

Town of Buxton
Minutes January 19, 2022
Selectmen's Meeting

This meeting is streamed on the Saco River Community Media at <https://www.src-tv.org/>

Recorded by Krystal Dyer

Members Present: Thomas J. Peters, Francis E. Pulsoni, David A. Field, Mark J. Blier and Chad E. Poitras

Others in attendance: Dave Harmon and Jon Bartlett, Chief Schools, Patrick Hanna, Ellen DeCotiis, Terri Morin, Jean Saunders

The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 7:03PM

The Selectmen recited the Pledge.

Quarterly report by Chief Schools

Chief Schools started by touching based with the current Covid vaccination rate. Our community has a 72% vaccination rate, which is a high rate in York County.

The department has played an active part with COVID vaccination clinics as well as Booster vaccines. We are seeing breakthrough cases in our departments and we are offering employee and family testing.

In the last three years we have hired our first Career Captain and Assistant Fire Chief. This has allowed us to hit some of the most important maintenance projects we have not been able to do with part time or per diem officers. One project is our dry hydrants. We have 47 hydrants and they are all back in service, it was a huge undertaking. Vehicle, building and equipment maintenance is another project. With the assistance of Spruce Mountain, we are able to schedule them to come he one day and do all work needed and not be charged travel, saving money is a huge plus. During this process he has also made a better relationship with the towns mechanic who can fix the smaller vehicle issues. In the coming months, we will continue to define the rolls of the paid on call EMS Chief and Career Captain.

This time last year the board approved carry forward money to remount an ambulance. That decision saved the town 50% of the cost of a new ambulance. The fire fleet worked on grant for a new wild fire vehicle. We have an agreement and a signed contract. The vehicle will be delivered in 2024. Earlier this fall we held a Citizens Fire Academy Open House. This enabled us to allow residents to use extrication equipment, we were trying to spark interest in our young community members.

Selectmen's Meeting
Agenda for January 19, 2022
Page 2.

The department was also involved in Outreach Touch a Truck, the light parades in Gorham and Saco as well as Wreaths Across America.

Notable calls: we had two structure fires within two days of each other. This past fall we flew a patient by life flight with assistance from the towns of Gorham and Standish. This was good training for all and great work from the crew. We have seen a 2% increase in call volume this year. We recently hired two of our live in students, it was smooth transition, they were already groomed and seamlessly just continued the job. We have solid people and really solid families. This is a win for the town. The amount of support we receive from the community is heartwarming. Chief Schools thanked the board and people of Buxton. The Board thanked Chief Schools for his presentation.

Presentation by Jean Saunders of Saco on Age Friendly

Terri Morin, a Buxton resident for 28 years and is here to discuss AARP Age Friendly Communities in Maine, who would like to make Buxton one of these communities. She introduced Jean Saunders of Saco.

Ms. Saunders spoke about how easy it is to become an Age Friendly Community and the value it can bring to our community. Back in 2016 where they started with a community survey. From this survey, we were able to identify the needs of the community. Most residents did not know who to call for help. This program is completely run by volunteers and AARP gives us resources as well. The purpose is to help residents connect to services. We identify income eligible residents. Use the high school to help deliver. Our winter program Sand and Bucket for Seniors is supported by high school students who filled buckets and delivered sand to senior residents. All the pickle buckets were donated by area businesses that would have otherwise thrown them out.

There is a Handy Help program, this is where a volunteer goes into residents' homes to install grab bars, put in or take out air conditioners, weatherization and window inserts, simple repairs, etc. We work with the fire department to install Knox Boxes. Technicians from our Handy Helpers help them get digitally connected. We are currently starting to develop a Volunteer Driver program for transportation services. The mission is to help seniors stay in their homes as long as they need. This also gives the volunteers a sense of purpose in the community.

Ellen DeCotiis has organized a meeting on Saturday, March 5th @1pm at the Old White Church on Salmon Falls Road. For more information contact Ellen at aginginbuxton@gmail.com. We started with no support from the city, there is not a lot of help out there to assist these aging in place seniors.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

January 12, 2022

Selectmen's Meeting
Agenda for January 19, 2022
Page 3.

Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

4:00PM – Buxton 250

4:30PM –the Board went into executive session on a personnel issue at 5:10PM per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) and back out at 5:14PM

At 5:15PM Chief Cline was in and the Board went into executive session on a personnel issue at 5:16PM per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A). Back out at 5:32PM

At 5:33PM a Resident was in regarding a property tax abatement

At 6:30PM Chief Schools cam in regarding tonight's presentation.

Peter Gordon will reschedule for next week

Review of Correspondence

- *Email from MMA, Re: Legislative Bulletin*
- *Email from MMA Risk Management Services Re: January Safety Updates*
- *Email from Bernstein Shur, Re: ARPA Rule gives Municipalities More Flexibility*
- *Email from Tax Collector LeeAnn Pratt, Re: Delinquent Tax Rate*
- *Email from Nick Loomes or The Public Group, Re: On Line Auction*
- *Email from Gloria Martinez, Re: requesting to post an article on the towns website*
- *Email from Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition, Re: January Newsletter*
- *Email from Robert B. Hunt, Clerk of the House, Re: Weekly Legislative Report*

Projects and Issues

Due to the previous presentations, the Board postponed until next week.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Selectmen's Meeting
Agenda for January 19, 2022
Page 4.

Executive Orders

E.O. 212201011 – An order to approve the carry forward the amount of \$504,777.75 for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 as shown on the report dated 1/19/2022.

Approved 5 – 0

E.O. 212201012 – An order to award the assessing contract with Parker Appraisal Co. for revaluation of the town. From July 2021 through July 2022.

Approved 5 – 0

E.O. 212201013 – An order to waive foreclosure for tax year 2020 on the following properties: Map 2, Lot 45 Lease 1; Map 4, Lot 25 Lease 1; Map 9, Lot 6-18 Lease

Approved 4 – 0 – 1, Selectman Blier abstained.

Executive Orders by Initiative

None

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 212201009 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #61

Approved 5 – 0

In the amount of \$190,293.63

E.O. 212201010 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #60

Approved 5 – 0

In the amount of \$72,756.98

Next Meeting of the Board

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, January 26, at 7:00PM

MSAD#6 Budget Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 20th has been canceled.

Selectmen's Meeting
Agenda for January 19, 2022
Page 5.

Other Business

2022 Dog licenses are due - State law requires that all dogs six months and older be licensed by January 31st of each calendar year. Any dog licensed after January 31st will have an additional \$25.00 State law late fee per dog. For more information call the Town Office at 929-5191.

Rescue Subscriptions expired December 31, 2021. There are no automatic renewals You need to fill out a new form each year. For more information call the Town Office at 929-5191.

Haddock Supper Buffet – Saturday, January 29 at 6:00PM at Living Waters Church, 197 Parker Farm Road. Suggested donation: \$8.00 per adult, \$4.00 per child or \$20.00 per family. Please contact Donna Aikins at 329-0753 if you would like takeout.

Public Comments and Questions

None

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:54PM

Approved 5 - 0

Thomas J. Peters, Selectman

Francis E. Pulsoni, Selectman

Mark J. Blier, Selectman

David A. Field, Selectman

Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

Date Signed: _____

Video Taped by Harrison Beam

