

Town of Buxton
Minutes for February 22 2017 Selectmen's Meeting

Prepared by: Beverly Gammon

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

Others Present: Rep. Don Marean, Kelly Weymouth, Ellen DeCotiis, Peter Burns

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Selectmen recited the Pledge.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

*Selectmen Meeting Minutes February 15, 2017
Approved 5-0*

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

The Selectmen discussed the village zone meeting held last Thursday night and plan to talk about it later in this meeting.

Some people want to bring back the Buxton Newsletter that we used to have. The Selectmen discussed it and will be looking into it further.

At 5:15 PM the Board went into Executive Session on a personnel matter, per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A). The Board came out of Executive Session at 5:30 PM.

The Selectmen talked about the street lights that have not been put up on the new bridge yet. They also discussed the engineering of the sidewalk that tips toward the roadway instead of tipping toward the river, which causes water from melting ice and snow to run across the deck of the bridge. People are now complaining about ice on the roadway and Maine D.O.T. called to say it is the Towns' responsibility to maintain the sidewalk.

Also, a resident came in and met with the Board to talk about an ordinance change dealing with noise.

5. Review of Correspondence

- *State House News Update from Representative Don Marean*
- *Weekly Legislative Bulletin from Maine Municipal Association*

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Santolucito reported that he is working on putting together a couple of budget items he has. He attended the village zone meeting and mentioned that more information about that is on the Town's website.

Selectman Santolucito stated that there is a lot going on with the SAD #6 Budget Advisory Committee and the School Board. There is a Budget Advisory Committee Meeting tomorrow night at 6 o'clock and another one on Thursday, March 2. He announced also that the committee working on reapportionment of voting on the School Board, and what municipality will have what percentage of the votes, is going to have a second meeting Friday, March 3 at 4:30 PM, at the SAD #6 administrative building.

Selectman Harmon reported that she has been working on budget items she has. Last week she spoke with a couple residents regarding the snowstorms we had. They had some minor complaints that she (Selectman Harmon) passed along to the Public Works Director.

Selectman Harmon mentioned that the Board talked earlier about the power outages Buxton experienced last week due to heavy snow. One of the issues Buxton has is that we are located in York County but the CMP field office that takes care of us is actually out of Portland, not Alfred. She noted that sometimes it becomes a challenge to get issues resolved if we are dealing with the York County Emergency Management Agency but we are serviced out of the Portland District. Some roads were closed as a result of the storm. Selectman Harmon cautioned people about cones blocking the road, saying that if there are cones or barriers in the road or signs saying that a road is closed, there is usually a good reason for that. The Board is asking people to obey those barriers and signs and not try to go around them or under trees that are laying on power lines. Selectman Harmon reiterated that those barriers are put up for the public's safety.

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Selectman Poitras reported that he talked with Public Works to see how they were making out with everything. He also spoke with the police a couple of times and helped a lady who was having some snow removal issues in the Chicopee section of town. Selectman Poitras also attended the village zone meeting last Thursday night.

Selectman Blier reported that he was at the zoning meeting and thought it went pretty well. This week he followed up on a couple estimates Patriot Mechanical sent us and addressed a small issue we had with a lack of oil.

Selectman Blier stated that there was a Comprehensive Plan Meeting Monday night and bringing back the newsletter was one conversation that came out of that. He said some of the people on the Board will be addressing that and trying to bring it back to life. Selectman Blier said also that he is excited that there was a great turnout at that meeting, and some good conversations that came about.

Selectman Emery talked more about the village zone meeting, saying that it was a very positive meeting and a lot of good ideas were brought forward. Selectman Emery explained how to find information about the village zone meeting on the Town's website. He stated that he is going to put some thoughts together on how to formulate the next meeting that he expects to be held around the first of March. Selectman Emery said this cannot drag on for a long time because if changes need to be made to the ordinance, the Board would like to see a vote on that in June. As soon as the Selectmen set a date for the next meeting, they will announce it in their weekly meetings, and post it on the Town's website.

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

The Selectmen talked about having a workshop to do some of the larger Department Head budgets so they can get most of them done next week. After some discussion they decided to schedule workshops at 5 PM on Monday and Tuesday evenings with Department Heads that are available at that time. John Myers is scheduled to present his budget to the Board next Wednesday evening.

9. Executive Orders

None

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

*E.O. 161702024 – An order to appoint Matthew Logan to the position of Berry Memorial Library Trustee to be effective until December 31, 2019
Approved 5-0*

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

*E.O. 161702022 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #70
Approved 5-0
The total amount was \$88,633.67.*

*E.O. 161702023 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #69
Approved 5-0
The total was \$54,444.16.*

12. Next Meeting of the Board

Planning Board Meeting for Public Hearing Monday, February 27 at 7:00 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, March 1 at 7:00 PM

Budget Committee Meeting Thursday, February 23 at 6:30 PM at Buxton Town Hall

Next SAD #6 Budget Advisory Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, February 23 at 6:00 PM at Central Office. This meeting is open to the public.

The next Comprehensive Plan Committee Meeting will be Monday, March 6 at 6:30 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Monday and Tuesday, February 27 & 28 at 5:00 PM with 2 or 3 Department Heads to go over budgets

Next Wednesday, March 1, Selectman Harmon and Selectman Emery will be heading to our attorney's office for their Workshop on marijuana in the workplace issues.

13. Other Business

Buxton Recreation is now accepting applications for Summer Camp Counselors for the 2017 Summer Camp Program. Counselors must be at least 17 years of age and the pay range is \$9.00 - \$11.00 per hour. For more information contact Nicole Welch, Recreation Director at 929-8381

The deadline to register for the trip to the Boston Flower & Garden Show is tomorrow, February 23. Cost is \$55/person. For more information or to register, contact our Recreation Director at 929-8381.

Buxton Recreation has also scheduled a trip for seniors to Oxford Casino on Thursday, March 2 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Cost is \$20/person. For more information, contact Buxton Recreation at 929-8381.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Representative Don Marean went to the podium and introduced himself. He talked about the committees he is serving on, one of which is the committee that is overseeing the implementation of the new marijuana law. Representative Marean provided an overview of the makeup of the committee, details about the work they have to do, and how it is going to proceed. Representative Marean encouraged the Board and anyone in the community who has specific concerns about this law to contact the Marijuana Legalization Implementation Committee that can be found on Maine.gov.

Selectman Emery advised that he has been getting calls from some landlords who have expressed concerns about their rights in this marijuana issue and how much say as landlords, they will have about this going on with some tenants.

Representative Marean responded saying that this is one of the 30 items of concern that the committee identified and he added that another item relates to zoning and how much authority the municipalities have or need. He went on to explain that there is a question about whether or not medical and recreational use should be combined because medical is taxed at 5.5%, the same as sales tax on everything else. Recreational marijuana may be 29%-30% so he said the concern there is that folks who try recreational marijuana and like it will go get a medical card so they can pay 5.5% tax instead of the higher amount. There was some discussion about caregivers and what they are or are not required to disclose, whether anyone has to come before the Planning Board or not, and home occupations.

Selectman Emery told about an applicant who came in and because they thought the person would have to come before the Planning Board, the applicant left saying that he/she can just go to Biddeford and does not even have to tell anyone there. The Selectmen said if it is a home occupation the applicant would have to come before the Planning Board.

Representative Marean stated that on Tuesday, February 28, at 1 PM the Committee will have a Public Hearing and they want to hear from folks. He mentioned that what may come out of that is to break committee of 17 into five sub-groups that will each work on a portion of the regulation.

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Representative Marean went on to talk about the Frye Island bill saying that he has seen their lobbyist in the halls up in Augusta over the last couple weeks. A bill is being written now and Representative Marean said he is concerned about where this is going. He went on to talk about people he has been meeting with and said he learned that there was a Memo of Understanding between Standish and Frye Island that he has not seen but is asking for a copy of it. Representative Marean talked about the significance of that and the positive impact it may have that some other municipalities are putting in a bill to do the same thing SAD #6 did with the first Frye Island bill.

Representative Marean has some upcoming meetings with education people and he is working diligently to stay on top of what develops. He wants make sure that all towns in district are on same page because if they are not, it could negatively impact the process. He said he will keep us posted and as soon as the next bill comes out he will get the number of that to the Selectmen so they can see what is going on.

Representative Marean had no further comments and there were no other comments or questions from the Board or the public.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:42 PM
Approved 5-0

Clifford L. Emery, Selectman

Jean C. Harmon, Selectman

Dennis P. Santolucito, Selectman

Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

Mark J. Blier, Selectman

Date Signed: _____
Videotaped by Kyle Durkin