

## **MINUTES OF THE NEW CASTLE SELECT BOARD**

**Monday, September 19, 2022 –72:00 pm (Town Hall)**

**Members Present:** Dave McGuckin, Chair, Jane Finn, Selectwoman, Bill Stewart-Via Zoom, Bernice Barnes, Administrative Assistant to the Select Board and Recording Secretary.

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Don White, Pam Cullen, Curt Springer, Carol White, Mary Kennedy, Jennie Schwartz, Maisely Jones, Mike Geanoulis, Dawn Lake

Chair McGuckin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### **1. Approve BOS Minutes of August 24, 2022 & September 6, 2022, September 8, 2022:**

Chair McGuckin stated first order of business was to approve the Select Board minutes of August 24, 2022. Selectwoman Finn made a motion to approve the Select Board minutes of August 24, 2022. Selectman Stewart seconded and the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

Chair McGuckin also asked for a motion of approval of the Select Board minutes of September 6, 2022 & and the Select Board minutes from September 8, 2022. Selectwoman Finn made a motion to approve the Select Board minutes of September 6, 2022 & September 8, 2022 Minutes. Selectman Stewart seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

### **2. Public Questions and Answers:**

Dawn Lake, 108 Main St. #1, New Castle Historic Society, stated going forward after speaking with Chief Don White, she knows the correct procedures with any work or questions on work being performed for the Musuem Garden in regards to the Historic Society and what would entail a Police Detail, and notifying the Fire Department, as well as the Select Board.. Ms. Lake also spoke with the Town Building Inspector Russ Bookholz, as requested by the Select Board, to tour the grounds and he will then get back to her to let her know the next steps.

Mike Geanoulis, 78 Portsmouth Ave., Chair of the Men's Coffee Club, presented an update and a proposed estimate for the two signs he brought to the Select Board's previous meeting for a request to be made, stating "Site of the first shots of the Revolution", and the proposed estimate was approximately \$6,000.00. Mr. Geanoulis also donated a picture as a gift to the Town Hall, a rendering by Howard Powell, "Surrender of Fort William and Mary." The Board accepted this gift, and will consider the proposed quote for the signs and also asked Mr. Geanoulis to come up with a final draft and proposal of the signs to be made, and state where those funds for the signs are coming from.

Selectman Stewart commented that these are Town signs being made, and that they will

ultimately have to approve this after final proofs are determined and presented, with further discussion being had on font size and the funding itself for the signs to be made.

Carol White, Town Historian, also asked if the funds were going to be privately raised, Town Funded, or by the Men's Coffee Club, and Chair McGuckin assumed as well as the other Board members that this was being funded by the Men's Coffee Club and not the Town. This will be revisited as more information becomes available.

### **3. New Business:**

#### **a. Appoint New Cemetery Trustee- Maisley Jones:**

Carol White, Chairwoman of the Cemetery Trustees presented Maisley Jones, who has agreed if appointed by the Board and their approval, to take over the remaining term for Holly Fraumeni, as Cemetery Trustee. Mrs. Jones briefly introduced herself, and if elected after she finishes out this term, would run again at that time. The Board agreed and signed the Appointed form necessary, and welcomes Maisley Jones.

#### **b. Time Change for Select Board Meetings:**

Chair McGuckin spoke about the proposed time change, once a month on the first Monday of the month at 11:00 am. Several members of the public and staff spoke highly of the change, and how beneficial it had been in the past, including the Board Members. Selectwoman Finn made a motion to move the first meeting of the month to Monday morning at 11:00 am, starting in November 2022. Selectman Stewart seconded, and motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

#### **c. Acceptance Private Donation- "Safepath Fund" \$10,000**

Chair McGuckin acknowledged a very generous donation from Tom & Patience Chamberlain for the Safepath Fund. Selectwoman Finn made a motion to accept the Private Donation of \$10,000 for the Safepath Fund, from Tom & Patience Chamberlain. Selectman Stewart seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

### **4. Old Business:**

#### **a. Pam Cullen, Assistant Tax Collector- Abatement: 36 Tarbell Lane**

Ms. Cullen gave a follow-up regarding the Abatement on 36 Tarbell Lane and after further review of the abatement and assessment, there will be a rebate/credit due of \$971.40, which equals to 280 days of interest @ \$.13 a day. Ms. Cullen also acknowledged that another Resident, Mary Kennedy who had questions about her Abatement / Dock issues, had been resolved and answered as well. Ms. Cullen stated she needs signatures from the Board to issue the refund/credit due. The Board agreed to sign all paperwork needed.

### **5. Other:**

Chair McGuckin asked if there were any other questions, comments, and Selectwoman Finn stated she would like to publicly thank Dennis Kleinman for his effort and help with the Town and Board on the Town Website, until they were able to fill in the Administrative Assistant position, and for various projects done.

Chair McGuckin stated he had one item to address regarding the corner of Piscataqua and Cranfield Street, and the erosion that had occurred on the stone wall belonging to the Driscoll's and the Town. The Driscoll's had been working on the condition of the

wall with Chris Robillard, Superintendent of Public Works / DPW in regards to that area of concern with the erosion and stone wall. The Driscoll's hired a contractor to have this area of concern repaired so there was no further damage, and has asked the Town to pay half the cost of the repair which is \$2,500.00 as the total repair cost was \$5,000.00. Selectwoman Finn made a motion pay half the cost of the total repair \$2,500.00, Selectman Stewart seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

The Board agreed to pay for half of the Stone Wall repair as a one time only consideration in the spirit of public safety.

**6. Adjourn.**

Selectwoman Finn moved to adjourn the meeting. Selectman Stewart seconded. The motion carried, unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bernice L. Barnes  
*Recording Secretary*