

*Town of Buxton
Agenda March 18, 2020
Selectmen's Meeting*

Recorded by Krystal Dyer

Members Present: Chad E. Poitras, Thomas J. Peters, Dennis P. Santolucito, Mark J. Blier, and Francis E. Pulsoni

Others in attendance: Fire Chief Nathan Schools

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

The Selectmen recited the Pledge

Selectman Poitras stated we are going through a challenging and very scary time right now. He announced that all town owned buildings are closed to the public at this time, but we are still fully operating as a local government.

He introduced Fire Chief & EMA Director Nate Schools to speak regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Chief Schools said the town developed a continuity plan and set a plan in place for the town to continue operating. Currently we are trying to reach out by using social media to at-risk residents who are in need of assistance. Whether it be medication pick-up, food pick-up, mail drop off/pick up, as well as wellness and social calls.

The Town of Buxton is ready to respond, Police, Fire, Rescue have initiated new town policies in order to respond. The Select Board have signed a Declaration of Civil Emergency, which is a State and Federal Disaster Relief of Declaration.

Community spread, means you could be asymptomatic and be spreading the virus and you don't even know it. It is being stressed to engage in Social distancing. No large gatherings of more than 10 people in a room. Everyone is working together; people are stepping up. Rec Director, Nichole Welch is heading up a volunteer program offering to pick up medications, food or just social support, etc.

Selectman Poitras thanked and praised Chief Schools for his excellent job coordinating and leading the town through this emergency. He also asked for the public's patience throughout this time, as the situation changes hourly.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minute

*Selectmen Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2020
Approved 4- 0-1*

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Discussion held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM

The Board discussed the COVID-19 and cross training the town office positions

Auditor Ron Smith was in discussing the concerns and how to move forward all while keeping the taxes within boundaries.

Review of Correspondence

- *Email from Town Attorney, Re: COVID-19*
- *Email from Shelly Winchenbach of Charter Communications, Re: upcoming changes*
- *Email from Robert Hunt, Clerk of the House, Re: Weekly Legislative Report*
- *Email from Chelle Pingree, Re: Operating Procedures during COVID-19*
- *Email from Gov. Janet Mills Office, Re: COVID-19 GA Operating guidance*
- *Email from Chief Schools, Re: updates*
- *Email from Dept of Health & Human Services, RE: COVID-19 Actions*
- *Email from Brent Hill, SRC-TV RE: Social Distancing*

Review of Projects and Issues

Selectman Poitras has been working on the Coronavirus all week. It really ramped up last Friday and the communications will continue virtually.

Selectman Pulsoni has basically been attending all the meeting and keeping up with the correspondence on the coronavirus. On Thursday he and Public Works Director, Kevin Kimball attended a class in Bath, regarding discipline and termination of employees. It was an informative refresher class. He also attended the Budget Committee meeting on Monday night.

Selectman Blier has basically been working with the Board on all the COVID-19 updates.

Selectman Santolucito has also been involved with the COVID-19 discussions. The Board has devised a modified pay policy, per the guidelines of the CDC regarding sick time.

Selectman Peters has been in every day this week for meetings on the COVID-19 and Budget Committee meetings.

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Selectman Poitras announced that the Food Co-op is still open to the public.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Executive Orders

*E.O. 192003024 – An order to approve a Liquor License and Renewal and Special Amusement Permit for Roger Tracy of Skip's Lounge
Approved 5 – 0*

*E.O. 192003025 – An order to approve 8 hours of Vacation Leave Peter Gordon
Approved 5 – 0*

Executive Orders by Initiative

*E.O.192003021 – An order to approve an adapted pay plan during this time of emergency.
Approved 5 – 0*

Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

*E.O. 192003022 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrant #80
Approved 5 – 0
In the amount of \$780,252.11*

*E.O. 192003023 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #77, 78 & 79
Approved 5 – 0
#77 In the amount of \$62,532.68
#78 In the amount of \$61,128.07
#79 In the amount of \$59,468.84*

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Next Meeting of the Board

MSAD#6 Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Thursday, March 19 at 6:00PM at Central Office. (This meeting is closed to the public)

Budget Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, March 24 at 6:00PM

The Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00PM.

Other Business

MSAD #6 Kindergarten Registration is open until March 31. For more information please call the Registrar's office at 929-2326

Public Comments and Questions

Selectman Mark Blier and Legislator for Dist. 22 (Limington, part of Limerick, Standish and Buxton) gave an updated overview of Ld 2167 which included a multitude of decisions. Please go to the State of Maine website to see that was approved.

Selectman Santolucito followed up with Ld 2167, that the Dept of Labor is processing application for unemployment benefits, the benefits will be paid with no waiting period, and the employer will not be charged.

Selectman Santolucito speaks for the Board to applaud and commend Fire Chief for his time and expertise in guiding the Board through this process. Thank you.

Selectman Poitras announced the wonderful response from resident wanting to volunteer their time out in the community and he thanks them for their generosity. The Board thanked Ellen DeCotiis and Mia Dodge for helping the community.

He instructed for everyone to follow the CDC recommended precautions:

- *Stay at home*
- *Separate yourself from family and pets*
- *Call ahead before visiting your doctor*
- *Wear a facemask*
- *Cover coughs and sneezes*
- *Do not share personal items*
- *Clean your hands often*
- *Clean all technology and surfaces everyday*
- *Monitor symptoms*

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Executive Session

None

Adjournment-

*Motion made and seconded to adjourn the Meeting at 7:39PM
Approved 5 -0*

Chad E. Poitras, Selectman

Thomas J. Peters, Selectman

Dennis Santolucito, Selectman

Mark J. Blier, Selectman

Francis E. Pulsoni

*Date Signed: _____
Video Taped by Harrison Beam*