



## *Town of Damariscotta*

*Administrative Offices*

*21 School Street*

*Damariscotta, Maine 04543*

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February 1, 2023

Rick Murray  
Agreement Officer  
Office of Acquisition and Grants Management  
Federal Highway Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Mailstop E62-204  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Mr. Murray,

I am writing in support of the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) project entitled “MaineDOT Culvert Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Program” as a municipal partner in the project, which is seeking funding from the Federal Highway Administration through the Culvert Aquatic Organism Passage Opportunity. The town of Damariscotta supports the goal of this project in coastal Maine to improve access to key habitat for sea-run fish, while improving aging and insufficient culvert infrastructure that is currently a burden to our municipal budget.

We support the collaborative approach MDOT is taking to improve access to habitat for endangered and climate resilient fish stocks and advance climate resilience strategies outlined in Maine Won’t Wait, Maine’s 4-year climate action plan through the replacement of aging and undersized culverts that currently are barriers to endangered fish and pose recurring problems, such as flood risk and road closure, to our town.

Damariscotta is committing to participate in the project alongside the State of Maine to replace the culvert (MSHV #14145) on Church St. in Damariscotta. This culvert was set at an improper elevation and is a velocity barrier for coastal anadromous species. The estimated cost for this project is \$981,000, including design and construction costs. Damariscotta pledges \$196,000 as non-federal match, which has been approved for use on this project (see attachment).

The coordination that the State of Maine is providing around project design and implementation in combination with reducing the financial burden to the town with federal grant dollars is what is needed to make this project move forward. We request that the Federal Highway Administration fund the MDOT proposal which will provide access

to 7 Atlantic salmon habitat units and one mile of spawning habitat for key coastal anadromous species.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Tom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Town Manager

**MINUTES  
SELECT BOARD MEETING  
DAMARISCOTTA TOWN HALL**

**January 18, 2022 5:30 p.m.  
Live and Via Zoom**

**Members:** Daryl Fraser, Chairperson; Louis Abbotoni, Tom Anderson, Andrea Keushguerian, and Josh Pinkham

**Members Absent:** Lou Abbotoni, Josh Pinkham,

**Staff Present:** Andrew Dorr, Town Manager; Isobelle Oechsle, Town Planner; Lynda Letteney, recording secretary

**Others Present:** Anton Lahnston; Danielle Simmons; Sharlene Feltis, Reunion Station; Kevin F (via Zoom); Geoff Keochakian, LCTV; and Evan Houk, Lincoln County News

**I. Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairperson Fraser led the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:30 p.m.

**II. Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance Revisions**

**Isobelle Oeshclie, Town Planner**, opened the hearing stating that this was the third revision for the Land Use, Subdivision and Site Plan Review ordinances. These are grammatical, typographical errors, definitions and formatting revisions not substantive language changes. The property owner and the property use map is updated anytime there is a change. **Chairperson Fraser** asked if there were any comments or questions. Hearing none, he closed this Public Hearing at 5:35 pm.

**III. Call to Order**

The Select Board’s meeting was called to order at 5:48 p.m. **by Chairperson Fraser**

**IV. Minutes**

**On motion (Anderson/Keushguerian) to approve the minutes of 12/21/22 and 1/4/23 as presented**  
**Vote: 3-0-0 V.**

**V. Financials**

**On motion (Anderson/Keushguerian) to approve payroll warrant # 34** **Vote: 3-0-0**

**On motion (Anderson/Keushguerian) to approve accounts payable warrant #35** **Vote: 3-0-0**

**VI. Presentations: None**

**VII. Citizens Comments and General Correspondence - none**

**VII. Town Manager’s Items**

**A. Capital Projects**

**1. Miles Street** – Engineers and contractors are finalizing the contracts for the original scope, which is Schooner Road to Bristol Road. They need to get the pipe that is required.

**2. Egypt Road/Belvedere Road** - All culverts are done; shouldering is about half way done on Egypt Road.

**3. Parking Lot** – “Scope of Project” will be ready for EDA in next two weeks. Preliminary estimate without wall, but a separate figure with wall.

**4. Church Street** – Awaiting results of grant awards; we are still in the running. Andy will bring anything forward as soon as he knows. Because of varied deadlines for grants, Andy recommends the Board pre-authorize him to apply for grants on the Board’s behalf for the Church Street project and

to use bond proceeds and donations (approximately \$1M) for matching funds.

### **B. Budget Process**

A joint meeting of the Board and Budget Committee to discuss wages/benefits will be held **February 1, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.** prior to the regularly scheduled Select Board meeting. After this, if department heads need to resubmit adjusted items, that will be the third week of February.

### **C. Spirit of America/Dedication of Town Report**

Organizations that submit reports for the Annual Town Report need to get those ready. Board members need to be thinking of nominees for the *Spirit of America* award.

## **VIII. Official Action Items**

**1. On motion (Anderson/Keushguerian) to approve the liquor license renewal for Reunion Station**

**Vote: 3-0-0**

**2. Church Street Project Grant Authorization**

**On motion (Fraser/Anderson) to pre-authorize the Town Manager to apply for additional grants for the Church Street project and to use available funds for leveraging future grants.**

**Vote: 3-0-**

**0**

**3. Nobleboro/Jefferson Transfer Facility Contract** The contract represents about a 5% increase, going from \$11,527.33 to \$12,117.67 per month (\$590.34/month).

**On motion (Fraser/Keushguerian) to approve the contract for 2023**

**Vote: 3-0-0**

**4. Medical Marijuana Retail Application: Above and Beyond Cannabis, LLC**

**Danielle Simmons** of Bremen is the applicant for a medical marijuana license for the establishment at 95 Biscay Road. Above and Beyond Cannabis had previously been licensed in Damariscotta, but they have moved to a new location, hence new licensing. Application is virtually complete. Outstanding is the LLC set up. Ms. Simmons is the caregiver and she owns the business. However the EIN # is in Charles name. At the previous location he was listed on the LLC and the Articles of Incorporation. This looks like two owners. She needs to either get "Charles" name off the LLC or dissolve the current LLC and establish a new LLC in her name only. The State and Town may have different requirements, and she may want to seek legal advice on this. In order to obtain a new license, she will need a new LLC. Once this is in order, she can return to the Board for approval. Previous odor issues were fixed at the old location. New location has no neighbors, so this shouldn't be an issue. Danielle has also bought several additional air filters to assist with this. **No action at this time.**

## **IX. Select Board's Discussion Items**

**Tom Anderson** - nothing

**Lou Abbotoni** - absent

**Andrea Keushguerian** – I'm fine

**Josh Pinkham** - absent

**Daryl Fraser** – Glad Tom is back. FYI: Boy Scouts Troop 213 is working on their citizenship badge. Daryl met with them (about 12-13 boys) at GSB for a Q&A session. As a follow-up they will be coming to a future meeting of the Board. Tom asked if they had any Eagle Scout candidates. Daryl said he didn't know.

**X. Adjournment**

**On motion (Anderson/Keushguerian)) to adjourn the Select Board's meeting at 6:03 p.m.**

**Select Board Minutes of 1/18/23 (cont'd)**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Lynda L. Letteney  
Recording Secretary**

**We, the undersigned, do hereby approve as written, or with corrections as noted, the minutes of the above-designated Select Board meeting on January 18, 2022**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Daryl Fraser, Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Louis Abbotoni**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Tom Anderson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Andrea Keushguerian**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Joshua Pinkham**

**Town of Damariscotta, Select Board meeting minutes of January 18, 2023, signed this date:\_\_\_\_\_**