Taxes in foreclosure were discussed. Automatic foreclosure can be waived by a vote of the municipality's legislative body, giving the Treasurer authority to record a waiver of foreclosure in the Registry of Deeds.

Motion by Kenney to approve the waiver of foreclosure for 2301 State Road; Map 009, Lot 001, and State Road; Map 009, Lot 002 as recommended by the Treasurer.

Second by Cheney

Motion passed 4-0

Review Tax Collector's Foreclosure Report

There are 5 properties in Castle Hill that face potential automatic foreclosure for failure to pay 2020 taxes.

No motion at this time. This is for informational purposes only.

Approve & Sign Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment

The Town was asked to reach out to Rowell McHatten Jr and Ryan Spooner to see if they would be interested in serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Both parties have agreed to serve.

Motion by Chair McGlenn to approve and sign the appointment of Rowell McHatten Jr and Ryan Spooner to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Second by Kenney

Motion passed 4-0

Treasurer 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Third quarter financials were reviewed. The Treasurer reported that Castle Hill is at 95% revenue. 2021 Property Tax collected is 98.5%. 2022 Property Tax collected is 73%. Currently Castle Hill is at 78% expenses paid. Castle Hill has received 126% of what is budgeted. The treasurer also stated they are now looking to project monies that will be put into CD accounts.

No motion at this time. This is for informational purposes only.

Discuss PFAS Soil Testing Letter from Maine DEP

In the 2021-2022 legislature, funding was approved for PFAS soil testing, well replacements and cleanup of contamination through Maine Department of Environmental Protection. On September 2, 2022 Maine DEP performed soil testing at the expired septage site located in Castle Hill. The soil samples were analyzed for a total of twenty-eight different PFAS. The Town Manager has reached out to DEP to find out the results of this testing.

No motion at this time. This is for informational purposes only.

Dog Registration

There was discussion on dog owners in the community that have not registered their dogs for 2022. The Town Manager addressed this issue and informed the Select Board these residents would be receiving summons this week. Fournier informed the board of an incident with a resident in the Town Office. The resident was upset because he did not want to register his unlicensed kennels.

No motion at this time. This is for informational purposes only.

Town Manager Report

The Clerk is preparing for the November 8, 2022 General Election. Absentee ballots have been received and were sent out to all those that requested on Friday, October 7, 2022. Absentee ballots will be processed prior to the election on Friday, November 4, 2022 at 12PM in the Conference Room at the Town Office. The election will be the gubernatorial election as well as a local school board position.

The Code Enforcement Officer has issued three building permits for the Town of Castle Hill. Castle Hill is running a bit behind on building permits with their yearly average being seven permits. The Code Enforcement Officer is also planning on recreating the building permit application.

The LPC had their first meeting on September 8, at which we discussed concerns with past laws that were enacted, such as LD 290 (Senior Property Tax Stabilization) and LD 2003 (ADU bill).

I will be attending an upcoming PFAS session held at NMDC. The Town of Castle Hill recently had Maine DEP perform soil testing at an expired septage site. Those results were analyzed and there may be recommendations for modification on agricultural practices. I have reached out to Bureau of Agriculture for clarification on what those recommendations may be.

Set Next Meeting Date(s):

Select Board Meetings – Wednesday, November 9, 2022 @ 5:30PM
Salary Committee Meeting – Tuesday, October 18, 2022 @ 5:30 PM
Joint Select Board Meeting – Tuesday, October 18, 2022 @ 6:30PM
Interlocal Committee Meeting – TBD, November 2022

Adjourn at 7:56 *by: Kenney*

Respectfully submitted

Christina Kidney
Town Clerk