

Town of Buxton
Minutes for September 14, 2016 Selectmen's Meeting

Prepared by: Beverly Gammon

Members Present: Clifford L. Emery, Jean C. Harmon, Dennis P. Santolucito, Chad E. Poitras, Mark J. Blier

Others Present: Peter Burns, Henry Huntley, Ellen DeCotiis, Julie Gamelson, Smokey Chandler

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

Selectman Emery called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

*Selectmen Meeting Minutes September 7, 2016
Approved 4-0-1*

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

At 6:30 PM, Peter Burns came in and updated the Board on the 12 Town Group Meeting that he attended on September 12. The Board had another event that same night so Mr. Burns went to the 12 Town Group Meeting to represent the town. They are planning a Candidates Night on October 10 in Waterboro and are trying to get all the candidates from York County to attend.

At 4:37 PM the Board went into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) on a personnel matter. The Board came out of Executive Session at 4:47 PM.

The Selectmen went through the list of carry-forwards and Selectman Emery stated that they will try to finalize those numbers next Wednesday.

The Board also talked briefly about the Mechanic's position that is open in our Public Works Department. Applications will be accepted until September 21.

5. Review of Correspondence

- *Email from Brian Caufield – Re: York & Cumberland County FEMA Flood Insurance Study Update*
- *Email from Dave Francoeur, Deputy Director, York County EMA – Re: Launch of the “If You See Something, Say Something” Campaign*

Selectman Emery talked about this in detail and explained that since 9/11 we have all been encouraged to be more aware of our surroundings and to report anything that seems unusual or out of place. The police would rather have people call and report it and have it turn out to be nothing than to not report it at all. Selectman Emery urged people to pick up the phone, call the police, and report anything that seems out of the ordinary or anything that does not feel quite right.

- *Email from Bonita Pothier, Regional Representative from Senator King's Office – Re: Maine Disaster 09_02_16 – York County*
- *Email from Peter Brown, Maine DOT – Re: September 13, 2016 Progress Meeting Minutes*

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Santolucito reported that he and Selectman Harmon met last Friday afternoon with people from Headlight AV and Saco River Community Television to sort out what the Board needs to do to upgrade the equipment we use to broadcast with. They also talked about deploying wireless communication and an overhead projector and a screen. Selectman Santolucito stated that the Board has funding for upgrades that Peter Burns secured a couple years ago. He said the Board is waiting for a proposal and as soon as they know what that looks like, they will make some decisions on how to move forward.

Selectman Santolucito talked about attending the Fire Rescue Department Awards Banquet and said it was a great time and a good way to appreciate the men and women who keep the Fire & Rescue Department going.

Selectman Harmon added some more details about the meeting Friday that she and Selectman Santolucito attended to discuss what to do with the proposal Peter Burns had obtained for an overhead projector and screen.

Selectman Harmon attended the fire banquet Monday and said it was a good chance to recognize those who dedicate themselves to fire rescue service and to let them know that they are really appreciated. Selectman Harmon reported that she has been talking with

our attorney regarding the Police Union Contract that the Board is waiting to have ratified. She went on to mention that at some point she will sit down with Selectman Santolucito to compare numbers they have on the Municipal Valuation Return.

Selectman Poitras talked about the Fire Banquet. He said it was very well-done and there were some good recognitions. Selectman Poitras also stated that he got word back today from the Town of Hollis Selectmen in regards to a bridge dedication for the Bar Mills Bridge and Canal Bridge once it is close to opening. He said the Board will work together with the Hollis Selectmen to put together a program.

Selectman Blier mentioned the fire banquet and thanked Gail Landry for allowing the town to hold the event there. He said it was a great event and he enjoyed himself as well. Selectman Blier reported that he was away last week but has been in this week. The Ford F150 truck for the Fire Department came in. He has been working on paperwork for that and had a check cut today for the purchase. The vehicle will be delivered Friday.

Selectman Emery thanked Selectman Blier on behalf of the town and said we really appreciate all the work he did with the purchase of the Ford F150 truck for the Fire Department. Selectman Emery said we got a fantastic price on that vehicle and it is all because of Selectman Blier.

Selectman Emery spoke about the Fire Department Awards Banquet. He said it is a pleasure to see all the new faces. We have six live-in students this year; four of them are females which we have not had before. Selectman Emery said it was very encouraging to see everyone. He said Nate Schools did a great job and it was good of Gail Landry to let us use the place.

Selectman Emery has been in the office a few times. He said the Board has a few things to wrap up for last year and will be having a Special Town Meeting in the next few weeks to take care of that.

7. **Old Business**

- *Composting food waste proposal*

8. **New Business**

None

9. Executive Orders

*E.O. 161709008 – An order to approve an Application for a Veteran Exemption for [Map 8, Lot 20 A-6]
Approved 5-0*

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

None

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

*E.O. 161709006 – An order approving expenditures as documented in the Accounts Payable Warrant #022
Approved 5-0
The amount was \$643,880.66*

*E.O. 161709007 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #021
Approved 5-0
The amount was \$49,835.79*

12. Next Meeting of the Board

*Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, September 21 at 7:00 PM
Buxton Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing Monday, September 26 at 7:00 PM*

Selectman Santolucito mentioned that the Frye Island consortium will be meeting on September 26. He, Peter Burns and someone from the School Board will be there.

13. Other Business

A representative from Senator Susan Collins' office will be available to meet with the public at the Buxton Town Hall on Wednesday, September 21, at 11:30 AM.

Selectman Emery announced that the bus trip our Recreation Department was planning for Fryeburg Fair is not going to happen this year. With the rise in aftercare numbers, the staffing ratios would not be safe. The Board apologized and assured people that this is definitely something our Recreation Director will be looking into for next year. Selectman Emery said our Recreation Director is in her first year of all these programs and she is doing a great job with all of it.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Ellen DeCotiis went to the podium. She stated that Ansel Stevens is the School Board Representative for Buxton who will be on the Frye Island Committee. The other School Board representatives will be alternates if he is unable to get to the meetings.

Ms. DeCotiis updated the Board on food composting for the schools. She explained that in the process of getting information from the school that Garbage to Garbage had requested, she discovered that three schools have been composting food and paper for at least three years. Also, Hollis Elementary, the Middle School, and Buxton Center Elementary are going to start full food composting this year. She said the program was started by Diane Nadeau when she was Principal at Hollis Elementary and the materials are going to Tibbetts Farm in Lyman. Ellen DeCotiis said she wished people knew about that because it is great that they are doing it. She said the dollar figures are not available but that might be something to look at when the budget is developed to see whether it is of benefit to the District and if it could save some money. Ms. DeCotiis said she will bring it up to the school committee as soon as she can get it on the agenda.

A brief discussion followed. The Selectmen asked questions about how the school program works and Ellen DeCotiis shared the information she had about it. Selectman Santolucito asked if that means we are not moving forward with Garbage to Garbage. Ms. DeCotiis said she does not know if the other schools are going to jump on board with the Tibbetts Farm Program or not and she does not know whether or not she and Greg Heffernan will look at something here. There are other sources of food waste she said that could be accessed but she and Greg Heffernan have only brainstormed a little bit.

The Board thanked Ms. DeCotiis.

Mr. Smokey Chandler, a resident of Buxton, went to the podium to discuss a letter that he said was presented to the Board on July 7, 2015, regarding a Model T Fire Truck that the Town owns. Mr. Chandler provided details about a conversation he had with our Fire Chief, Nate Schools, to let him know that he would like to purchase the truck, restore it, and make it available to the Fire Department for functions they might have. He asked why he has not heard anything more from the Fire Chief or the Board since then.

Selectmen Emery and Selectman Harmon explained that they remember the Board discussed that but it was not a decision the Board would make solely on its own without knowing the wishes of the Fire Department. Also, the Board was not certain about how far they wanted to go with the concept of getting rid of that vehicle. Selectman Emery said there is a generation of people in the Fire Department that the old fire truck means a lot to. He said he does not know why the conversation ended but the Board will start the process again.

Selectman Harmon commented that this is a historical piece of Buxton and she thought the Board wanted to keep it in the Town because of its historical significance.

Mr. Chandler reiterated what he wants to do with the vehicle saying that his intent is to do this but he wanted to purchase it in writing because he was going to have to put a substantial amount of money into the restoration and Buxton could buy it back if/when anything should happen to him.

The Board thanked Mr. Chandler.

Peter Burns went to the podium. He wanted to remind the Board that that vehicle (Model T fire truck) is Town owned property and the Board would have to do a bid process to dispose of it.

Mr. Burns moved on to talk about Referendum Question 3 that would require background checks for gun purchases. He said he is in favor of background checks for private sales and gun shows but this Referendum Question and law would go way beyond that. He stated that the ads we are seeing on television are totally misleading. He provided examples and details about the negative impact this law will have on citizens if it passes, and said he is concerned that people will start voting by absentee ballot before they see the ads that explain this more.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

*Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM
Approved 5-0*