

*Town of Buxton  
Minutes May 6, 2020  
Selectmen's Meeting*

*This meeting was streamed on the Saco River Community Media at <https://www.src-tv.org/>*

*Recorded by Krystal Dyer*

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

*Selectman Blier was here earlier but is not available for the meeting*

*Others in attendance: Due to the coronavirus, all town buildings are closed to the public*

*The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.*

*The Selectmen recited the Pledge*

*Approval of Prior Meeting Minute*

*Selectmen Meeting Minutes for April 29, 2020  
Approved 4 – 0,*

*Discussions held between 4:00 & 7:00 PM*

*The Board went into executive session at 4:35PM per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (A) until 5:00PM*

*The Board made a number of phone calls and emails, one with contractor, Aiden Foley regarding installing solar panel power station off Haines Meadow Road. The Board also discussed the budget.*

*Chief Schools was in at 6:25PM they went into executive session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6) (D) and out at 6:45PM.*

*The Board met Buxton's newest Police Officers, Olivia Wentworth and Haley McGuire. Selectman Poitras added, we are lucky to have them on board and welcomed them to Buxton.*

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*Review of Correspondence*

- *Email from Jonathan Youde or Maine Power Options, Re: Electricity outlook and expiring accounts.*

*Selectman Santolucio explained that they offer benefits to municipalities. They are looking out for our interests at all times. They presented a proposal to renew our contract for another three-years. It will save the town about \$3,000 per year. He will finalize the contract with Jonathan tomorrow and the Board will decide how to move forward.*

- *Emails from Shelly Winchenbach, Re: Upcoming changes*
- *Email from Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition, Re: Monthly Newsletter*
- *Email from Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission, Re; COVID10 update*

*Review of Projects and Issues*

*Selectman Poitras attended the budget committee workshop last night and fielded numerous phone calls from Department Heads and the public regarding the transfer station opening.*

*Selectman Pulsoni also attended the Budget Committee meeting and the department head zoom meeting on Monday. The Board discussed the Town office employees going back to work full time even though the building is still closed to the public. The Public Works Crew is back to work this week. He has been in the office working on personnel issues and dealing with the COVID19 issues.*

*Selectman Pulsoni announced the Police Department has newsletter The Community Beat has just come out. It's a nice presentation, which includes police statistic and positive activities going on within the town and police department, including the new hires.*

*Selectman Santolucito attended the zoom meeting on Monday staying up to date with the Covid19 statistics and moving the town in the direction of opening up soon. He has been working with Public Works, Town Hall and outside vendors preparing for opening up to the public in the next few weeks.*

*Selectman Pulsoni suggested a few ways of keeping the public safe once the town office is open again. There will be more procedural discussions once the safety glass is installed. This will be a learning curve for all of us.*

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*Selectman Peters attended the Budget Committee meeting on Monday night. He met with Rec. Director Nicole Welch regarding the upcoming summer camp program and the COVID-19 procedures. She has put together some plans and good ideas for the upcoming season. He also met with Public Works Director Kevin Kimball and Selectman Blier on Curtis Farms Road. They compared the condition of the road currently and its condition a few years back. They are working towards a possible resolution.*

*Old Business*

*None*

*New Business*

*None*

*Executive Orders*

*None*

*Executive Orders by Initiative*

*None*

*Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants*

*E.O. 192005001 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Accounts Payable Warrants #96 & #97*

*Approved 4 – 0*

*Warrant #96 in the amount of \$16,549.53*

*Warrant #97 in the amount of \$6,347.50*

*E.O. 192005002 – An order approving expenditures as documented in Payroll Warrant #95*

*Approved 4 – 0*

*In the amount of \$65,669.19*

*Next Meeting of the Board*

*The Selectmen's Meeting will be Wednesday, May 13 at 7:00PM*

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*The Selectmen meet via teleconferencing on Monday, May 11th for COVID-19 EMA update. Selectman Poitras thanked Chief Schools for facilitating these meetings. He has done a great job.*

*Other Business*

*A representative from the US Census called today to let Town Officials know how Buxton residents are doing, completing the 2020 census.*

*The overall response is as follows:*

*US is 56.6%*

*Maine is 47.1%,*

*Buxton's return rate is 61.2%.*

*The Census helps our community by determining federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities based on population totals. Our community benefits the most if the census counts everyone.*

*It's not too late. We encourage you to go to [2020Census.gov](https://2020Census.gov) to complete the online application.*

*Public Comments and Questions*

*Julie Gamelson asked questions regarding opening and closing the parking lot gate at Pleasant Point Park. There have been signs of campfires in the park. When is the police department going to close the park at night? The Board will do more investigation in order to answer her question.*

*She also asked why are the police officer leaving? Selectman Pulsoni said It's tough to put a finger on why the officers are leaving. The new officers want Maine PERS (Public Employee Retirement Benefits) and Buxton does not offer this benefit. We have looked into and it is a very expensive. Having this, would help attract and retain the officers as well as the pay scale, take home vehicle. There was further discussion regarding the police officers.*

*Selectman Poitras just received a text message asking how the Town Meeting will be handled in July. Currently there is a 50-person maximum per building with social distancing rules. This may require another building, with further requirements to follow. This could be a very difficult challenge with all the obstacles being presented to us. We will be discussing this further with Town Clerk, John Myers. These are totally*

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*unprecedented times and we asked that the residents please be patient with the us. We are taking this curiously and want it to be safe for all.*

*The Dorcus Fest has officially been canceled due to the coronavirus restrictions. The Atkinsons are saddened to have to make this call.*

*Executive Session*

*None*

*Adjournment-*

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

*Approved 4 - 0*

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*Chad E. Poitras, Selectman*

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*Thomas J. Peters, Selectman*

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*Dennis Santolucito, Selectman*

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*Mark J. Blier, Selectman*

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*Francis E. Pulsoni*

*Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Video Taped by Kyle Durkin*