

Selectmen's Meeting February 28th, 2018 MINUTES

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd, Paul Yates Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Steve Lackovic (Chair, Shellfish Committee); Steve Termine (Shellfish Committee); Benjamin Sack; Amy O'Brien; Kevin Dufour.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chad Hanna at 7.01 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to accept the Minutes of the Selectmen's meeting on February 14th, 2018. Passed 3 - 0.

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Hall reported the legal advice from Maine Municipal Association regarding the Parks and Recreation budget is to consider it in the same way as any other money article, despite it not appropriating tax money. Because the funds are handled in the Town's account, and expenditures are authorized by Selectmen in the weekly warrants, these funds should be considered Town funds.

Hall reported that Benjamin Sack had appealed to the Department of Marine Resources against the Town's not granting him a commercial shellfish license. DMR had contacted Rachel Bizarro (staff to the Shellfish Committee) and notified the Town that it would conduct a survey of the clam resource in Bristol and South Bristol, as a standard response to an appeal like this. DMR stressed that the Shellfish Committee had complied with state law and the Bristol Shellfish ordinance in every respect. Amy O'Brien stated forcefully that she would speak for Mr. Sack, and had brought a list of questions and legal findings which she presented to Selectmen and to Steve Lackovic for the Shellfish Committee. Chair Hanna indicated that this was a matter for the Shellfish Committee, which Mr. Sack had apparently never attended, and referred the questions after brief review to Steve Lackovic. Hanna stressed that the Shellfish Committee determines the number of licenses awarded annually, subject to approval from DMR (which has been received), and that any vacancies are awarded by lottery. Because Mr. Sack has never applied for a license, his name was not entered into any past lottery. O'Brien argued that the number of licenses awarded should be

increased, as she felt it is not right that certain license-holders do not actively harvest the resource. Lackovic expressed his concern that any expansion of the number of licenses for Bristol residents could lead to the end of the Bristol-South Bristol shellfish compact, as most of the open flats are in South Bristol waters and South Bristol harvesters would not want to see an increase in Bristol use of their resource. At this point Ms. O'Brien broke off the discussion and left with Mr. Sack.

Selectmen signed the Warrants for Town Meeting, to be posted throughout the Town by Sean Hunter.

The date of Sunday, March 11, was agreed for presentation of the Boston Post Cane to Carroll Voss, Bristol's oldest resident.

Hall noted that April 12th was now set as the date for migration of the TRIO system to a new database manager, and that he expected the Town Office to be shut down for part of that day. He will notify Selectmen, and the newspapers nearer the time of any closure.

New Business:

Hall reported that the Town had been approached by an abutting landowner regarding the possible sale of the Town-owned waterfront property on Marsh Island. Selectmen reviewed that Deed by which the late Bob Reny had donated the land to the Town, and agreed that the Town should honor his wish that it be maintained for recreational access by the residents of Bristol (and by the Reny family, should they cease to be residents). It was noted that the cost to the town is only \$367 a year of property taxes payable to the State, and that the lot would not easily be replaceable. Hall was instructed to decline the offer.

Parks Director Lara Sargent requested a Waiver of the Conflict-of-Interest policy for Holly Nelson, the daughter of one of the Parks & Recreation Commissioners. It was hoped to have her run a grades K-4 after-school sports programs two days a week in March, for a total stipend of \$240. It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Yates, to grant the Waiver, subject to notification to the Selectmen in the event of any change in compensation or scope of the arrangement.

Old Business:

Routes 129/130 corridor study: Hall requested the appointment of 3 Bristol members to the 9-member, three town committee tasked with preparing a Corridor Management Plan under the aegis of the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission. Lowd moved, and Hanna seconded, the appointment of Alexander (Sandy) Davis; Kelly Doyle; and Town Administrator Christopher Hall to the committee.

The proposed design for the revised Bristol School parking lot was circulated, with no objection or amendment by Selectmen.

The contract with McLaughlin Builders for roof replacement at the Lighthouse, Harrington Meeting House and Town Office was reviewed. Administrator Hall was given authorization to proceed with the contract which conformed to the terms approved on February 11th.

Corps of Engineers approval for the work on the Varney Bridge had been received. Selectman Yates, for the Board, signed the Notice of Intent to Commence Work for return to the Corps.

Hall noted that as the NNEPRA Board had only voted for three weekends of pilot Amtrak service to Lincoln County, it would not be practical to proceed with any connecting trolley service this year.

Regular Business:

One Property Tax abatement application was reviewed. It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to approve Abatement Warrant number 018. Motion carried 3 – 0.

Three building permits were reviewed and approved, being for Map 002, lot 093-C-1; Map 031, lot 038; and Map 034, lot B-72-4.

Selectmen reviewed and signed the accounts payable and payroll warrants for the Town, Parks, School and the Bristol/South Bristol Transfer Station.

In correspondence received, Selectmen noted the latest filings in the ongoing case of Emanuel vs. Wotton and the Town of Bristol.

Selectmen signed a letter of thanks to the Town of Waldoboro for their donation of used video camera equipment.

Selectmen took note of the new Town Office policy of voiding checks uncashed after six months, and recommended that in future checks be printed with a "void after 180 days" notation.

Yates asked if there had been any developments in the thinking of the Parks Commissioners regarding Olde Bristol Days. Hall reported that he understood the Commissioner would, at their next meeting on March 6, discuss paying for an offshore barge to safely launch fireworks near the beach park. He will report back on any development.

Hanna gave notice of the following Public Meetings:

Shellfish Committee, Monday, March 5th, 6 pm at the Town Office. **Parks and Recreation Commission**, Tuesday, March 6th, 6 pm at Ellingwood Information Center

School Board, Wednesday, March 7th, 5.30 pm at the School Library. **Selectmen**, Wednesday, March 7th, and Wednesday, March 21st, both at 7 pm at the Town Hall.

Planning Board: Thursday, March 8th, 7 pm at the Town Office

Harbor Committee, Thursday, March 22nd, 6 pm at the Town Office. **TOWN MEETING:**

Monday, March 19th, voting 8 am to 8 pm, Town Office Tuesday, March 20th, 7 pm, open meeting at Bristol School gym.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to Adjourn. Motion passed, 3-0, at 8.20 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Hall Town Administrator