

Town of Buxton
Agenda April 26th, 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, Mark J. Blier, Thomas J. Peters

Others in attendance:

Called to Order at 7:00

The Selectmen recited the Pledge.

Clay Gleason: Superintendent of the Bonny Eagle School District- This year's budget is smaller than last year. Our baseline increase came in under 2%. We are expanding pre-K with another class in Buxton. We are looking for 2 new special education teachers to accommodate our growing special education population. Our facilities are getting older, and we have 30 million in deferred repair costs. In this budget we approved a 1.5 million request for facilities repairs that are urgent. The total increase will be 5.6% overall over last year, and 3.3% increase for Buxton or about \$302,000.

Selectman Blier- Congratulations on being hired as the new superintendent. We want to know what your vision for the future is, especially with growth and facilities. Did the engineering firm you hired come back with the final amount? With a shrinking student population, can't we get rid of some of the temporary buildings and things.

Clay Gleason-Last year there was a condition assessment of all the sites. We are looking at our options. We hired an outside company to help us, and we are doing surveys. We are developing a plan based on those findings. The planning group meets monthly, and our goal is to have a proposal by next year. We are relying on experts to advise us about population growth so we can be as close as possible. The engineering firm returned a number at about 30 million for deferred maintenance, but that does not include updates for learning environments and new technology. So, we are still trying to assess those costs.

As far as the temporary buildings and spaces we repurpose those for things like our growing pre-K population, special education, and other uses like speech therapy sessions.

If anyone has any additional questions, they can reach us at the school offices, and we will answer any questions you have.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

April 26th, 2023

Approved 4-0-1

Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

4:00PM –

4:30PM – Chief Kevin Collins-Vacation time and earned paid leave.

5:00PM – Krystal Gallant-Banking accounts

5:30PM – Cheryl Huntley-Trash cans and disposal

6:00PM –

6:30PM – Patti McKenna- Upcoming Board of Appeals Meeting

Review of Correspondence

- Email From BFR: Monday Message
- Email From Robert B. Hunt: Weekly Legislative Report
- Email From MMA: Legislative Bulletin, Loss Control Training, Verbal Judo Training
- Email From BPD: Bi-Weekly Public Safety Report
- Email From Maine DHHS: Local Health Officer Training

Projects and Issues-

Selectman Poitras- Spoke with Fire Chief about fires throughout the Town this week,

Selectman Field- Not Present

Selectman Blier- Spoke with PW Director about updates, worked on the town warrant being prepared, and spoke with Selectman's Assistant about general business.

Selectman Peters- Spoke with PW Director about upcoming road projects for this summer.

Selectman Pulsoni- General business a couple times this week, checked up on fires this week, and was very impressed with how everyone and agencies that worked together on the fires.

Old Business-

Demolition of 60 Old Thompson Rd on May 1st.

New Business-

Dave field is absent tonight attending a meeting of the Saco River Corridor Commission at the Dayton Town Hall to discuss fixing the erosion down at Pleasant Point Park.

Code Enforcement Secretary, Kelley Willey, has resigned her post and will be leaving us on May 8th. We wish her luck in her future endeavors.

Executive Orders-

E.O. 2223004008- An order to approve an Abatement of real estate taxes for 2022/23 in the amount of \$890.88 for [Map 1, Lot 4-D]

Approved 3-1-1

E.O. 2223004009- An Order to adopt changes to the Personnel Policy regarding sick leave and earned paid leave, effective April 26, 2023.

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 2223004010- An order to approve 56 hrs of vacation time for Greg Heffernan.

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 2223004011- An order to approve 4 hours of vacation time for Hunter Cox

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 2223004012- An order to approve Victualer Licenses for, Robie Wagner d/b/a Buxton Mini-Mart, Ronald Arborio d/b/a Donut Hole Cafe, Old Port Foodservice Group IV, LLC. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts, Hannaford Bros. Co. LLC d/b/a Hannaford Supermarket & Pharmacy, H.A. Mapes Inc., d/b/a J. D. Variety and Harry's, Julie Micucci d/b/a Just Julie's Catering, Barbara Low d/b/a Low's Bonny Eagle and Low's Bar Mills, Nicole & Wade Peabody d/b/a Mr. Peabody's Apple Crisp, Rachele Zheng /Y & Z Corp d/b/a Panda Market, Kevin & Sundae Fallen d/b/a Personal Touch Catering, Troy Plummer d/b/a P. W. Plummer & Sons Inc,

Stores, Carrie & Mark Steidler d/b/a Tory Hill Café, and Ying Chen d/b/a Yummy Chinese Restaurant Inc.

Approved 4-0-1

Executive Orders by Initiative

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 2223004013 – An order approving expenditures as documented in
Payroll Warrant #87
In the Amount of: \$89,613.56

Approved 4-0-1

E.O. 2223004014 - An order approving expenditures as documented in
Accounts Payable Warrant #88
In the Amount of: \$104,163.09

Approved 4-0-1

Next Meeting of the Board

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, May 3rd at 7pm

The Next Planning Board Meeting will be held on Monday, May 8th at 7pm

The Budget Committee will meet Tuesday, May 9th at 6pm

Public Comment and Questions

Paul Leach- *I was part of the BAC for MSAD 6. Do you review the budget that they are approving. Also do you look at the last budget and verify the spending. I Noticed that they spent about 2.3 million less than they ask for. It doesn't seem right that they don't spend money that we allotted to them, and then they ask us for more and increase our tax burden. I spoke to them about it, and they were very dismissive.*

Selectman Blier- *We receive a packet of information from them, and we review that packet. We do not go back and look at past budgets to see what the performance was. The BAC recommends a budget, and it is voted on in our town meeting. It is also voted on in a public meeting of the school district.*

Last year we did not approve of the budget, we spoke against it. I think the balance has shifted too far in the direction of the schools. We have no other influence than what we

have done. We were out voted in the general school district meeting, so we have about as much pull as regular citizens. The residents need to show up and voice their opinion at the Town Meeting in June, as well as the annual MSAD meeting where the budget is voted on.

Steve Plimpton- I am a career firefighter in a neighboring community, and I was a past employee at the Buxton dispatch. I live here in Buxton. I believe the emergency communications system here in Buxton is severely outdated. In the recent fires this week we had a delay in communications of about a minute and a half. That is a lot in emergency terms. The system here in Buxton needs to be improved.

Selectman Pulsoni- I agree that the system is outdated, and we are working to rectify that. The timing frame that was put in the press release was a little off from what the actual time was. I know some people have recommended letting the dispatch go to Scarborough, but I think that is a bad idea. We would then have little control over how calls are handled, and we would be paying them for a service. In addition, many of our programs like elder care checks would have to go away, because Scarborough or another town would not do that for us.

Executive Session

Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:39

Approved 5-0

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/23355313>

