Town of Buxton Minutes September 29, 2021 Selectmen's Meeting

This meeting is streamed on the Saco River Community Media at https://www.src-tv.org/

Recorded by Krystal Dyer

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

Members in Attendance: Francis E. Pulsoni

Others in attendance: Dave Harmon, John Bartlett, Joe Wallace, Doug Richard, Patrick Hanna and Richard Fitzgerald.

The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 7:03PM

The Selectmen recited the Pledge.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

Selectmen Meeting Minutes for September 22, 2021 Approved 4 – 0 - 1

Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

At 4:30PM Code Office and Panning Board Secretary Kandice Talbot were in regarding fees with a probable subdivision.

At 5:30PM Chief Schools & Treasurer Kim Beam came in to discuss ACA

From 6:00PM to 7:00PM the Board went into executive session with Chief Schools per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) regarding union negotiations.

Review of Correspondence

- Email from Governor Mills' Office, Re: Climate Week
- Email from Kate Dufour, Re: Survey for Legislative Working Groups & Studies
- Letter from Maine Department of Environmental Protection Re: October Newsletter
- Email from Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission, Re: Fall Newsletter

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• Email from Chief Schools, Re: Monday Message

Projects and Issues

None

Selectman Poitras has been working on Buxton's 250th celebration, things are pulling together. We have a commitment for a pancake breakfast, and a band has confirmed for Friday night. He met with Angela Michie today regarding details and logistics for the celebration. He also spoke with a couple residents regarding the trash ordinance changes.

Selectman Field had the opportunity to follow the trash truck around last Thursday to see firsthand some of the issues residents have been complaining about. He also spoke with Public Works Director Kevin Kimball regarding Haines Meadow and River Roads. and he's been dealing with tree issues at Pleasant Point Park.

Selectman Blier had a conversation with chief schools this week in preparation for the union negotiation meeting they had this evening. He also spoke with the Hollis Select Board; they are requesting to combine services with the Animal Control Officer position, both towns have a open part-time position.

Trash was the hot topic of conversation this week. He also spoke with the Code Enforcement Office Secretary Kandice Talbot about a grant for open space. The Board will be looking into this further.

Selectman Peters had a conversation with Chief Schools regarding staffing at the fire department. He has positions being staffed by per diem officers and Chief Schools had to cover a shift himself, he should not have to do this.

He also received a phone call from a Weymouth Park Trustee regarding having the Public Works crew mow Weymouth Park fields. The Board will discuss this further with Public Works Director Kevin Kimball.

Old Business			
None			
New Business			

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Executive Orders

E.O. 212209020 – An order to approve an Abatement of real estate taxes for 2021/22 in the amount of \$1,853.77 for [Map 8, Lot 26-2]

Approved 3 – 0 – 1, Selectman Blier abstained.

Executive Orders by Initiative

None

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 212209018 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #27

Approved 4 – 0 - 1

In the amount of \$253,049.24

E.O. 212209019 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #26

Approved 4 – 0 - 1

In the amount of \$66,930.69

Next Meeting of the Board

The next Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, October 6, at 7:00PM

Other Business

Absentee ballot applications are now available, Call 929-5191 to request the application.

Just a reminder, the first half of the tax bills are due on October 10th

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Maine Department of Transportation notice of a traffic pattern change on Route 22 at Broadturn Corner, effective Tuesday, October 12, 2021. This intersection will change from a 3-way stop to a 4-way or ALL way stop intersection. Please use caution.

Town Farm Haunt, will take place on Saturday, October 23 from 2:00pm - 7:00pm Contact the Recreation Department for more information. They are also looking for volunteers to set up a haunt booth.

There will be a Free Senior Citizen Drive-Thru Thanksgiving Luncheon on Thursday, November 18th. Please contact the Rec. Department to reserve your lunch.

MSAD6 schools announced they will be closed tomorrow due to a potential threat. This is just an abundance of caution to keep the kids safe.

Public Comments and Questions

Doug Richard of Pleasant Ridge Road submitted information and spoke regarding the new trash ordinance. Stating is it does not make a lot of sense to him and contradicts with the solid waste ordinance on the web site. Showed several photos from his curbside trash. He had a conversation with Transfer Station Manager Greg Heffernan. He said he did not receive a copy of the changes with his tax bill.

Patrick Hanna appreciates having the agenda posted earlier in the day. He understands why we have to put the trash in trash bags, but he does not know why his trash was not picked-up this week. He had a kitchen trash bag in a trash can and they did not pick it up. Could have been a fluke, he doesn't know.

He also heard the trash truck will be going down private roads. Selectman Blier said the Board is looking into having the trash truck go down private roads, for instance, Curtis Farms Road. Saying if a trash truck is able to get down the road (meaning if the road is wide enough, cleared of snow, there is a turn a round at the end, etc). The Board is looking in to having the trash trucks go down the private roads rather than have the residents pile the trash at the end the intersecting town road. Those residents pay the same taxes like the rest of us, but don't receive curb side trash service.

Richard Fitzgerald added that the solid waste ordinance is a lengthy ordinance and not easy to figure out. He spoke to a representative at Casella about the trash pick-up stating it has been difficult.

Richard gave a Covid-19 update saying Buxton is 87% vaccinated.

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Dave Harmon has two issues, first is the trash and the buzzing noise. Makes it difficult to hear the meetings on TV.

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Executive Session	
None	
Adjournment Motion made and seconded to adjourn t	the Meeting at 7:30PM
Approved 4 - 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 Harrison Beam	