

Town of Buxton
Minutes for March 16, 2016 Selectmen's Meeting

Prepared by: Beverly Gammon

*Members Present: Clifford L. Emery, Jean C. Harmon, Dennis P. Santolucito, Chad E. Poitras
Peter E. W. Burns was absent.*

Others Present: Patrick Hanna; Julie Gamelson, Ellen DiCotiis

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

Selectman Harmon 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 March 9, 2016

Approved 3-0-2

Selectman Emery was absent on March 9 and Selectman Burns is absent this week.

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

The Selectmen worked on finishing up their budget items and Selectman Harmon worked on the Warrant.

Selectman Santolucito and Selectman Poitras had a lengthy conversation with Selectman Emery about some history of the Town. They talked about where the mills used to be, where the stores used to be and other historical information that Selectman Emery shared.

Selectman Emery and Selectman Harmon updated the rest of the Board on what they discussed in a meeting yesterday with the Town's attorney to start gearing up for labor negotiations for the union contract for Police and Dispatch.

5. Review of Correspondence

- *Email from the SAD #6 Superintendent's Office – Re: School Budget Presentation*

Selectman Emery explained that the Superintendent is looking for a time when he can do a 15-20 minute discussion on the school budget. The Selectmen talked about dates and agreed that Wednesday, March 30, will be a good time.

- *Email from Jamel Torres, Southern ME Planning & Development Commission – Re: Southern Maine Complete Streets Workshop March 23 in Saco*
- *Email from Katie Sherman, Knight Property Services – Re: Lawn Mowing Services Contract*
- *Email from Dave Francoeur, Deputy Director York County EMA – Re: Emergency Management Training*
- *Legislative Bulletin (Vol. No. 9) from Maine Municipal Association*
- *Email from Dave Francoeur, York County EMA – Re: New Alerting Tools*

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Santolucito reported that he finished the last budget item he was working on which is the FICA budget. He was not able to attend the last SAD #6 Budget Advisory Committee Meeting but is planning to attend the meeting tomorrow night. He talked about upgrades for the Police Department server PC that were budgeted for last year and said he has been working with the vendor and hopes to get that all finished up by next week.

Selectman Harmon mentioned the Board's workshop Monday night where they finished going over the final pieces of the Fire Department budget. She met with the Fire Chief yesterday to go over more of the numbers to account for some overtime that had not been budgeted. Selectman Harmon said the final copy is done. The Board and the Fire-Rescue Chief will meet to go over their budgets with the Budget Committee next Tuesday night. The Committee did not meet this week.

Selectman Harmon spoke briefly about the meeting yesterday with the Town's negotiator to talk about where the Board is thinking of going as they head into negotiations on the union contract. Their hope is to start that process the first or second week of April.

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Selectman Harmon said the Board typically meets to review what they come up with for charitable organizations so they can have the final warrant to give to the Budget Committee. She expects the Board may meet with the Committee on March 29.

Selectman Poitras reported that he comes in every day that he is available to do so to see if anyone has questions or concerns and to find out what is going on. He was here Monday night for the workshop with the rest of the Board and mentioned speaking with the Fire Chief today about an issue.

Selectman Emery reported that one of the trucks from Public Works was taken to an independent garage to be looked at to see what shape it is in, and it was deemed to be not drivable. So, he said the Board will be advocating to replace that this year. Selectman Emery talked about some other municipalities he knows of that purchased different plow trucks and have had some issues with emissions. He and Tom Kennie discussed that and Tom is going to talk with some of those municipalities to see what the issues are so we can hopefully avoid the same problems.

Selectman Emery talked with the head of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association last Friday because our candidate for Police Chief was taking his testing. He was told that the candidate passed with flying colors as was expected. Selectman Emery was pleased to announce that the Board will vote on an Executive Order to hire the new Police Chief this evening.

7. Old Business

None

8. New Business

None

9. Executive Orders

*E.O. 151603013 – An order to approve 16 hours of vacation time for Nathan Schools
Approved 4-0-1*

*E.O. 151603014 – An order to approve John Myers' attendance at an Election Workshop
& Meeting of area Clerks
Approved 4-0-1*

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*E.O. 151603015 – An order to approve an Application for a Veteran Exemption for [Map 7, Lot 61E]
Approved 4-0-1*

*E.O. 151603016 – An order to approve an Application for a Veteran Exemption for [Map 3, Lot 95B]
Approved 4-0-1*

*E.O. 151603017 – An order to approve an Application for a Veteran Exemption for [Map 7, Lot 30-5]
Approved 4-0-1*

*E.O. 151603018 – An order to amend the Personnel Policy, Section X. Holidays, subsection C. Work on Holidays, to read: Full-Time Employees who are required to work on a Town holiday shall receive their regular pay plus applicable holiday pay. Emergency personnel who are on duty on a Town holiday shall receive time and one-half **for hours worked up to 8** hours plus their holiday pay. **Any additional hours will be paid at their regular rate of pay.**
Approved 4-0-1*

*E.O. 151603019 – An order to approve the hire of Troy Cline as Town of Buxton Police Chief effective March 28, 2016, at a salary of \$66,000 per year
Approved 4-0-1*

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

None

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

*E.O. 151603011 – An order approving expenditures as documented in the Accounts Payable Warrant #80
Approved 4-0-1
The amount was \$588,929.59.*

*E.O. 151603012 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #79
Approved 4-0-1
The amount was \$47,991.32.*

12. Next Meeting of the Board

Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, March 23, at 7:00 PM

SAD #6 Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Thursday, March 17, at 6:00 PM at Central Office

Budget Committee Meeting Tuesday, March 22 at 6:30 PM

13. Other Business

April 1st is the deadline to apply for a Homestead, Veteran, or Blind Exemption on your 2016 property tax bill. Applications received after April 1st will not apply until the following tax year (2017). Applications are available from the Maine State Revenue website, the Town's Website, or you can pick them up at the Tax Collector's office. The Homestead exemption can save a Buxton resident homeowner up to \$194.25 on their 2016 tax bill.

There is an opening in our Public Works Department for a Full-Time Laborer/Equipment Operator. Starting pay is \$15.89 per hour plus benefits, and the deadline for applications is Wednesday, March 30 at 4:00 PM. More information is available on the Town's website, the Jobs In Maine website, or you can contact Tom Kennie, Public Works Director at 929-4400

Selectman Poitras commented that there was a nice article in the American Journal about Selectman Harmon's work with the Girl Scouts.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Ellen DiCotiis went to the podium and asked about the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and who in Town is in charge of it.

Selectman Emery explained that our Fire-Rescue Chief, Nate Schools, is the EMA Director and there is also a Deputy Director.

Ms. DiCotiis asked if there is some sort of emergency plan in place.

The Selectmen talked in depth about the planning process, conference calls sometimes several times a day, and the coordination that takes place with York County EMA and other communities in York County. They talked about setting up shelters in our area and explained that the process can start days ahead of a storm and includes Selectmen, Town

Managers, EMA Directors, Police and Public Works so that everyone is prepared for what is expected.

Ms. DiCotiis then asked if the school is proposing the major capital investments this year.

Selectman Santolucito responded that he believes the only thing that may happen this year is that the school may propose some design work. He said there will be a lot of discussions about them. He said the infrastructure upgrade at the high school and the science building will come first. He said the Superintendent may talk about that when he comes in on the 30th.

Patrick Hanna went to the podium and asked how the salary of the new Police Chief compares with the existing salary and how it will be budgeted.

The Selectmen replied that there will be an increase of about \$4,000 and there is money available in this year's remaining budget. They may have to take some money from another account to finish the year but the money is there for it and it will be in next year's budget.

Julie Gamelson went to the podium, introduced herself, and asked if people have to apply for the Homestead Exemption every year.

The Selectmen explained that the exemption applies only to a primary residence and once a person applies for it, it remains on the books.

Ms. Gamelson asked a question about speed limit signs at 202 and 117 that are different.

The Selectmen explained that the speed limits can be different on the same road depending on what direction you are going in.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

*Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM
Approved 4-0-1*

Clifford L. Emery, Selectman

Jean C. Harmon, Selectman

Peter E. W. Burns, Selectman

Dennis P. Santolucito, Selectman

Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

*Date Signed: _____
Recorded by Kyle Durkin*