



**Selectmen's Meeting
November 1st, 2017
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present: *Chad Hanna, Harry Lowd III, Paul Yates*
Also Present: *Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Claire Enterline (chair, Bristol Mills Dam Advisory Committee).*

Selectmen were called to order by chair Hanna at 7.06 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 4-18th. Passed 3 – 0.

Matters Referred from Other Town Bodies:

Bristol Mills Dam Advisory Committee:

The Committee's chair, Claire Enterline, presented the initial draft Wright-Pierce report, stressing that this was likely to see revisions before it can be declared as final. The Committee is planning to hold three more meetings (November 14 and 28, December 12) to review the draft report on a section-by-section basis, and to schedule a public hearing in January.

She asked about the timeline for the committee's work, and was told that the current proposed schedule was good in that it would allow for a wrap-up in time to send questions to the Town Warrant in March. Financial proposals arising from the report would need to be sent to the Budget Committee in early February. Lowd urged the Committee to keep on task, and push for a final report in January. Hanna noted that any of the options might require additional time for fundraising from grants and private donations, but it would be good to have the options finalized for a decision at Town Meeting.

Enterline sought guidance on whether to apply a discount rate to the expected future costs of options presented in the report. Hall, who had raised this question with the dam committee, pointed out that depending on the approach taken, this could change the cost rankings of the different options. He thought it may be appropriate to select a discount rate for future expenses, but opinions differ widely on what this might be both within the Committee and in the financial

community generally. Hanna suggested that the Town is likely to give a heavy weighting to initial capital costs, given the uncertainties about future maintenance. It was noted that the Town's support for any option would likely not be based on cost alone, as values such as recreation and fire protection are hard to quantify and generate strong emotions.

The Report was tabled for further consideration in December, by which time the Committee's work will have advanced further.

Bristol Fire and Rescue:

Hall gave an overview of CMP data on electric power restoration, and noted the work done by the Town Highway department and Bristol Fire and Rescue to open roads and to make welfare calls on elderly and infirm residents.

Lowd proposed, and Yates seconded, a vote of thanks to the staff of both departments for their service to the Town's residents in the aftermath of the storm. This was carried 3 – 0. Hall offered a draft letter of thanks for Chief Paul Leeman to communicate to the Fires and Rescue personnel, which Selectmen signed, and Hanna noted that he would try to attend the November 6 Fire meeting to communicate their thanks in person.

On another Fire and Rescue matter, Hall reported that the DEP had required further detailed plans for the Munro Bridge dry hydrant. He had retained Gartley & Dorsky to do the necessary work, at a price of \$4,900, which will be met from the \$20,000 voted at the March Town Meeting. Realistically, if the DEP now authorizes the work, it will not be complete before spring 2018 and he will ask the balance of funds in this account be carried over to 2018.

Regular business:

2018 Budget:

Hall presented a list of potential capital expenditures over the next three years, gathered from the Town's several departments, for review and prioritization by the Selectmen. In discussion it was noted that:

- The Highways budget would likely allow, in 2018, the completion of the bridge engineering contract with Calderwood Engineering, and the construction of a new deck on the Varney Bridge. Only about 2 miles of maintenance paving was needed in 2018, but the town should continue to set money aside for bridge work on the Benner Stone Arch Bridge (perhaps in 2019) and to replace the Upper Round Pond Road culvert (in 2020 or later). Discussion of the work needed to prepare the Split Rock Road for future paving noted the likely high cost of this work, given the need for multiple culverts in the swamp area. This was not a high priority for the next two years.

- A number of roofs will need work. The MMA insurance inspectors were concerned about the Town Hall and Harrington Meeting House roofs, while Selectmen were aware of the poor condition of the Hanna Landing Storage Building. Parks has made roof replacement at the Lighthouse a priority. Selectmen asked Hall to see if the Harrington Meeting House Trustees would contribute to the roof from the funds under their care, and also to determine if there are savings to be made from taking bids on the three historic buildings' roofs together.
- If the Town determines that it wishes to retain the dam, it is likely that work on the dam repairs and new gates could be undertaken in 2018, and the fish passage repair deferred to 2019.
- The school is expected to request borrowing in excess of \$100,000 to reconstruct the parking lot and associated drainage works; the School Board is studying options for replacing the walk-in freezer and whether to proceed with a softball field.

Tax collections:

Hall reported that \$6,161,942.38 had been collected or abated through October, out of a total of \$6,443,791 committed for collection. Hanna noted that the balance due (\$281,848.62) was on par with previous years, and that less than 5% outstanding at this date reflects well on the revaluation process.

Building Permit Applications:

Five applications were approved: Map 003, lot 015; Map 004, lot 149-B; Map 004-C, Lot 025; Map 021, lot 035-B; Map 021, lot 047.

Warrants:

Selectmen reviewed and signed payroll and account payable warrants for the Town Office, Parks and Recreation, and Fire and Rescue, and the Bristol – South Bristol Transfer Station.

Communications received:

Selectmen reviewed and signed the Municipal Valuation Report requested by Maine Revenue Services.

An annual report from the Fishermen's Museum was received and noted.

Letters of thanks had been received from two non-profits which had received, in October, funds voted by the Town meeting: Healthy Kids and Lincoln County Television.

A letter had been received from Padebco Custom Boats, requesting a partial refund of the Building Permit fee they had paid for the structure approved on October 18, at which same meeting Selectmen had approved a lower fee for unheated storage buildings.

It was moved by Lowd and seconded by Yates, to rebate \$1,000 of the fee paid by Padebco to reflect the new fee schedule. Motion passed 2 – 0, Hanna abstaining as a family member works at that business.

There were no public comments.

Notice of forthcoming public meetings:

Notice was given of the following forthcoming meetings:

- Shellfish Committee, Monday, November 6th, 6 pm – Town Hall; this is a special meeting to kick off the Lower Pemaquid Watershed Study.
- ELECTION DAY, Tuesday, November 7: voting 8 am to 8 pm at the Town Hall
- Parks and Recreation Commission, Tuesday, November 7th, 6 pm, and also Tuesday, November 21st, at 6 pm – Ellingwood Information Center
- Bristol Mills Dam Advisory Committee, Tuesday, November 14th and November 28th, both 7 pm at the Town Hall.
- Selectmen – Wednesday, November 15th, Town Hall
- Planning Board – Thursday, November 16th, 7 pm – Town Hall

Selectmen warned the public to take note that the Town's offices will be closed on the following Public Holidays:

- Veterans Day (observed), Friday, November 10th;
- Thanksgiving, Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24th.

The Board adjourned at 8.50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hall
Town Administrator

Motion to adjourn, at 8.55 pm: proposed Lowd, seconded Hanna, carried 3 – 0.