

**Selectmen's Meeting
Agenda for September 6th, 2023**

***Town of Buxton
Agenda September 6th, 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: Mark J. Blier, Chad E. Poitras, David A. Field, Francis E. Pulsoni,
Thomas J. Peters*

Others in attendance:

Called to Order at 7:01

The Selectmen recited the Pledge.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

August 30th, 2023

Approved 5-0

Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

4:00PM – Bill Hall-Tax and Treasurers update

4:30PM –

5:00PM – Attorney Ben Plante- Town Legal Issues, Tax acquired properties

5:30PM –

6:00PM – Leeann Pratt- Tax update, Homestead exemptions

6:30PM – General Business

Review of Correspondence

- Email from BFD: Monday Message
- Emails From MMA: Verbal Judo Workshop
- Email From Maine Audubon: September Newsletter
- Email From Drummond Woodsum: I-9 Update
- Email From Rebecca Graham: Housing Opportunity Program
- Email From SLC CyberSecurity: Cybersecurity Grant Update

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- Email from MainePoweroptions: Energy Purchase and Storage Power Options

Projects and Issues-

Selectman Poitras- Attended the appeals board meeting on September 5th, Worked with cemetery board member Ethan Bump on some upcoming projects, spoke with Fire Chief about BFD updates

Selectman Field- Attended the appeals board meeting on September 5th, Spoke with PW director about preparations for winter, Spoke with Casella driver about current trash pick-up rollout.

Selectman Blier- Went to meeting with Maine DOT about the new Gorham Bypass going in and its effects on our housing numbers and growth in Buxton. It will be completed by 2028 and will be a toll way, Habitat for humanity is seeking discounted or donated land to build affordable housing please email: brucedonath@gmail.com, Attended the appeals board meeting on September 5th.

Selectman Peters- Attended the appeals board meeting on September 5th.

Selectman Pulsoni- Attended the appeals board meeting on September 5th.

Old Business-

New Business-

There will be a public hearing on Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 at 7pm to hear public comments and questions on Amendments to the General Assistance Ordinance.

Tax bills have been mailed out today.

Thank you letter to Buxton Ambulance professionals who aided one of our residents when she had to go to the hospital. They were professional, compassionate, and well-trained.

Executive Orders-

E.O. 2324009001- An order to approve a Supplemental Tax Warrant and Certificate for fiscal year 23/24 in the amount of \$2,908.22 for [Map 3, Lot 49].

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 2324009002- An order to approve 8 hours of vacation time for Greg Heffernan .

Approved 5-0

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E.O. 2324009003– An order to approve an Abatement of real estate taxes for 2023/24 in the amount of \$481.25 for [Map 9, Lot 11A-5].

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 2324009004– An order to approve 8 hours of vacation time for Patti McKenna.

Approved 5-0

Executive Orders by Initiative-

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 2324009005– An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #20
In the Amount of \$3,969,501.03

Approved 5-0

E.O. 2324009006– An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #19
In the Amount of \$89,538.96

Approved 5-0

Next Meeting of the Board

The Next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, September 13th at 7pm

The Next Planning Board Meeting will be held on Monday, September 11th at 7pm

~~Department Head Meeting September 7th 10am~~

Public Comment and Questions

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Martha Muldoon- *What is the public meeting about general assistance?*

Selectmen Blier- *The meeting is about approving the new state provided rates for general assistance. We receive them every year, and we can either approve them or come up with our own. We always approve of them because we would have to justify any changes, and that might be a lengthy and costly process.*

Martha Muldoon- *Can you read them out, I looked for them, and couldn't find them online.*

Hunter Cox- *Every year they adjust the maximums that individuals and families can make and still receive assistance. It's a lot of numbers, and it also covers what amounts of various assistance we can provide. I can post it online.*

Martha Muldoon- *Last week you said that you provided some information to a resident about the laws governing what the town can do with private roads. What information did you provide, does it cover maintenance, trash pick-up, etc.?*

Selectmen- *The resident asked what the law was about expending public funds on private roads. We investigated the matter, and the law does state that public funds cannot be spent on private roads. However, trash can be picked up on those roads because the residents pay taxes for trash pick-up. We cannot maintain or repair those roads, if they are damaged, and we cannot plow them. From the MMA interpretation emergency vehicles, buses, and trash trucks can go down them.*

Martha Muldoon- *Thank You. I would also request that anyone watching, especially those affected, get involved and informed about the Bar Mills Dam removal. It looks like they are only removing half the dam structure, so people need to get involved.*

Selectmen Blier- *We have been involved in expressing our desires to remove the whole Dam. However, we can only do so much. At the end of the day, it will be a question of how much we want to spend on this. If it goes to court, it could be millions. We are pursuing, and other interested parties are also working, for full removal.*

Executive Session-

Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:23

Approved 5-0

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Thomas J. Peters, Selectman

Francis E. Pulsoni, Selectman

Mark J. Blier, Selectman

*David A. Field,
Selectman*

Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

Date Signed: _____
Video Taped by David Blais

This meeting is available to be viewed at <https://livestream.com/accounts/23355>

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