

Selectmen's Meeting MINUTES Bristol Town Office, August 19th, 2020

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates

Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Candy Congdon (Lincoln County News); Jennifer Ribeiro (Principal, Bristol Consolidated School); Darin Carlucci (chair), J.W. Oliver and Dave Kolodin (members of Bristol School Committee); Jay Crooker (chair) and Rick Poland (members of Bristol Fish Committee); Phil Congdon; Pat Porter.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Chad Hanna, at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to accept the minutes from the August 5th meeting. Motion passed 3 - 0.

Old Business:

<u>School Reopening</u>: The Principal and the Chair of the School Board updated the Select Board on plans for reopening the Bristol Consolidated School in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The first day of school will now be Tuesday, September 1st. The Principal reported that the school expects a total preK-8 enrolment of around 200 pupils, another small annual increase. As noted in the previous newsletter, School will resume live and in-person based on the current 'green' or low risk rating by the state Department of Education. At least two families are expected to home school in the light of the Coronavirus, and other families have asked for an off-site tuition option while remaining enrolled at BCS.

An 'offsite learner model' is therefore being developed for children whose parents are at high risk or otherwise do not wish their children to go back into the classroom, but who do not want to teach home school. The School is still working out the teaching details (using an online class vendor) and the guidance and technical support that will be offered to those children. Parents adopting this model must commit to it for the entire school year – it is not practical, given the difference in lesson plans between offsite and in-person classes, for kids to drop in or out of school attendance as convenient.

School bus times will be sent to parents next week, along with bus seat assignments (socially distanced, except where family groups sit together). A maximum of 25 children per bus will be allowed, but with more parents planning to drive their kids to and from school this should be enough without adding buses.

One additional staff person (over budget) will be added, due to the 4th grade class being split in two.

Hall asked if there was agreement on what criteria would be used for a move from 'green' in-person classes, to 'yellow' and 'red' models. Ribeiro indicated that BCS would take any decision based input from LincolnHealth and the AOS rather than waiting for guidance from the state.

Fish Committee: Jay Crooker and Rick Poland, for the Fish Committee, asked the Board to consider expanding the current fish ladder project to incorporate a harvesting pool at the head of the ladder, with a concrete pad, gates, and hoist. The Board agreed that this is logical and desirable given the intent to harvest following restoration of the run, but it is too late to obtain a permit to accomplish it this year even if funding could be found.

The harvesting pool will be incorporated in planning and funding for Phase 2 of the project, along with completion of the external masonry; new gates and controls for the dam; and a pedestrian bridge for access to the fish ladder.

Jay thanked the board for their incorporation of a coffer dam for water control into the work plan, which saved considerable work time following the downpour on July 14.

Hall asked about reopening of the swimming hole, which is the subject of many inquiries to the Town Office and Parks Department. Hall reported he believed that masonry contractor Peter Anderson is fine with reopening, but concrete contractor McClintick Foundations has insurance concerns given their possible liability in case of accident or vandalism. (*Follow up: the Parks Department subsequently installed additional 'Danger, Keep Out' signs.*) The Board tabled this question until September 2nd, when Mark Becker and Deb Wilson are planning to make an interim report to the Select Board.

<u>Pemaquid Lighthouse:</u> Hall proposed wording for a Resolution of the Board (attached at the end of these Minutes) to convey to the US Coast Guard the wish of the Town to acquire the Pemaquid Lighthouse tower, and to convey the intent to maintain it to a high standard and keep it open to the public. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to adopt and sign the Resolution as presented. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

Appointments:

The three members of the Appeals Board whose terms expired with the adjournment of the Town Meeting had each expressed a willingness to serve a further term. It was therefore moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to appoint Roberta Albright, Robert Davidson and Donald Means to two-year terms on the Appeals Board, to serve through the end of the 2022 Town Meeting. Motion passed, 3 - 0, and the Selectmen signed the Notice of Appointment.

Regular Business:

The Board signed a Release Deed and reviewed a related Supplemental Tax Warrant for Map 029, lot 012-8, a tax-acquired property whose tax arrears through 2019 had been paid in full. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to authorize Supplemental Tax Warrant number 2020-0004 in the amount of \$160.23. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

The Board reviewed an Abatement Warrant and related Supplemental Tax Warrant for property at Map 007, lot 031, which had been wrongly billed for 2020 real estate taxes. It was moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to approve Abatement Warrant number 2020-0012 in the amount of \$300.88. Motion passed, 3 - 0. It was then moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to approve Supplementary Warrant number 2020-0005 in the amount of \$300.88. Motion passed, 3 - 0.

Selectmen reviewed a Recertification of Tree Growth on 14.5 acres at Map 8, lot 87.

The Board reviewed and approved Building Permit applications for Map 004, lot 154; Map 011-A, lot 001-B; Map 011-C, lot 010; Map 019, lot 036.

Selectmen reviewed and approved Warrants for accounts payable and payroll for the Town Office, Bristol Fire and Rescue, Bristol Parks and Recreation, and the Bristol–South Bristol Transfer Station.

Under Correspondence, a letter was received from a Waldoboro resident urging Bristol to adopt a fireworks ordinance similar to that recently adopted by Waldoboro. The Board noted that Chief Leeman will be bringing possible Ordinance drafts to the Board on September 2nd.

Administrator Hall noted that a grant had been approved by the Island Institute for \$15,000 for the Town's Broadband planning activities.

<u>Public Meetings:</u> The Chair gave notice of forthcoming meetings as follows:

- Planning Board, Thursday, August 20th, 7 pm at the Town Office
- Harbor Committee: Thursday, August 27th, 5 pm at the Town Office
- Parks Commission, Tuesday, September 1st, 6 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Selectmen: Wednesday, September 2nd, 7 pm at the Town Office
- Fish Committee: Thursday, September 3rd, 6 pm at the Bristol Dam Loop parking area.

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved to adjourn at 8.11 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Hall, Town Administrator