

Town of Buxton
Minutes for November 2, 2016 Selectmen's Meeting

Prepared by: Beverly Gammon

Members Present: Clifford L. Emery, Jean C. Harmon, Dennis P. Santolucito, Chad E. Poitras, Mark J. Blier

Others Present: Henry Huntley, Ellen DeCotiis

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

Selectman Emery called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Meeting Minutes October 26, 2016
Approved 5-0

4. Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.

At 5:00 PM, Dennis Emery of Maine D.O.T. came in to talk about some money they have for safety projects and an engineering study they are looking to do for a roundabout at the end of Portland Road where it meets with Broad Turn Road and Route 22. Selectman Emery said it was eye-opening to see how many accidents there have been down there. He said they have yet to have a fatal accident in a roundabout and the reduction in accidents has been about 70%. The roundabout would be a way of alleviating the long line of traffic on Portland Road in the morning, the line on Route 22 coming out in the evening, and traffic going in and out of Broad Turn Road. The engineering study would be done in 2017 and if everything falls into place, the State will be looking at doing something with it in 2019.

Selectman Emery said the Selectmen discussed some other concerns and Selectman Blier brought up the idea of putting a wide, paved shoulder on Route 22 from the intersection of Route 35 down to Low's Variety Store so the kids walking between the school and Low's would have a safer place to walk.

Selectman Santolucito discussed the audio visual upgrades with the rest of the Board. He is going to go back and take a look at bringing live broadcast into the small conference room.

After that, one of the gentlemen who bid on plowing fire stations and hydrants stopped in to talk with the Board for a few minutes to find out where they are with that.

The selectmen also talked about carry-forwards that Selectman Emery said they will do later tonight.

5. Review of Correspondence

- Email from Kayla Stickney, Maine DOT Assistant Resident – Re: Buxton/Hollis Bridge Progress Meeting Minutes for October 25, 2016

Selectman Emery said if everything goes according to schedule, the bridge will open November 8. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be on the 7th. He said the bridge looks good and they did a nice job with the granite around the monument. They left a lot of space around it to plant flowers and put a nice flag pole behind it.

- Email from Shelley Winchenbach, Director, Govt. Affairs – New England, Charter Communications – Re: Incorrect Tax Code/Customer Credits
- Email from Marian Alexandre, So. ME Planning & Development Commission – Re: November 16 webinar
- Email from John Sylvester, Chair 12 Town Group – Re: Memo & Meeting Minutes for October 10
- Email from Representative Don Marean – Re: CDL Testing Date Confirmed
- Email from Dave Francoeur, Deputy Director York County EMA – Re: Joint LEPC & Local EMA Directors Meeting November 9
- Letter forwarded by John Myers from Saco River Corridor Commission – Re: Appointment of Primary & Alternate Members

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Blier reported that he had a conversation this week with a resident who lives close to the potential site of the new Dollar General that is coming in. He said the resident expressed a lot of concerns and he had a lengthy discussion about what the Town's position is, what the Board could do, and what it is not going to be able to do.

Selectman Blier also reported having a conversation with a member of the Town who is looking to join the Comprehensive Plan Committee. He hopes to bring him along and hopes the man can bring someone else with him so the committee can have an odd number of members.

Selectman Blier reported that he dealt with a Patriot Mechanical bill that was questionable. The bill was correct but the explanation on the bill was not, so he cleared that up. Selectman Blier said he has also been looking at tax acquired properties because he is curious about what kind of tax revenue that is not bringing to the Town and what the Board can do about it.

Selectman Poitras reported that he talked with Carol Sanborn who asked him to pass along how happy she was with how Public Works handled cleaning at the park in Groveville and getting it to look so nice.

Selectman Poitras said he has mainly been working on the ribbon cutting ceremony which will be held on Monday at 2 PM, in the middle of the bridge. Fire Police will be there helping with parking, the Selectmen will be there, Representative Don Marean and Brent Hill from the Historical Society will speak briefly about the bridge, and Rita Anderson from Hollis will cut the ribbon. He reminded everyone that the actual dedication of the bridge will be done in the spring by the Historical Society.

Selectman Harmon stated that she made an adjustment to the carry forwards and the Board will be finalizing that tonight. She said all of the Selectmen had copies of that as well as the reconciliations which they will do after the election.

Selectman Harmon talked about an email John Myers received from a company that does street light conversion and is wondering if the Board would be interested in meeting with them to talk about it. Selectman Harmon said she has a few questions about how that works and suggested that the Board might want to have them come in sometime around the first of December.

Selectman Harmon stated that she has been working with the Treasurer who drafted changes to the Personnel Policy. There are several programs that the Board provides for workers, such as safety boots for our Transfer Station workers, and Public Works, that are not mentioned in the Personnel Policy and when our auditor met with the Treasurer last week he said those should be mentioned in the policy as a benefit to our employees.

Selectman Harmon asked the other Selectmen to take a look at the draft and let her or the Treasurer know if any changes are needed.

Selectman Harmon also mentioned a couple of emails from a resident asking questions about the Comprehensive Plan, changes that they might be looking at, and changes that the Board had mentioned about adding commercial building standards to our village zones.

Selectman Santolucito said he stopped at the Public Works garage yesterday and talked with Tom Kennie. He said our new Mechanic is doing very well and has been doing some inspections and getting things ready for winter. Selectman Santolucito also went over to the Transfer Station yesterday. He said Patriot Mechanical happened to be pulling in because they had some furnace issues. Selectman Santolucito said he thinks Patriot resolved everything.

Selectman Santolucito mentioned that the Board talked at 6:00 PM about Question 1 and what will happen if that passes. He said he read the 30 page draft it looks to him like a moratorium would be a good idea, to give the Board time to get its hands around what some of the issues may be. He said there is a lot of work to do on it; it is a very open law and the impacts on a town like Buxton could be significant.

Selectman Emery explained that Selectman Santolucito was talking about recreational smoking of marijuana that would be allowed. Medical marijuana facilities have to be in the business commercial zone but Selectman Emery said the Board has nothing that deals with something like this because it is so new. He talked at length about the reasons the Board feels it would be wise to take a break to allow the Planning Board time to figure this out and allow everyone time to gather information from the State so they can understand how the new law would work. Selectman Emery went on to say that he thinks the Town has the capability to vote not to allow any of that in Town but if that law passes in Buxton the Board has to consider the vote because it is a Board of five people who are there to represent everyone in Town, not just their personal opinions. If the Town does want it, Selectman Emery said the Board needs to be passionate about what the majority wants and needs to make sure they are doing the right thing for everyone.

Selectman Emery was in the office all day last Friday. He said he had some good conversations with all of the department heads. They went over what's going on in each department and talked about issues they have and what to expect with budgets. Selectman Emery said everything seems to be going very well and there are no major issues in any of the departments. He said he had a good day and a chance to talk to the people in Town Hall as well.

7. Old Business

Davis Road

The Board received the letter they needed from the owner. Selectman Harmon stated that she was in the Code Enforcement Office when the gentleman came in and Krystal Dyer did tell him the Town needs the deed for that road but the process has started. Selectman Emery said that will be taken care of when the Board has the Special Town Meeting to do the reconciliations.

Boston Post Cane

The Board is going to deal with this after the election is over.

8. New Business

None

9. Executive Orders

E.O. 161711003 – An order to approve carry forwards in the amount of \$215,047.90 for Fiscal Year 2016 as shown on the report dated 11/2/2016
Approved 5-0

E.O. 161711004 – An order to approve an Abatement of Real Estate taxes for tax year 2016/17 in the amount of \$1,201.91 for [Map 2, Lot 74-2, 3, 5]
Approved 5-0

E.O. 161711005 – An order to appoint Michael A. Robinson to the position of Saco River Corridor Commission Primary Member to be effective until November 1, 2019
Approved 5-0

E.O. 161711006 – An order to appoint Jeremy W. Miller to the position of Saco River Corridor Commission Alternate Member to be effective until November 1, 2019
Approved 5-0

E.O. 161711007 – An order to approve 40 hours of vacation time for John Myers
Approved 5-0

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

None

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 161711001 – An order approving expenditures as documented in the Accounts Payable Warrant #036

Approved 5-0

The amount was \$32,568

E.O. 161711002 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #035

Approved 5-0

The amount was \$47,505.29

12. Next Meeting of the Board

Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, November 9 at 7:00 PM

Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting Monday, November 7 at 6:30 PM. Lee Jay Feldman of Southern Maine Planning & Development Committee will be attending to give an overview of what is involved with updating the comprehensive plan.

MSAD #6 Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Thursday, November 17 at 6:00 PM

13. Other Business

On Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, the polls will be open from 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Residents can register to vote, and vote, on Election Day. To register to vote, people will need a photo ID and proof of residence. Any Voter in line at 8:00 PM will be allowed to vote. Any person in line to register to vote at 8:00 PM will be allowed to vote if the Voter Registration is completed.

Regular Absentee Voting ends tomorrow, Thursday, November 3, at 4:30 PM for Buxton voters. Special Circumstances Absentee Voting begins Friday, November 4 at 8:30 AM, for Buxton voters, meaning that the Voter, and only the Voter, must sign and complete a Special Circumstances Absentee Ballot Application with one of the accepted special circumstances checked off on the application.

While the polls are open, Buxton Fire Police will be monitoring and directing traffic. People will enter the Town Office complex as usual but they will exit through the connecting road that runs between Town Hall and the Public Works garage. During heavy traffic times all traffic, except emergency vehicles, will be directed to make a right turn onto Portland Road.

Pharmacists from Buxton Hannaford will be at Town Hall on Tuesday, November 8 to give Flu Shots. They will be located in the small meeting room across from the Code Enforcement Office. For more information you can contact the pharmacy at 929-3152.

Buxton-Hollis Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting, Potluck Dinner & Preview of its first major exhibit on Saturday, November 5, at 5:00 PM at their headquarters at 100 Main Street in Bar Mills. If you do not hear from Berty Ramsdell, who will be soliciting potluck contributions, please give her a call @929-4529, or send an email to robertaramsdell@myottmail.com, to make a dinner reservation. Suggested donation \$10, seniors \$8.

Just a reminder; Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 AM Sunday, November 6. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Monday, November 7, at 2:00 PM, to celebrate the opening of the new Bar Mills Bridge. This celebration is open to the public; dress warmly

The Buxton Food Co-Op at 262 Haines Meadow Road is in need of donations to help with approximately 50 Thanksgiving baskets that will be given out this year. If you have questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Joann Groder at 929-8806.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Ellen DeCotiis went to the podium and asked the Board if we still have a day for hazardous material to be taken to the Transfer Station.

Selectman Harmon said there was nothing budgeted for that this year.

Selectman Emery said it may be in the next budget and if it is, the money would be available July 1.

Ms. DeCotiis thanked the Board.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM
Approved 5-0