



**Selectmen's Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office, March 31st, 2021**

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates

Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Paul Leeman, Jr. (Fire Chief); Phil Congdon (Chair, Broadband Committee); Alan Hinsey (Tidewater Telecom); Nettie Hoagland (Lincoln County News).

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

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to approve the Minutes of the meeting of March 17th, and the Executive Sessions of March 21st and 24th. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

Bid Opening:

Two bids were received and opened for the tax-acquired property sale of property at Map 009, lot 052.

Yates proposed, seconded by Poland, to accept the high bid of \$14,000 from Frank and Dana Poland. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

Presentation by Tidewater Telecom:

Alan Hinsey, Marketing Director of LCI Communications and Tidewater Telecom, presented his company's plan for expanding fiber coverage to deliver broadband access throughout the Town. In phase one, to be completed in 2021, 11.16 miles of new fiber would be added, to cover all the remaining homes in Bristol that have neither coaxial cable nor fiber. On completion, Bristol would have 100% broadband coverage according to the FCC's current, minimal, definition of broadband (25 MB/s download, 3 MB/s upload), of which a little over half would be served by Tidewater fiber with speeds of over 100 MB/s down- and upload.

Hinsey requested that the Board pass a resolution of support for LCI/Tidewater's application to the state for at least \$140,000 of ConnectME funds to fund approximately 25% of the project. Poland proposed, seconded by Yates, that the Board sign a Resolution to that effect the wording of which had been discussed between Hall and Hinsey to satisfy the needs of the grant application. Motion passed, 3 - 0, and the Board signed the Resolution.

He also requested that the Town confirm they would make the \$100,000 in funds the Town received from a local foundation for broadband expansion, available to Tidewater to support this effort. Hall reported that he had joined a briefing by Tidewater to the

foundation, and they were in concurrence with this use of their grant to the Town. It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Yates, to make a grant of \$100,000 to LCI Communications for the project. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

LCI/Tidewater will also be requesting a Resolution of Support from the Bristol Broadband Committee.

Old Business:

Poland read out the following Appointments, to serve in office until the end of the 2022 Town Meeting:

CLC Ambulance Service Representative: Joe Rose; Donald Means (Alternate), Christopher Hall (Alternate)

Keeper of the Locks: Sean Hunter

Lincoln County Regional Planning Board (2): Chris Hall, Patricia Jennings; Jessica Westhaver (Alternate)

Comprehensive Plan Committee: Alfred Ajami, Thomas Bishop, Robert Davidson, Richard Francis, Brittany Gill, Patricia Jennings, Kenneth Kortemeier, Leon MacCorkle, Jessica Yates

Planning Board Alternate: Nathaniel Curtis

Harbor Committee Alternate: Zachary Stotz

Hanna proposed, seconded by Yates, that these persons be appointed to serve in the respective positions. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and Selectmen signed the notice of Appointment.

Yates made a personal statement that he had not abstained on any vote in 21 years on the Board, and would not do so in this case as his daughter Jessica Yates) is not being appointed to a compensated position. Hanna and Poland supported his decision.

Poland then read the following proposed Appointment:

Keeper of the Locks: Richard Poland

Hanna proposed, seconded by Yates, that Richard Poland be appointed to this position. Motion passed, 2 – 0, Poland abstaining, and Selectmen signed the Notice of Appointment.

Hall indicated he was awaiting confirmation from members of the Appeals Board and Budget Committee to see if they wished to serve a further term. He will report back on April 7th.

Street Lights: Hall presented for discussion a draft Policy for use of the Town's street lights. After discussion, Hall was asked to bring back a revised draft showing that the Town would entertain requests from neighbors for reduced power and/or directional shields, but not for switching lights off.

New Business:

Hall circulated an email from the Maine Spirit of America Award committee requesting

a nomination from the Town for a ‘person, institution or group,’ which could include posthumous awards. Bristol has not nominated a recipient in the previous three years. It is hoped that an award banquet can be held for Lincoln County awardees in the fall of this year if the pandemic permits.

He suggested the Board may wish to jointly propose Phil Congdon and his wife the late Candy Congdon, for their respective dedicated services to the Town (including most recently chairing the Broadband Committee) and to the Lincoln County News. The Board agreed to the nomination.

Regular Business:

Liquor License renewal: An application for the renewal of the liquor license for Shaw’s Lobster Wharf was reviewed and approved.

Building Permits. Applications were reviewed and approved for work at Building permit applications: Map 002-B, lot 081-F; Map 006, lot 047; Map 008, lot 036-A; Map 015, lot 010.

Warrants: Selectmen reviewed and approved Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants for the Town, Bristol Fire and Rescue, the Parks Department, and the Bristol – South Bristol Transfer Station.

Correspondence: Hall reported the receipt of several grants and donations, including one of \$30,000 from Coastal Rivers towards the Pemaquid Beach Park pavilion in recognition of their continuing partnership with the Town on the Beachcombers’ Rest touch tank and educational center in the Pavilion; a donation of \$10,000 from Eric Lax and Karen Sulzberger towards the fish ladder; a grant of \$7,788 from the Maine Community Foundation towards the continuing water sampling work for the Shellfish Committee, and a number of smaller donations. Poland asked if any donations were not earmarked, and Hall reported that one, for \$2,000, is for use ‘where the need is greatest.’ She proposed that part of this grant be used for purchase of a solar-powered spotlight to illuminate the flag flying on the Liberty Pole. Hall will collect cost information.

Public Comments: There were no public comments

The Chair gave notice of forthcoming Public Meetings as follows:

- Fish Committee, Thursday, April 1st, 4.00 pm at the Town Office
- Shellfish Committee, Monday, April 5th, 6.30 pm at the Town Office
- Parks and Recreation Commission, Tuesday, April 6th, 6 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- School Board, Wednesday, April 7th, 5.30 pm by Zoom: apply to the AOS 93 office (563-3044) for access codes.
- Selectmen, Wednesday, April 7th, 7.00 pm at the Town Office
- Harbor Committee, Thursday, April 22nd, 5.00 pm at the Town Office

Executive Session: It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Poland, to enter Executive Session pursuant to M.R.S. Title 1, chapter 13, section 405.6.D, to consider hiring a new Fire Chief. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and the Board entered Executive Session at 8.15 pm.

At 8.40 pm the Board left Executive Session. The Chair reported that Scott Sutter would be invited to discuss terms of an employment contract in Executive Session on Wednesday, April 7th.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8.42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hall
Town Administrator