

Town of Buxton
Minutes for August 24, 2016 Selectmen's Meeting

Prepared by: Beverly Gammon

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

Others Present: David Harmon, Scott Warchol, Ellen DeCotiis, Julie Gamelson, Patrick Hanna, Henry Huntley, Peter Gordon, Stephen Houser, Shawn Houser, Jacob Hobson, Nick Hobson, Eric Hobson, Emile Woodruff, Mark Woodruff

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

Selectman Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board led the recital.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Meeting Minutes August 17, 2016
Approved 4-0-1

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

Steve Heroux stopped in to give the Board some information that has been developed on Frye Island. Selectman Santolucito and Peter Burns have agreed to be our municipal members on the committee. The Selectmen are still waiting for a School Board member to be appointed.

The Selectmen discussed a bus stop issue that Selectman Poitras has been working on.

Selectman Harmon and Selectman Santolucito talked about the Municipal Valuation Return that they are working on and the Selectmen had a brief conversation about impact fees in the bigger developments. They also shared some ideas for upgrading our audio/visual equipment, increased wireless access throughout the building, an upgrade to the network and getting proposals for that.

5. Review of Correspondence

- *Email from John Sylvester, Chairman of the 12 Town Group – Re: Group Meeting September 12*
- *Email from Don Marean – Re: State House News Updates*

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Blier reported that he has been talking with Ed at Patriot Mechanical Services on some estimates to service all of our furnaces and also a quote to change the pilot light at Groveville Fire Station to an electronic ignition. Selectman Blier received the quote for that conversion which was \$580.00. He said the Board is going to have that done and see if it will take care of the smell.

Selectman Blier also mentioned that he contacted Pit Stop Fuels for the negotiation of our November contract and prices. Paige at Pit Stop was not in when he called so he said he is still working on that.

Selectman Poitras mentioned that there was a great event in town on Saturday with the Dorcas Society, Sandy & Beverly Atkinson, and other organizations that put together a field day over in Bar Mills. He said it was well-done and a great time for all ages. Selectman Poitras said he went over to Pleasant Point Park Saturday night to see how things were going there and spoke to Officer Brian Guay who said it had been a quiet day overall. He said it is too early to tell but he wonders if things may be improving over there. Selectman Poitras also mentioned that he has been working with Public Works on an issue over on the River Road/Route 112.

Selectman Poitras stated that during the discussions between 4:00 & 7:00 PM tonight the Board talked about the Boston Post Cane presentation that will be coming up soon.

Selectman Santolucito also talked about the Dorcas Society event on Saturday and agreed with Selectman Poitras' comments. He mentioned some of the events and said it felt like a real community day. He thanked everyone who contributed to that event.

Selectman Santolucito stated that he went to Pleasant Point Park Sunday afternoon and found it relatively quiet at that time. He talked to the Police Chief to get his perspective and thinks maybe the word is out that people cannot come into town and make a mess out of a beautiful place. Selectman Santolucito said he thinks the work Chief Cline and his men have done has made a big difference.

Selectman Santolucito said the Board will be signing new contracts for electricity right after Labor Day that will go into effect the first of the year. He said Selectman Harmon is really doing the Municipal Valuation Return but with her help he also is working on it this year.

Selectman Harmon shared her thoughts on Pleasant Point Park saying that school starts next week so some of the kids that have been down there will not be and hopefully it will return to normal. She said it is a beautiful park and some of the things that have occurred there are the result of blatant disregard for what the town has done.

Selectman Harmon briefly mentioned the Municipal Valuation Return saying that it is not difficult; it is just a matter of gathering the information and knowing where to get it from. She and Selectman Santolucito are going over it together and making sure the information is correct.

7. Old Business

- *Composting food waste proposal*

8. New Business

Selectman Harmon reminded the Selectmen that the Board needs to schedule a Workshop for cost over-runs and carry-forwards.

9. Executive Orders

*E.O. 161708019 – An order to approve the abatement of real estate taxes for 2016 in the amount of \$634.76 for [Map 7, Lot 37-3]
Approved 4-0-1*

*E.O. 161708020 – An order to approve an Application for a Veteran Exemption for [Map 4, Lot 60-1]
Approved 4-0-1*

Selectman Harmon noted that there may be more abatements coming as people have received their tax bills. She reminded people to look their bills over and if they have any questions they should come into Town Hall and check their property tax cards to see what they are being taxed on.

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

None

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 161708017 – An order approving expenditures as documented in the Accounts Payable Warrant #016

Approved 4-0-1

The amount was \$461,424.35 which includes our County Tax payment that is paid once a year.

E.O. 161708018 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #015

Approved 4-0-1

The amount was \$46,503.39

12. Next Meeting of the Board

Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, August 31 at 7:00 PM

There is a Twelve Town Group Meeting scheduled for Monday, September 12 at 6:30 PM at the Waterboro Town Hall.

The Planning Board will have site walks on Thursday, August 25 at 6:00 PM.

13. Other Business

Selectman Santolucito stated that the Board received a Recreation Department update from Nicole Welch. He read some of the comments from a survey that was done and said they were all positive and the Recreation Director is doing a great job.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Shawn Houser went to the podium and introduced himself as a Life Scout from Eagle Scout Troop 349. He gave a brief presentation on his proposed Eagle Scout Project to create a digital map of the trails at Pleasant Point Park. He will re-blaze the trails that can no longer be seen and repair some footbridges that are in bad areas. He stated that his goal is to help the park and make it better. He is hoping to get donations rather than fundraise, and will create plaques for the people that donate materials.

Selectman Santolucito asked if an electronic map will be available for us to put on the Town website after it is finished. Mr. Houser answered in the affirmative.

The Board thanked him.

Jacob Hobson went to the podium and presented his proposed Eagle Scout Project for walkway restoration that he believes will benefit Pleasant Point Park. He described how the walkways have deteriorated over time making them unsafe and provided details and options for materials to be used on the walkways. He also hopes to get donations but said he will fundraise if he has to. Selectman Harmon asked Mr. Hobson how many pathways he plans to restore. He replied that he is planning to make it all one long walkway.

A brief conversation followed between Selectman Blier and Mr. Hobson about the type of materials to be used and how long the walkway will be. Selectman Poitras suggested that it might be more affordable to use pressure treated boards. He said he believes this is the trail that goes between Dave Wiggins' road and the cemetery.

Emile Woodruff went to the podium and presented the project he is proposing that he said will help him earn his Eagle rank which is the one of the highest ranks the Scouts can earn. His plan is to remove the old trail sign at the upper parking lot at Pleasant Point Park and replace it with a better and stronger sign that will share the design with the other trail head in the lower parking lot. He intends to install a sign made of pine and also hopes to get donations.

Selectman Harmon then introduced Peter Gordon, our Code Enforcement Officer, who has been in touch with the Eagle Scouts and the Trustees of the Park.

Peter Gordon went to the podium to say that he contacted Michael Robinson, a Trustee of Pleasant Point Park who was not able to come in tonight but who said he is in favor of any improvements that can be made to the park. Peter Gordon shared a few more details about the work the Scouts are planning to do and how this should improve navigation throughout the park. He said that he will be the person who signs off on the projects after completion so the boys can get their badges. He also said he will be there to help coordinate and kick off the process, and document that they are following safety procedures.

Selectman Harmon stated that the Board has had many Eagle Scout Programs come through the town and it is always a pleasure to be able to help these young men achieve their Eagle Scout pins by having projects here in their own community. She mentioned other projects that have been done at Pleasant Point Park in the past, including the garden at the library in West Buxton, and benches and ramps that have been made. Selectman Poitras spoke up and said he did an Eagle Scout Project himself years ago. Selectman Harmon said the Board is more than happy to do anything it can to help these young Scouts achieve their pins.

Selectman Harmon thanked Peter Gordon for taking point on this. She told the scouts she is pleased they are doing something in the same area so they can be done in conjunction with each other.

Selectman Poitras asked if the projects will all be done around the same time. The Scouts responded with a brief explanation of when each will start his project. They mentioned coming back to the Board to ask for names for the trails. Selectman Harmon said they should choose some Native American names and suggested the boys work with the Trustees to get some history of the Park and the archaeological dig that was done there and perhaps get names of some of the original homesteaders who lived there.

Patrick Hanna went to the podium to comment on the length of time people have to sit at the traffic light at the intersection of Route 202 & 22. A brief discussion followed with the Board. Selectman Harmon said they have called the D.O.T many times and they can call them again to see if something can be done. He asked if recent accidents have been caused by people running that light. Selectman Harmon could not confirm that.

Mr. Hanna asked the Scouts if they have a website or if there is some place where people can get a list of materials they need. Selectman Harmon offered to make copies of their presentations that would give people a general idea of what is needed. The Scouts will prepare lists to make available.

Scott Warchol then went to the podium with a couple questions. He mentioned Frye Island and the committee that the School Board is forming. He asked the Board to let him know if they need another representative and cannot find anybody. He also asked if those meetings will be open to the public.

Selectman Santolucito said he is not sure but would imagine they would be. He said the Selectmen are waiting for the School Board to appoint one of our members and said there are no scheduled meetings at this time.

Mr. Warchol asked the Board about an event that took place on the Bar Mills Bridge after it was closed. Selectman Harmon explained that some of the families in that area had a pot luck supper on the bridge. She said they thought it would be a nice way to celebrate the old bridge and the new one.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM

Approved 4-0-1