

*Town of Buxton
Minutes September 30, 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, Francis E. Pulsoni, and David A. Field

Members not in attendance: Mark J. Blier

Others in attendance: Jon Bartlett, Patrick Hanna, Richard Fitzgerald, Greg Brunk and Greg Heffernan, Transfer Station Manager

The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.

The Selectmen recited the Pledge

Reminded everyone in attendance that if you want to speak, they will need to come to the podium.

Quarterly update with Transfer Station Manager Greg Heffernan

Greg Heffernan announced that the Transfer Station is back open for recycling. At the beginning of COVID-19 we had silver bullet dumpsters outside the gate for residents to continue to recycle. This was very expensive and prone to abuse from residents leaving things that did not belong in recycling or other items dumps outside.

The Share Shop is open for books only and there are no plans to accept clothing in the near future due to the hygiene issue. We are trying to maintain a 6-foot distance, limiting to four people in at a time for five minutes. Masks are required at all times.

We are no longer accepting Clynk bags of bottles for the Keep The Heat On program anymore. We will give the bags and tags to residents and they will have to take the filled bag to Hannaford themselves.

Due to the low prices the mills where paying for wood chips this year, we had to pay \$1,200 to have the brush chipped. Normally the brush is chipped for free in exchange for the value of the wood chips.

Greg proposed amendments to the Solid Waste Ordinance, which will synchronize it with the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

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Closed on Tuesday, November 3rd

Pesticide collection program. Register by oct 9th at 207-287-2731

Public Hearing for Maine Municipal Association Model Ordinance General Assistance Maximum Appendices (A-H)

Selectman Poitras said that each municipality is required by law to adopt the local General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices every year after notice and public hearing.

The Ordinance and Appendices include:

- *Appendix A which lists overall maximum levels of assistance for all municipalities in the State and;*
- *Appendices B, C, & D which list maximum amounts allowed for food, housing and utilities.*

Most of the maximum levels have either increased or remained the same. The amount of increase varies depending on the makeup of the household, income, and other factors.

The Board opened the public hearing for discussion at 7:16pm. Having no discussion, the hearing was closed at 7:17pm.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

Selectmen Meeting Minutes for September 23, 2020
Approved 4-0-1, Selectman Blier was absent.

Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

At 4:20PM Chief Cline was in and excited about the prospective new hires for the Police Department.

At 4:40PM Kandice Talbot discussed a Planning Board members continuance on the Board due to having to miss three meetings in a row. The Board agreed to not remove him from the Board and they wish him well in his recovery.

At 5:30PM Tax Collector LeeAnn Pratt and Assessor Bob Gingras (via conference call), met with the board regarding a re-evaluation. Selectman Pulsoni said its time for a re-evaluation, which will require the town to purchase the TRIO program. The last time an evaluation was done, we are overdue. the homes are under evaluated.

A resident was in regarding their taxes.

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At 6:00PM MSAD #6 Assistant Facilities Director and member of the Design Standards Stephen Heroux was in. He updated the Board on things happening at the school and with issues regarding the Design Standards.

Review of Correspondence

- *Email from Tony Vigue of Community Television Association of Maine (CTAM) Re: An update on NCTA v. Frey First Circuit Court of Appeals*
- *Email from Jim Flynn of CivicPlus Re: Information on digital security and Cybersecurity infrastructure*
- *Email from Tony Vigue of Community Television Association of Maine (CTAM) Re: Carter/Spectrum Municipal Cable Franchise Renewals*
- *Email from Amy from CivicPlus Re: Digital Accessibility in the COVID-19 Era*
- *Email from Maine.gov Re: invasive spotted lanternfly egg masses found in Maine. (on the web site)*
- *Email from Ellen DeCotiis, Re: questions to discuss under Public Comments and Questions*

Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Peters spoke with Public Works Director Kevin Kimball regarding 650 Parker Farm Road. The Crew finished cleaning up the lot and it looks really good. Today they took advantage of the rain day by setting up the plow trucks up for snow season, it will be here before we know it.

Selectman Field connected with Kevin Kimball regarding a few phone calls he received and he spoke with Keith Emery, Planning Board Chairman on the upcoming meetings.

Selectman Poitras thanked the Public Works Crew for their quick work in cleaning up 650 Parker Farm Road. We hope to get it up for bid and back on the tax role soon. He has also been working on a rat issue in the Bonny Eagle Pond area. Code Officer Peter Gordon has distributed educational flyers to residents homes in the area. Selectman Poitras referenced a new paper article on a rat problem in the Portland area as well.

Selectman Pulsoni met with Chief Schools Monday on a personnel issue and with Chief Cline regarding the four potential candidates for the open positions in the Police Department. Adding that since his retirement, the office is more upbeat and happy. He

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has been in and out all week dealing with some of the other personnel issues and correspondence.

Old Business

None

New Business

PRESS RELEASE: Selectman Poitras read a Press Release from Town Clerk, John Myers – The Selectmen have closed some of the Town's Services on Election Day. due to COVID-19, With concerns for public health and safety the following town departments and Town Hall Offices will be closed on Election Day, November 3rd, to reduce motor vehicle and foot traffic: the Transfer Station, Building Inspector, Code Enforcement, Plumbing Inspector, Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Town Treasurer, Payroll, Accounts Payable, General Assistance and Board of Selectmen.

The decision has been made to keep the Buxton Town Hall, 185 Portland Road, as the polling place for the November 3, 2020 State of Maine General Election. The polls will open at 6 AM and close at 8 PM.

New Foot Traffic Pattern for Voters

All Buxton voters will enter the Buxton Town Hall from the right side of the building, the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer's hallway. Voters will move forward, down the hallway to the voting room as space becomes available. Voters must always maintain six-foot social distancing. The wearing of a face covering is strongly encouraged. After voting, all voters will exit the back doors of the voting room.

Additional Hours for Absentee Voting & Voter Registration

The Buxton Town Hall at 185 Portland Road will be open additional hours to issue and receive absentee ballots and to register voters on Saturday, October 17th and Saturday, October 24th from 9 AM to 3 PM

Secure Absentee Ballot Drop Box Enlarged

Absentee Ballots can be returned by depositing into the outside mail slot located to the right side of the Buxton Town Hall's front doors at 185 Portland Road into a secure Absentee Ballot Drop Box. If you use the drop box to return your ballot, no postage is required. The drop box is accessible 24 hours a day, monitored by a security camera and emptied regularly. Only Buxton voters can use the Absentee Ballot Drop Box at the Buxton Town Hall. Buxton voters may not use an Absentee Ballot Drop Box in another community. The opening to the drop box will be locked

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promptly at 8 PM on November 3rd, all absentee ballots must be received by 8 PM to be counted.

Election Grant Awarded

The Town of Buxton is pleased and thankful to announce that \$5,000 has been awarded to the Town by the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) for the November Election. The grant is to help with poll worker training, temporary staffing and absentee supplies.

Executive Orders

E.O. 202109029 - An order to approve Applications for a non-transferrable Automobile Graveyard or Junkyard for the following entities: Lee Anderson d/b/a Long Plains Road, LLC; Alexander Filatov d/b/a Atlantic Motors, LLC; Bill Havu d/b/a Johnnie's Country Service; Jesse & Billy Reynolds d/b/a B. H. Reynolds & Sons Used Cars, LLC; Robert Reynolds d/b/a Bear's Auto Salvage; Jason Rowe d/b/a Rowe's Auto Parts; Michael R. Smith d/b/a Ray's Garage Inc.; Dwayne St. Ours d/b/a Saints Auto Sales; Vaughn Waterman d/b/a Buxton Auto Salvage

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 202109030 - An order to approve the hire of Kelsey M. Jacobs as a full time Police Officer effective September 29, 2020 at a rate of \$24.91/ hour.

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 202109031 - An order to appoint of Kelsey M. Jacobs as a Constable in the Town of Buxton effective September 29, 2020

Approved 4-0-1

Executive Orders by Initiative

E.O. 202109032 - An order to adopt the Maine Municipal Association Model Ordinance General Assistance Appendices (A-H) for the period of October 1, 2020 - September 30, 2021

Approved 3-0-1 -1, Selectman Blier is absent and selectman Poitras abstained.

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 202109027- An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #28

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Approved 4-0

In the amount of \$199,064.37

E.O. 202109028 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #26 and #27

Approved 4-0

Warrant #26 in the amount of \$4,351.47

Warrant #27 in the amount of \$62,567.37

Next Meeting of the Board

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

Department Head Meeting on Thursday, October 1 at 10:00AM

Board of Appeals Meeting on Tuesday October 6, at 7:00PM

Other Business

None

Public Comments and Questions

The following are questions from resident Ellen DeCotiis:

- I. How do residents of town obtain a copy of Buxton's COVID Plan, as mentioned at the SB meeting last week? Who composed it? Most plans have been composed by Chief Schools EMA Director*
- II. Who are the members of the Standards Committee now? Stephan Heroux is the only active member.*
- III. I have seen, on the Maine CDC website, that local alerts are sent out to Town Councils and Health Officers. Are you all receiving these? No, we are not and he has reached out.*

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Patrick Hanna asked what the re-evaluation means? Selectman Poitras explained the towns assessor will come out and re-evaluate each property in town. They will be looking for improvements or any changes inside and outside your property. He also asked is there a reason why the Design Standards is in Village Zone vs Route 202, a Business District. Selectman Peters explained there was a vote that came before the town and passed, allowing the district to cover 500-feet back from the center line.

Richard Fitzgerald offered a COVID-19 weekly updated.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:53PM

Approved 4 - 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