



**Selectmen's Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office, April 7th, 2021**

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates

Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Jessica Westhaver (Treasurer); Rachel Bizarro (Clerk); Jay Crooker and Rick Poland (Fish Committee); (Nettie Hoagland (Lincoln County News); Deb Wilson and Mark Becker (Becker Construction); Charles Farrell; Bobby Ives; Alex Beaudet; Mary Piasecki; Robert Davidson; Don Means.

The Board was called to order by Chair Hanna at 6.30 pm.

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.A, to discuss conditions of employment as Fire Chief with Captain Scott Sutter. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and the Board entered Executive Session at 6.31 pm.

At 6.59 pm the Board left Executive Session and Chair Hanna welcomed the public joining the meeting. The meeting was called to order again at 7.00 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 31st. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

The Chair reported that in Executive Session, Scott Sutter had been offered the position of Fire Chief. He will meet with the Town Administrator to review contract terms and possible changes to the position's Job Description before the next Board meeting. It is planned to make an appointment with effect from May 1, 2021.

Presentation by Old Bristol Historical Society:

Chuck Farrell, head of the Old Bristol Historical Society's Pemaquid Park subcommittee, presented the Society's plans for the 1-acre site at Pemaquid Falls where the Society is restoring the Pemaquid Mill and developing a Bristol History Center in the former Poole Brothers retail store. Plans have been prepared by landscape architect, George Workman, and fundraising is under way.

From the floor, Alex Beaudet, a neighbor to the property, expressed concern that not enough attention was being paid to conservation and ecology. Farrell noted that this is why the Society is making presentations at this stage, to secure public feedback.

The Board thanked the Society for the presentation. Also on the agenda was the question of the Society wishing to return the McKinley School building to the Town, now that the Bristol History Center is nearly ready to store the Society's archives. It was noted that this must be accepted at a Town Meeting; if there is a need for a Special Town

Meeting before March 2022, this will be placed on the agenda.

Hall reported that the Covid-delayed grant payment to the Town for Maine Bicentennial activities had been received that day. The grant request had included \$4,000 for the Bristol History Center; most of the balance of \$5,300, the Maine Bicentennial Foundation had been told, was committed for a time capsule, to be opened at Maine's Tricentennial in 2120. He asked if the Society would be interested and willing to create and store such a time capsule, ideally with input from students at the Bristol School. Rev. Bobby Ives, President of the Society, expressed enthusiasm for the idea and will seek the support of his Board.

Appointments:

Poland read out the following proposed appointments:

To serve in office until the end of the 2022 Town Meeting:

Comprehensive Plan Committee: Alex Beaudet, Jim Barnes, Paul Di Mauro, RoseAnne Holladay, Jason Sewall, Dan Sullivan

It was noted that this brings the total appointments to this Committee to 15; the Board agreed to cap the number at 19.

It was moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to approve these appointments. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Poland then read:

To serve in office for three-year terms until the end of the 2024 Town meeting:

Appeals Board: Robert Cushing; Harry M. Lowd III

Budget Committee: Paul DiMauro, Paul Leeman III, Karl McLetchie, Mary Piasecki

It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Poland, to approve these appointments. Motion carried, 3 – 0, and Selectmen signed the Appointments.

Old Business:

Fish Ladder: Jay Crooker, for the Fish Committee, and Deb Wilson and Mark Becker of Becker Construction, reported on progress with the fish ladder. Phase One is finished, and considerable work has been done (under a Change Order to the existing contract) towards Phase Two. The ladder's weather cover was removed this day, and the Fish Committee is preparing to remove the berm keeping water away from the head of the ladder. A quiet opening is planned for the next week or so, with a public ceremony in May when the fish are in the ladder. At that time, an event to recognize donors will also be held.

It was agreed that steps will be taken to keep visitors away from the central 'island' formation to the west of the ladder, as this is still a construction zone.

Crooker asked about the status of Knowles' work with the design of the footbridge and water control gates. Poland requested a review of the design before final fabrication commences, which Hall will seek to schedule with Knowles.

Wilson asked about netting to keep birds out of the pools. Crooker felt this might not be necessary and would prefer to ‘wait and see;’ but Becker and Wilson cautioned against having no protection, based on their experience at Damariscotta Mills. A single seagull in a pool can bring the alewife run to a halt, as their count data has shown. No decision was taken.

The Treasurer asked about the status of contracts for Phase Two. Wilson indicated that the work currently under way had been done under a change order for Phase One, but when work resumes in the fall of 2021 there will be new contracts with the existing masonry and earthworks subcontractors; Becker does not believe their services are needed as General Contractors, but they will be available as consultants as needed.

Tax Acquired Properties: Further to the acceptance on March 31 of a winning bid for the property at Map 009, lot 052, Hall reported that the bid price had been paid in full. Selectmen reviewed a Municipal Quitclaim Deed Without Covenants conveying the property to Frank and Dana Poland as Tenants in Common. Hanna moved that the Deed be granted and signed, seconded by Poland. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Comprehensive Plan: If additional volunteers come forward, they may be appointed at the next meeting up to a total of 19 members. Hanna stressed that the template for the Committee’s work is to update the 2002 Plan, with possible additional sections such as a capital budget for a ten year period. Major questions may need to be referred to the 2022 Town meeting; members doubted that a finished Plan could be completed by that Meeting. From the floor, Davidson asked if the goal is to have the State accept the Plan this time, in order to open up additional grant funding opportunities. It was felt it would be nice to have it accepted, but not if that required Ordinances contrary to the wishes of the town.

Street Lights: Hall presented a redrafted Policy for use of the Town’s street lights, showing that the Town would entertain requests from neighbors for reduced power and/or directional shields, but not for switching lights off. Poland suggested that an additional change should be added to make the Selectboard, as a whole, responsible for any decision to reduce power, with Yates agreement. The matter was tabled to April 21th to allow re-drafting.

Old Bristol Days: Hall reported that the State Parks have directed that, due to Covid, no gatherings will be permitted this year, causing the cancellation of Olde Bristol Days for a second successive year.

New Business:

Pemaquid Group of Artists: The Parks Commissioners had agreed a contract for the 2021 season for the use of the Art Gallery at Pemaquid Lighthouse Park by the Pemaquid Group of Artists. They requested the concurrence of the Select Board. Terms of the lease are unchanged from the 2020 season. It was move by Yates, seconded by Poland, that the Contract be adopted. Motion passed, 2 – 0, Hanna abstaining, and Selectmen signed the contract.

Liquor License renewal: An application for the renewal of the liquor license for Windward Cruise Company, d/b/a the Hardy Boat, was reviewed. Motion to approve

was proposed by Yates, seconded by Poland; motion passed, 2 – 0, with Hanna abstaining.

Regular Business:

Building Permits. Applications were reviewed and approved for work at Map 004, lots 136 and 141-A; Map 012, lot 028; Map 022, lot 004.

Monthly financials: Selectmen reviewed and approved month-end financial reports including the Check Reconciliation, Real Estate and Personal Property Reconciliation, Bank Collateralization balancing, and Parks Cash Position.

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

Correspondence: None received.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

The Chair gave notice of forthcoming Public Meetings as follows:

- Parks and Recreation Commission, Tuesday, April 20th, 5.30 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Selectmen, Wednesday, April 21st, 7.00 pm at the Town Office
- Harbor Committee, Thursday, April 22nd, 5.00 pm at Bristol Town Office

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8.53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hall
Town Administrator