

***Town of Buxton
Minutes for August 17, 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: Troy Cline, Ellen DeCotiis, Kendra Dulac, Michael Crockett, David Harmon, Officer Brian Guay, Officer Jason Joiner

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Emery led the recital.

3. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

*Selectmen Meeting Minutes August 10, 2016
Approved 4-0-1*

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

A gentleman came in to talk with the Selectmen to find out what the plans are for the sidewalks on Main Street & 4A.

At 5:04 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 6:13 PM.

The Selectmen talked with Chief Schools about some of his budget items and the SAFER Grant Program.

Chief Cline met with the Board to go over some issues and things going on in town.

5. Review of Correspondence

- *Email from Peter Brown with Maine D.O.T. – Re: Bar Mills & Canal Bridge Replacements Progress Meeting Minutes for August 16*
- *Email from Patrick Bonsant, Station Manager, Saco River Community TV – Re: Building renovation update*
- *Letter from MSAD #6 Interim Superintendent, Paul Penna – Re: Appointment of Municipal Representatives to Section 1301 Cost Sharing Review Committee*
- *Email from Stephan Bunker, President Maine Municipal Association – Re: Newly Elected Members to MMA Executive Committee*

6. Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Blier said he is still working on getting a team together to work on the Comprehensive Plan and working on getting something going with Southern Maine Regional Development. He is still looking for one more member, someone from the community that would like to donate some time to work on this plan for the community.

Selectman Blier also reported that he talked with Chief Cline at the police station about the addition and is still trying to get in touch with Ed at Patriot Mechanical Services on our heating system contracts.

Selectman Poitras reported that he has been working with the Code Enforcement Officer on an issue in town with an individual, and trying to resolve the issue in the most effective manner for both parties.

Selectman Harmon talked about a conversation she had with a resident yesterday who lives on Route 4A about people who speed on that road. The posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour but most people he said are going much faster than that. The resident is concerned that when the bridge opens up again people will be going even faster. He is also concerned about the condition of that road and spoke with Tom Kennie, our Public Works Director on what could be done about that. Selectman Harmon said she spoke to Chief Cline about having more of a police presence there to monitor speeds.

Selectman Santolucito added to Selectman Harmon's comment about the sidewalks on Main Street saying that Tom Kennie is addressing what he can for the resident they talked to earlier, so Tom is going to get down there to help him out when he has some extra material to patch things up and make sure the driveway stays intact.

Selectman Santolucito visited the two-week Recreation day camp. He spoke about the energy the children had who were just getting off the bus after having spent the day at Aquaboggan. He said they have a great space there. Friday is the last day but he said this has been a successful program for those families so it worked out good.

Selectman Emery was away on vacation last week. He stated that while he was out he had conversations with each of the Department Heads about different issues. He also mentioned that his work out of town is finished so he might be able to get into the office more often than he usually does.

7. Old Business

- *Composting food waste proposal*

Selectman Emery stated that there will be a conversation later in the evening about the food composting.

8. New Business

None

9. Executive Orders

*E.O. 161708013 – An order to approve John Myers' attendance at the New England Clerks Annual Conference
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161708014 – An order to approve Darren Mercier's attendance at the Maine Compost School
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161708015 – An order to approve 16 hours of vacation time for Greg Heffernan
Approved 5-0*

*E.O. 161708016 – An order to approve abatement for tax year 2015/16 for personal property taxes in the amount of \$24.80 for case number 147
Approved 5-0*

10. Executive Orders by Initiative

None

11. Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

E.O. 161708011 – An order approving expenditures as documented in the Accounts Payable Warrant #014

Approved 5-0

The total amount was \$636,121.16

E.O. 161708012 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #013

Approved 5-0

The total amount was \$46,202.59

12. Next Meeting of the Board

Planning Board Meeting Monday, August 22 at 7:00 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Wednesday, August 24 at 7:00 PM

13. Other Business

Our 2016/17 Property Tax Bills were mailed out today.

The Homestead Exemption provides some property tax relief (\$15,000) for permanent residents that have owned homestead property in Maine for at least 12 months, and who occupy the property as of April 1st as their permanent residence. When you get your tax bill, please check to see if you have the Homestead Exemption. If you do not you can log onto the Maine Revenue Service website, or contact LeeAnn Pratt, our Tax Collector for an application. If eligible, the exemption will be applied to your 2017/18 property tax bill.

The Dorcas Society will hold its annual Cars & Coffee Show on Saturday, August 20 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the Brewster Mansion at Tory Hill, on the corner of Route 202 & 112. There will be a 50/50, a car show raffle, and lunch will be available among many other exciting attractions. Spaces are free of charge so please call 929-4871 to reserve your space. Proceeds of the Dorcas Car Show support Buxton & Hollis local charities including the Buxton Toy Box, food pantries, etc., and an annual college scholarship for a Bonny Eagle student.

Selectman Harmon mentioned that the Homestead Exemption used to be \$10,000; it increased this year to \$15,000 and \$20,000 next year.

Selectman Emery added that people can come in and look at their property tax records and make sure the information there is correct. He said the Board is here and the only

way they will know if a mistake has been made is if people come in and let them know about it.

14. Public Comments and Questions

Kendra Dulac and Michael Crockett each went to the podium to question the Selectmen and express their personal dissatisfaction with the police and Chief Cline's refusal to talk with Kendra Dulac.

The Selectmen responded to their questions. When Mr. Crockett continued to comment, Selectman Emery told Mr. Crockett that they are entitled to their personal opinions and the Board will listen, but the Selectmen will not react to accusations, comments and opinions when they may not have all the information.

Chief Cline went to the podium to say publicly that Ms. Dulac is speaking from an opinion; she is not involved in the situation and he is not going to talk to her or Mr. Crockett about an ongoing criminal investigation. He said that is not something any law enforcement officer should do.

Chief Cline continued on but was interrupted several times by Ms. Dulac and Mr. Crockett making loud, sarcastic comments from the back of the room. He asked them to stop interrupting and let him finish his remarks. They did not stop so Chief Cline asked them to leave the room. Chief Cline described Kendra Dulac's engagement in "messaging with cops" by following our police officers all around town on a regular basis and making rude hand gestures to the Chief and his officers. Chief Cline said that is not against the law but she is trying to bait and trying to get the officers to do something they shouldn't do, and dividing their attention between work they are supposed to be doing to protect the town, and the foolishness of her "messaging with cops". After more interruptions, Chief Cline again invited Ms. Dulac to leave the room. He stated again that Kendra Dulac makes it a point in her life to chase his officers around town and to engage police officers in other communities as well. Chief Cline said "she thinks this is funny. I do not. It is very dangerous for our officers who are hard-working men and women who do not work those jobs to be harassed by people whose sole purpose in life is to harass the police". Chief Cline reiterated that anything that is involved in a personnel investigation is private and confidential and he would not share that information with anyone. The Chief said we have a good, working police department. Mr. Crockett interrupted again by laughing in a very loud, sinister manner. The Chief told him to leave and Selectman Emery asked the police officers to escort Mr. Crockett out of the building.

Chief Cline said some people in this town do not appreciate that our Police Department is doing great things. He said he does and expressed his appreciation for how hard they work and the great job they do every day.

Selectman Poitras added that the Board got a wonderful letter from a person whose family member was involved in a crime. She thanked the Police Department for how professionally it was handled and said they did everything possible to safely apprehend that person. Selectman Poitras said some people may have done things differently but they did an awesome job and should be congratulated.

Chief Cline explained that person was referring to a high speed pursuit that could have got some people killed. The individual's sister sent that email and she is very happy with how it ended because it could have been very bad.

The Board thanked Chief Cline and he left the podium.

Then, Ellen DeCotiis went to the podium and gave the Board an update on the food waste composting. She has been trying to gather financial information from the school and is going to present the number of students currently enrolled in the system and the cost for the school's current trash pickup, size of their dumpsters and such, so the representatives from Garbage to Garden can take that and give us back a proposal on what it would cost if they took the food waste and did the recycling. She mentioned scheduling the visit to Benson's Farm in Gorham to see what their production site looks like and determine if that would be the best way to go instead of trying to do it here. She is going to send the school information from some other towns who have had great success with this and try to make some contacts in the school

The Board thanked Ms. DeCotiis. There were no other comments or questions.

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM

Approved 5-0