

Town of Searsport, Maine  
Select Board Meeting

June 3, 2025

1. Call to Order: 6:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance: Doug Norman, Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call : Doug Norman, Chair Mark Bradstreet, Vice Chair Sandra Otis Anderson Wes Norton and Steve Tanguay are all present.  
and Wes Norton are all present.
4. Announcements: RSU 20 Budget Referendum Vote Tuesday June 10, 2025
5. Acceptance of Minutes: Motion: Sandra made a motion to accept the minutes for the May 20, 2025 select board meeting as written. Second by Mark Vote : 4-0-1 (Wes Norton)
6. Acceptance of the agenda: James added three 11<sup>th</sup> hour items to the agenda: Mark made a motion to accept the agenda with the additional three items added as 11<sup>th</sup> hour. Seconded by Sandra  
Vote: 5-0-0
7. Public Comment: Harlan McLaughlin inquired about the outcome of the June third visit from the State to the GAC site. James reported Hailey Ward conducted the inspection. Water samples were taken. The shoreline appears to be healthy with no visible signs of discoloration or leaching of chemicals. A detailed report will be provided.
8. Old Business:
  - a. Authorization to Purchase Cemetery Equipment: James can not find a mower for the previously approved amount and is requesting an additional \$500.00. The enclosed trailer has been purchased but at a higher cost than previously approved. Motion: Steve made a motion to approve an additional \$500.00 for the purchase of a zero turn Toro Mower. Funds to be taken from the cemetery reserve to be replenished from the Cemetery Trust Fund. Seconded by Mark. Vote: 5-0-0
  - b. Policy on Appointed Department Head Hiring: Mark made a motion to table until the next meeting the discussion and action on Department Head Hiring. Seconded by Sandra Vote: 5-0-0
9. New Business:
  - a. Employee Benefit Package; Wes made a motion to amend the employee benefits offering for all town employees effective immediately to accrue vacations according to the document provided by James and to adjust the insurance offerings so that all spouses are now eligible for the health insurance at a 85/15 percentage split. Seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0
9. 11<sup>th</sup> Hour
  - a. Department Tanker Repairs: The estimate from DC Welding is \$5,500.00. Sandra made a motion to approve up to \$5,500.00 from the Equipment Reserve Account for the repairs on the tanker. Seconded by Steve Vote: 5-0-0
  - b. Code Enforcement Office: James is recommending that the Code Enforcement Officer be authorized to waive fees as stated on the Fee Schedule established by the Select Board at his/her discretion. Doug made a motion to give authorization to the Code Enforcement Officer to give variances on all fees on the schedule. Seconded by Mark Vote: 5-0-0
  - c. Surplus Fire Department Equipment: Request from interim Fire Chief A.J. Koch to sell the old Jaws of Life equipment. He estimates the value of the equipment at \$3,000.00. Mark

made a motion to authorize the sale of the used Jaws of Life equipment for \$3,000.00 and to offer it on line as well. Motion seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0

10. Correspondence:

- a. Copy of the new Down East Magazine full page ad for the Town of Searsport
- b. Current Ambulance Reconciliation Report.
- c. Notice of intent to file with the Maine DEP from the Card Cottage Real Estate Trust for shoreline stabilization.
- d. Notice from Maine DEP regarding the Slope stabilization project on the causeway to Sears Island.
- e. Penobscot Energy Recovery Company notification that bypass continues to be in effect.
- f. Letter from Maine DEP regarding the wastewater treatment facility discharge license renewal.
- g. Notification from interim CEO of three new addresses.

12. Treasurer's Warrant: Mark made a motion to accept the Treasurer's warrant as presented pending signatures by the Select Board. Seconded by Sandra Vote: 5-0-0

13. Town Manager's Report : Mark made a motion to approve the town manager's report, seconded by Doug Vote: 5-0-0.

Wes asked for a status report on the wharf area, specifically the floats that continue to be stored in the parking lot and the condition of the picnic area. James updated the board on the status of the repairs that are needed and his interactions with FEMA. He has also talked to Bob Seekins and Travis Otis regarding the new ladders for the dinghy floats.

Steve questioned the report from Harris Environmental Services regarding the waste water treatment facility and how it relates to the license renewal process.

14. Select Board Report:

Mark talked about how nice the new planters in front of Edward's Market looks.

Sandra talked about how amazing the downtown area looks and how many people turned out for the Memorial Day celebration. She mentioned how nice the gardens in Mosman Park look.

Steve talked about how awesome the town looks and thanked everyone who came out for the street party.

He commended the 120 students who recently participated in the reseeded of 50,000 clams at Kidder Point. This will keep the recreational clamming in our town viable. Licenses are now available at the town office. He cautioned residents to check the billing rates on gas and oil deliveries. He urged folks to consider looking at the differences between fixed and variable rates. There are currently significant differences.

Wes had no report.

Doug talked about all the glowing reports he is hearing on the new planters around town and thanked the Enhancement Committee for all their hard work. He asked for a letter to be sent from the board expressing their appreciation,

15. Public Comment and the Viewing Public Comment: Janine Laveway thanked the town for all the help they give the grounds committee of Mosman Memorial Park especially with the new gardens that are being built. She asked for an update and clarification on the seawall repair at the park as well. The park and wharf seawall repairs were combined by FEMA. The funds have been awarded and sit with the State of Maine. The town will need to pay for the repairs and then be refunded by the State. A consultant has been hired to apply for the necessary DEP permits. There will need to be a special town meeting to approve the borrowing of the funds to complete the repairs which will then be reimbursed.

Sandra Otis-Anderson asked for an update on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks. The company is not available on July 4<sup>th</sup>. They are possibly available on the 5<sup>th</sup>. James asked about the 3<sup>rd</sup> as well. The variety show is on

the 3<sup>rd</sup>. James will inquire about the 5<sup>th</sup>. These are the fireworks that have already been paid for but were cancelled last year. If the July 5<sup>th</sup> is not available then August or September dates will be considered. The option of waiting for the celebration and ribbon cutting on the Route One project was discussed along with Fling into Fall as a possibilities. The fireworks will be in Mosman Park .

16. 16. Executive Session M.R.S.A. 1 § 405 (6) (F) Confidential – (General Assistance Matters and Poverty abatement requests) No executive session was held.

17. Adjournment: Sandra made a motion to adjourn at 6:42 pm seconded by Mark Vote: 5-0-0

Respectfully Submitted



Janine F. Laveway  
Board Recorder

APPROVED; 6/17/2025