

***Town of Buxton  
Agenda February 1st, 2023  
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes***

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

*Recorded by Hunter Cox*

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

**Others in attendance:**

**Called to Order at 7:00**

**The Selectmen recited the Pledge.**

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minute**

January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*Approved 5-0*

**Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM**

4:00PM – Sgt. Kevin Collins-Animal Control  
4:30PM – Kevin Kimball-Budget Discussions  
5:00PM – Executive Session MRSA 405-6A-Personnel Issue  
5:30PM –  
6:00PM – HR Update and MRSA 405-6A-Personnel Issue  
6:30PM –

**Correspondence**

- Email From BFR: Monday Message
- Emails From Robert B. Hunt: Weekly Legislative report
- Emails From MMA: Entry Level Driver Training Info Session, developing solutions to hotly contested issues,
- Email From MGFOA: Virtual Winter Training Workshop
- Email From Tina Plummer: BAC Meeting Packet for February 2, 2023
- Email From BPD: Bi-weekly Report

**Projects and Issues-**

*Selectman Poitras- Monday meeting with Chief Schools about budgets, and had discussions with other dept. heads about budgets.*

*Selectman Pulsoni- Monday meeting with Chief Schools about budgets*

*Selectman Field- Monday meeting with Chief Schools about budgets, worked with PW about getting salt and sand, called Cassella about trash pick-up issues.*

*Selectman Blier- Called Cassella about trash pick-up issues, Worked with Treasurer Krystal Gallant about carry-forwards and reconciliations. There will be an upcoming special meeting to address reconciliations. Spoke with several dept heads about their budgets this week.*

*Selectmen Peters- Monday meeting with Chief Schools about budgets, landowner questions about building garage in rural zone.*

## **Old Business-**

Answers to questions asked last week.

1. Body Cameras- They have arrived, and they are using them as of Thursday morning. These body cams are connected to their tasers and guns, so if they pull these weapons the cameras come on.
2. Ride Along- We have a policy that lets an officers spouse or partner to ride along with them 6 times a year. That is why sometimes you will see civilians in the cruisers with the officers.

## **New Business**

### **Executive Orders**

E.O. 2223002001- An order to approve an Abatement of real estate taxes for 2022/23 in the amount of \$18.43 for [Map 2, Lot 18A]

E.O. 2223002002- An order to approve an Abatement of real estate taxes for 2022/23 in the amount of \$280.58 for [Map 12, Lot 11]

~~E.O. 2223002003- An order approving the list of accounts for carry forwards from FY 2021 to 2022 in the amount of \$43,987.75. (Tabled)~~

*Motion to table- Approved 5-0*

E.O. 2223002004- An order to approve 3 hours of vacation leave for Nathan Schools.

*Approved 5-0*

## **Executive Orders by Initiative**

### **Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants**

E.O. 2223002005- An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #63  
In the Amount of: \$98,197.40

*Approved 5-0*

E.O. 2223002006- An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #64  
In the Amount of: \$84,652.23

*Approved 5-0*

## **Next Meeting of the Board**

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, February 8th at 7pm

The Next Planning Board Meeting will be held on Monday, February, 13th at 7pm

The Next Budget Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 7th at 6pm

Meeting with Sgt. Collins on Monday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm to discuss budgets

## **Other Business**

### **Public Comment and Questions**

**Lisa Crockett-** The PW director has been asking for raises for the PW workers because of the extra shifts they have been driving. There is money in the budget to hire another driver, and it hasn't been spent yet. So, can that money be used to give the drivers a raise?

**Selectmen-** We do allocate money for salaries and raises with the Town approved budget at the beginning of every year. We will do 2% this year, we did 7% last year. Department heads come in from time to time to ask for raises during the year, and we hardly ever grant those, because we want raises to be approved in the budget by the residents of the town when we vote on the budget every year. If we allocate the money mid-season, then the Town would vote in the following budget to approve a raise we already gave, and we don't like doing that.

**Lisa Crockett-**How do we go about getting a vote on that? They should get paid extra for the extra shifts.

**Selectmen-** It's done during the annual town meeting in June. The drivers do get paid extra for the extra shifts. If they work overtime, they get paid overtime.

**Lisa Crockett-** The mechanic is doing a great job, and he is under a huge workload right now. When is he going to get certified to do inspections.

**Selectmen-** He is not certified right now, but he is doing a great job. We do send things out all the time, if they stay within their budget, that is acceptable.

**Lisa Crockett-** But that is not specified in the budget, and it is costing us money to send the vehicles out.

**Selectmen-** Not every cost has a line item on the budget, like salaries do. If they stay within their overall budget for non-itemized things, then that is acceptable. The Mechanic has saved us a lot of money on repairs, so that kind of offsets the cost of inspections. It's a trade-off. However, we are talking about him getting certified for inspections, it will just take some time to arrange it.

**Lisa Crockett-** The ride-along that I asked about last week. When you investigated it, did you see the form that was filled out, was it filed correctly. Can I have a copy of it.

**Selectmen-** The form is in the office, you can have a blank copy, but to protect the information of the individuals, you cannot have the actual form that was filled out.

**Lisa Crockett-** What are the rules for the dispatch center? Are there people socializing in there, when dispatch should be doing their job? They should be focusing on their job.

**Selectmen-** There are strict rules for the dispatch center, and the public or non-necessary personnel is not allowed in there. There is a kitchen area in there, so other officers are in there from time to time, but the dispatchers are focused on the calls when they come.

**Lisa Crockett-** Why are the lights on at Chicopee station if nobody is using it? Why are we storing a fire truck for Gorham in Chicopee Station? Do we store our stuff in other towns? Are there any signs out to tell people that Chicopee Station is closed so that people know to go to the other stations?

**Selectmen-** We don't know why or if the lights are on, you would have to ask the Chief, but it might be for security reasons. We are storing a fire truck for Gorham. We like to help other towns when they need it, and there was no other equipment being stored there. We can also use the truck if we need a back-up. There are no signs over there, but there haven't been personnel there ever. The station is not closed, we just don't have any equipment or personnel there. People can still get water there. But there have never been any personnel there anyway.

**Lisa Crockett-** When do the body cams activate on the police? Do we have cameras in the cruisers yet.

**Selectmen-** They activate if they pull their weapons, or if they turn them on manually. They also activate if the lights in the police vehicle are turned on. The cameras in the vehicles also come on if the lights are turned on. The old vehicle cameras were malfunctioning, so we had to order new ones at the same time we ordered the other cameras, they are all under one contract so I am not sure if they have been installed yet.

**Lisa Crockett-** I did not see the conversations last week on the agenda you posted, are those updated?

**Selectmen-** That information would be on the minutes, not the agendas. They are posted the week after they happen, after they are approved.

**Hunter Cox-** The minutes that cover those discussions will be posted at the end of this week after they are approved. I try to get them published in that timeframe, however, sometimes because of my other duties, or because the minutes were very lengthy, they are not always posted in that timeframe.

**Lisa Crockett-** There are errors on the counts listed on the police bulletin. If they are going to post them, they need to be accurate.

**Selectmen-** They are only human, it probably just a typo.

#### **Executive Session**

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:29**

*Approved 5-0*

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*Thomas J. Peters, Selectman*

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*Francis E. Pulsoni, Selectman*

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*Mark J. Blier, Selectman*

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*David A. Field,  
Selectman*

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*Chad E. Poitras, Selectman*

*Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Video Taped by David Blais*

***This meeting is available to be viewed at <https://livestream.com/accounts/23355313>***

