

Town of Buxton
Minutes for November 9, 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: Ellen DeCotiis, David Harmon, Scott Warchol

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

Selectman Emery called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM. Selectman Emery apologized for starting this meeting late and explained that the Board had been in Executive Session.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

*Selectmen Meeting Minutes November 2, 2016
Approved 5-0*

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

At 4:36 PM the Police Chief came in to meet with the Board. The Board went into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A) regarding a personnel matter and came out of Executive Session at 4:55 PM.

At 5:00 PM our Treasurer, Kimberly Beam was in for her six-month review. Selectman Emery said that went well; she is doing a fantastic job and the Board is very pleased.

At 5:30 PM Nicole Welch, our Recreation Director, met with the Board for her six-month review. Selectman Emery said she is also doing a fantastic job. He said the Board has received a lot of input from the public about the great job she is doing with the program and he went on to say that Nicole has more than met the Board's expectations.

At 6:00 PM the Fire Chief met with the Board. They discussed plowing fire stations and hydrants and the Chief is going to talk with the lowest bidder to go over the details to make sure everything that needs to be done will be taken care of. Then the Board can finalize having that individual do the plowing of our fire stations and hydrants.

Selectman Emery said the Fire Chief talked about recent fires the Department has had including two structure fires, one on Chicopee Road and one on Henderson Drive, and a situation on Route 112 where a fire could have occurred but did not. Selectman Emery said that was a situation that could have gone very bad but wound up having a good ending instead.

At 6:40 the Board went into Executive Session again per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A) on a personnel matter. The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:59 PM.

Selectman Santolucito stated that he asked the Fire Chief about the ISO Rating. The Chief said he had called ISO for an update but he has not heard back from anyone. He said he will call again to see if he can get more information.

5. Review of Correspondence

- *Email from John Myers, Town Clerk – Re: Town of Buxton November 8 Election Results*

Selectman Emery read through the Presidential and Citizen Initiatives voting results for Buxton noting that there are 6,125 registered Buxton voters; 1765 Absentee Ballots were cast and 3,133 Ballots were cast in person for a total of 4,898 total ballots cast on November 8, 2016. This was a 79.97% voter turnout. Selectman Emery went on to announce that all of the voting results for Buxton are available on the Town's website

- *Letter from Susan Moreau, Maine DOT – Re: Region 8 Transit Workshop regarding public transit services*
- *Letter from Maine Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry – Re: Floodplain Management Ordinance*
- *Email from Dave Francoeur, Deputy Director York County EMA – Re: State Drought Task Force Update*

- *Email from Dave Francoeur – Re: US Cellular Test Alert Message*
- *Email from John Duncan, PACTS Director – Re: Maine Clean Communities – November News & Upcoming Events*
- *Email from 12 Town Group – Re: November 14 Meeting at the Waterboro Town Hall*

Selectman Emery said this should be an interesting meeting and perhaps the group can find out why we are spending money to buy land to put a Courthouse in Biddeford alongside Route 1 when we could have had land for nothing in Alfred which is right next to the jail where the prisoners are who will be going to court. Selectman Emery provided more details about the issues that will be discussed at the meeting including information that will be shared concerning the Jail Working Group and the possibility of the repeal of the six-year old property tax cap that froze county spending on jails at 2008 levels and passed on additional costs to the state. Selectman Emery said a repeal could result in the \$1.5 to \$2 million dollar increase falling on the shoulders of property taxpayers.

Selectman Harmon added that there was an article in the newspaper recently that said the committee voted unanimously to buy land for the Courthouse.

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Blier talked about the bridge ceremony he attended Monday. He thanked Selectman Poitras for organizing that. He also mentioned a meeting of the Comprehensive Plan Committee on Monday with Lee Jay from Southern Maine Planning Development. He said the Committee is moving forward with developing a new Plan and will be looking for input from the community in the near future. Selectman Blier said it is vitally important to the community to have this Plan in place and coordinate it with the zoning.

Selectman Poitras spoke about the ribbon cutting ceremony on the bridge Monday. He said he had a lot of fun, there were a lot of good people from both sides of the river, and it was a very good time. Brent Hill did a short historical talk about the bridge, Representative Don Marean spoke as well, and a Hollis resident, Rita Anderson, cut the ribbon. Selectman Poitras estimated there were about 50 people there.

Selectman Poitras mentioned that he has been in and out of the office. He said the front office was bracing for a big turnout Tuesday and when he came into the office everything was going very smoothly and efficiently.

Selectman Santolucito did not have anything new to report on his projects but he did talk briefly about voting and said he agreed with comments Selectman Poitras shared.

Selectman Harmon was at the bridge dedication and she also thanked Selectman Poitras for pulling the ceremony all together. She said it was well received by both communities and was a nice event. Saco River Cable TV was there recording the event and she said John Vedral, who operates the Buxton News online was also there recording it. Selectman Harmon stated that there are three street lights on the bridge now that have not been energized. The pedestals there for more that have not been installed yet. Selectman Harmon said she drove over the bridge last night and said there it is quite different than the last one.

Selectman Poitras added that he thinks the bridge looks really good and fits in nicely there.

Selectman Harmon mentioned that Jeremiah Ross, Chairman of the Planning Board, stopped in earlier to talk about changes the Board is going to make to the commercial business design standards. He is going to set up a Public Hearing on the changes and the Planning Board will set a date Monday night. Selectman Harmon said the Selectmen have not set a date yet for a Special Town Meeting. The Board has several items to include for overdrafts the Board has to reconcile, acceptance of a road, the previously mentioned Ordinance change, and possibly a moratorium for marijuana to give the Board time to discuss what they want to have in the Town of Buxton

Selectman Emery also commented on attending the bridge ribbon cutting ceremony. He thanked Selectman Poitras and said he did a great job. He also thanked Representative Don Marean for turning out and helping every time he is asked and for always doing an exceptional job.

Selectman Emery said he has been working with Krystal Dyer on wording for changes the Board wants to make to the business commercial design standards ordinance that he said are being driven somewhat by inquiries that have been made by Dollar General about building another store up by the Jack Memorial School near Plummer's. Selectman Emery said the ordinance changes will be retroactive to October 26. He said there has not been an application as of now for either the light commercial or the village zone.

Selectman Emery said the Board will probably talk with the Town's attorney tomorrow about wording for a moratorium that will be a warrant article for the Special Town Meeting. He went on to say that the Board needs to figure out what the marijuana establishments will be and how they will operate. He said Chief Schools was in with concerns about firefighters dealing with a fire at one of those establishments and possible hazards that may affect firefighters entering the buildings. Selectman Emery talked about other questions and concerns. He said the law passed in Buxton and the Board is community driven so the Selectmen do not think they should shut the door on something the majority of Buxton voters voted for. Selectman Emery said the Board is going to be very careful about what it does to avoid intruding too much into people's private lives

and protecting areas where there are children. He said the Board is going to move forward and see how it all goes.

7. Old Business

Davis Road – Selectman Emery said this road acceptance will be a warrant article for the Special Town Meeting. The Board is waiting for a copy of the deed.

Boston Post Cane – This will be presented sometime after the Board gets past the Special Town Meeting. There was some brief discussion about a date and Selectman Harmon suggested the Board may be able to do that on November 30.

8. New Business

2016 Buxton Toy Box applications are now available. Applications will be accepted on the following dates only: Thursday, November 17(9 AM – Noon & 1 to 3PM) and then again on Friday, December 2 (9 AM – 1 PM). No applications will be accepted after 1 PM on Friday, December 2. Any resident who is interested can pick up an application at Town Hall that has a letter on the front with the dates and times that applications will be accepted. There was a brief discussion among the Selectmen about whether or not the applications are on the website. Selectman Harmon explained that applicants must come in to Town Hall and pick them up.

Selectman Emery talked about a parade of trucks that is held in Gorham each year that Buxton Fire Department participates in. This year they are still going to participate in it but this year, after that, Buxton will have its own get together in the back parking lot at Buxton Town Hall. It is going to be on Sunday, November 27 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. Please bring a canned good to give to a local food pantry. The Fire Department, Dispatch, Rescue and Public Works Departments will have vehicles there with lights. Buxton Methodist Church in Chicopee will be providing refreshments. This is our first event like this. It is called our “Holiday Touch-A-Truck”, and we would really like it to be successful. It will be a family event. Santa Claus is planning to be there, and a lot of effort is going to be put into making this a really good time for all. For more information, you can contact Nicole Welch, our Recreation Director, at 929-8381.

9. Executive Orders

*E.O. 161711010 – An order to approve 8 hours of vacation time for Troy Cline
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161711011 – An order to approve an Application for the Widow of a Veteran
Exemption for [Map 2, Lot 84B]
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161711012 – An order to approve 16 hours of vacation time for Bev Gammon
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161711013 – An order to approve 24 hours of vacation time for Greg Heffernan
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161711014 – An order to approve a Supplemental Tax Warrant and Certificate for
fiscal year 2016 in the amount of \$896.54 for [Map 8, Lot 18-5].
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161711015 – An order to approve an Abatement for Real Estate Taxes for fiscal
year 2016/17, in the amount of \$82.22 for [Map 8, Lot 18]. Approved 5-0.
Approved 5-0*

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

None

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

*E.O. 161711008 – An order approving expenditures as documented in the Accounts
Payable Warrant #038
Approved 5-0
The amount was \$606,989.72*

*E.O. 161711009 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant
#037
Approved 5-0
The amount was \$60,142.09*

12. Next Meeting of the Board

*12 Town Group Meeting Monday, November 14 at 6:30 PM at the Waterboro Town Hall
Planning Board Meeting Monday, November 14 at 7:00 PM
Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, November 16 at 7:00 PM
MSAD #6 Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Thursday, November 17*

13. Other Business

There will be a Blood Drive at Buxton Town Hall on Tuesday, November 15 from 1-6 PM. Please call 1-800 Red Cross or log on to redcrossblood.org for an appointment or you can just come in. Walk-ins are more than welcome.

The Buxton Food Co-Op at 262 Haines Meadow Road would appreciate donations to help with approximately 50 Thanksgiving baskets they will be giving out this year. If you have questions or would like to make a donation, you can contact Joann Groder at 929-8806.

Selectman Harmon added that the Buxton Center Baptist Church is also giving out Thanksgiving baskets.

Friday, November 11 is Veteran's Day and the Buxton Town Hall will be closed. The Transfer Station will be open on Saturday, November 12.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Selectman Poitras stated that when the monument was moved back to Bar Mills a nice, new flag pole was put up. He stated that as the Selectmen were looking at it Monday they noticed cable and telephone wires that are right there where the flag should be flying. The Selectmen briefly discussed the situation and Selectman Harmon asked Selectman Poitras if he would contact the resident bridge project manager to ask if they thought of that when they put the pole up. Selectman Emery asked if there is any special flag for WWI Veterans and if there is he wonders if it would be appropriate to fly that flag. There was also some talk about who is responsible for putting the flag up. Selectman Poitras said he will contact the project manager and see what he can find out.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

*Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM
Approved 5-0*