

*Town of Buxton
Minutes September 23, 2020
Selectmen's Meeting*

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

Recorded by Krystal Dyer

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

Others in attendance: Jon Bartlett, Richard Fitzgerald, Patrick Hanna, Scott Warchol and Code Enforcement Officer Peter Gordon

The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM.

The Selectmen recited the Pledge

Quarterly update with Code Enforcement Officer Peter Gordon

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Gordon said in his presentation that it has been a different and challenging year during COVID-19. The town hall was closed to the public forcing most business was done electronically or by leaving envelopes outside the building for people to pick up. Contractors where very happy that the Code Office was able to continue to perform inspections and issue permits. The following permits where issued in each month: April – 4, May – 16, March - 13, June - 22, July - 17, and August - 19 for a Total of 152 and 104 where building permits and the rest plumbing.

There are a total of 111 permits issued so far this year, which include plumbing, septic, additions/alteration and twenty-one new family homes, five of which are modular.

A resident located near the Saco River contacted the office with a failed septic system. Mr. Gordon contacted DEP, who offers a replacement grant program. The project will start next week. He thanked Jim Logan of Longview Partners for the site design work.

Planning Board activity has picked up, a couple subdivision application have come in, one on Town Farm Road and one on Old Orchard Road. A current subdivision plan on Church Hill and Webster Roads wants to revert the subdivision back into one lot. Currently there are Two solar array farms being reviewed.

Resident Scott Warchol asked about encouraging cluster subdivisions, vs. conventional subdivision.

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Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

Selectmen Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2020
Approved 5-0

Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

At 4:30PM Rec Director Nicole Welch was approached by a community member asking if there is a need for a community center building and indoor recreation instead of using the school building. They expressed interest in helping her and offered to help with with executing the studies and funding.

The Rec Department is also having a Halloween Walk Scheduled for October 24 at Town Farm Park. It will be a scheduled event to keep people properly distanced. The information will be on the Recreation Departments web site soon.

At 5:00PM The Board went into executive session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) regarding a personnel matter.

At 6:00PM Town Clerk John Myers was in, he has been planning for Election Day on November 3rd. It has been decided to hold at the Town Hall. We are encouraging residents to vote absentee. Ballots will be available the first of October.

The plan is to close General Assistance, Treasurer, Code Office, Transfer Station, and the Selectman's Office on Election Day, in order to control less traffic with in the building.

Town Hall will also be open on Saturday Oct 17th and 24th from 9:00AM to 3:00PM for absentee voting only.

Review of Correspondence

- *Email from Maine Municipal Association Re: zoom webinar on Recreational Marijuana*
- *Email from James Rushing of Origins Investment Inc, Re: Adult use cannabis cultivation and sales*
- *Email from Fire Chief Schools, Re: PPE Compliance*
- *Email from Governor Mills, Re: announcing Phase 2 of Maine Economic recovery Grant Program*

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Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Poitras has been working with residents in the Bonny Eagle Boulevard area regarding a rat infestation. He will be coordinating with Code Officer Peter Gordon to distribute informational literature to residents to curtail the problem.

A mobile home at 650 Parker Farm Road was torn down. The Public Works Crew were there today and tomorrow picking up the remainder. The Board will be putting the land up for bid soon.

Selectman Blier met with Selectman Peters and the contractor at the Bar Mills Fire Station regarding the quote for the roof over the doors. No decision has not been made to move forward at this time. The contractor will submit a final bid soon.

He spoke with Kevin Kimball regarding a dead tree at the West Buxton Library. He will look at it tomorrow and determine to whether the Crew can remove it safely or if they will need to hire an arborist.

Selectman Blier announced that he misspoke at last week's meeting, saying they would close the town hall at noon on Christmas Eve. He said the town hall will be closed on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th.

Selectman Pulsoni received a call from Chief Schools on a personnel issue, and today he met with Chief Cline to review the prospective candidates to fill vacancies.

Selectman Peters has been working on the 650 Parker Farm Road and the Bar Mills Fire Station roof projects. He also spoke with Kevin Kimball regarding a drainage project at the Bar Mills Post Office.

Selectman Field talked with Public Works Director Kevin Kimball and Transfer Station Director Greg Heffernan regarding Pleasant Point Park.

Old Business

None

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New Business

None

Executive Orders

E.O. 202109025 - An order to approve 40 hours of Vacation Leave for Nicole Welch

Approved 5-0

E.O. 202109026 - An order to approve 8 hours of Vacation Leave for Nathan Schools

Approved 5-0

Executive Orders by Initiative

None

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 202109023- An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #25

Approved 5-0

In the amount of \$49,285.22

E.O. 202109024 - An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #24

Approved 5-0

In the amount of \$66,119.09

Next Meeting of the Board

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, September 30, at 7:00PM

Planning Board will meet on Monday, September 28 at 7:00PM

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Other Business

Northern Light Home Care & Hospice will hold a drive thru flu clinic on Saturday, September 26 from 9am to noon. It will take place at the Bar Mills Fire Department 174 Portland Road, Buxton. For more information check the Town's web site or call 1-800-757-3326.

Maine Obsolete Pesticide Collection Program, Safe and FREE way to dispose of old, unusable pesticides. Register by October 9, by calling 207-287-2731. For more information www.thinkfirstspraylast.org

Public Comments and Questions

Scott Warchol appreciates the Quarterly Department Head Presentations. Its good for the Dept heads to get the information out to the residents. The website calendar is a quick tool access on the website. He also asked if there are any updates on the Salmon Falls bridge, he would like to be notified when the information is available.

Scott asked questions about the comments made at last week's meeting regarding the Design Standards. Selectman Blier said the Buxton standards where not clear to the applicants. The interpretation was not clear on what was expected of them. The engineer was confused and they had a difficult time meeting with the committee. There was further discussions regarding the building design standards and past applicants. He encourages the Board to read the standards and compare them with all the surrounding communities. It was mentioned to allow local contractors or business owners to be involved in the review.

Richard Fitzgerald gave a weekly COVID-19 update.

Patrick Hanna asked if the Town has a rust proofing system for town vehicles. Selectman Blier and Fields explained that the Public Works Mechanic does check the vehicles for rust. He strips the vehicle, removes the tires and cleans everything up, wire brushes the frames, then the vehicle is sent out to be sandblasted and then repainted. Due to the number of miles on the police vehicles, they are not kept long enough to bother with.

Executive Session

None

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Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 8:19PM

Approved 5 - 0

Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

Thomas J. Peters, Selectman

Mark J. Blier, Selectman

Francis E. Pulsoni

David A. Field, Selectman

Date Signed: _____

Video Taped by Harrison Beam