



**Select Board Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office – January 17, 2024**

Select Board Members Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates

Also present: S. Brackett, S. Gallagher, S. Lane, L. Mahan, C. Pendleton, Sr., J. Riley

Hanna called the meeting to order at 6:32pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

On a motion by Poland and a second by Yates, the minutes of January 3 were passed unanimously.

Storm Damage - Road Repairs

Long Cove Point Road had the most damage. A significant portion of the road was completely destroyed and the roadbed washed away. Road shoulders and barrier walls were displaced or washed away. Hanley Construction will rebuild the road and the road remains closed until further notice. The road will be raised about 18" and barrier walls will be raised above the height of the road. Pemaquid Loop Road and Fish Point Road had erosion with cracked pavement and shoulder material displaced or washed away. OW Holmes repaired Pemaquid Loop Road and Rusty Bryant repaired Fish Point Road. There was also some erosion on West Strand Road and Back Shore Road.

State Route 32 in Chamberlain had significant flooding and damage. It will remain closed for at least six weeks. Lower Round Pond Road will be used as a detour.

Storm Damage - Harbors & Landings

New Harbor had the most damage with several fish houses and wharfs completely washed away. The day after the storm there was a huge effort to clean the harbor. Many local contractors, fishermen and volunteers cleared debris from the harbor and transported it to the Transfer Station. The Transfer Station will continue to accept floating storm debris at no charge to taxpayers for another week. Structures still standing will be the responsibility of the owner. Hanna thanked everyone for helping to clear the debris in New Harbor.

Brackett shared photos of her dock and fish house located in New Harbor. There was some storm damage to the dock, but it remains standing. The dock is the largest one in the harbor. She was urged to file a damage claim with FEMA.

Storm Damage - FEMA Claims

Town Admin Bizarro, Parks Director Gallagher, Parks Commissioner Pendleton & Fire Chief Sutter filed claims with Lincoln County EMA. All damage amounts were estimated.

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| Lighthouse Park | \$880,500 |
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| Beach Park | \$320,500 |
| Long Cove Point Road | \$786,000 |
| Pemaquid Loop Road | \$50,000 |
| West Strand Road | \$60,000 |
| Fish Point Road | \$50,000 |
| Back Shore Road | \$70,000 |

Road Damage Appropriation/Hatchtown Bridge

The cost estimate of replacing Hatchtown Bridge is \$1.43 million. The cost estimate of rebuilding Long Cove Point Road is unknown but the cost is anticipated to be between \$500K and \$1M. It was decided to postpone the Hatchtown Bridge project for another year. Road projects for 2024 will include Long Cove Point Road; stump removal, culverts and roadbed prep for Sodom Road, Split Rock Road and Tukey Lane; and paving a section of Sproul Hill Road. Poland asked that MMA legal be contacted to find out if allowed spending could be increased before the annual town meeting. If not, a special town meeting may be needed before March.

Donations

Donations are being accepted for storm damage. Poland cautioned that specific guidelines must be used when distributing the money. MMA legal will be consulted. Parks will also accept donations for Lighthouse Park and Beach Park.

Storm Damage – Lighthouse Park and Beach Park

The east and south walls of the bell house were completely destroyed and many of the bricks were washed away. The bell house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At this time, it is undecided if historic or regular bricks will be used to rebuild the structure. Lighthouse Park also had damage to the lightkeeper's house and art gallery, and severe erosion on the southern end of the parking lot. Pemaquid Beach had severe erosion with loss of trees and dunes, and displacement of sand.

The pier and restaurant at the state park was severely damage and is structurally unsound. It has been rumored the pier will be re-built but not the restaurant. Hanna suggested Bristol's state representatives be contacted to urge the state to replace the restaurant as it has historic value for the community.

Parks Budget

The Commission and Director reported revenues exceeded expenses in 2023 even though the weather impacted attendance at the beach in the early part of the summer. The surplus revenue will be used towards the restrooms at Lighthouse Park. The new restrooms will include a men's, women's and family section, all with handicap access. Trees will be removed at the Rock Schoolhouse to prevent roof damage. The shared maintenance position will be advertised again in the spring. The estimated cost of a new digital sign is \$20K. The cost would be shared between the Town Office, School, Parks Dept., and Fire Dept. The Land Use ordinance designates that digital signs can be no bigger than 6 sq. ft. Everyone thought it was appropriate for the location of the sign to remain at Ellingwood Information Center. The remaining budget was reviewed and is on file at the Town Office.

Broadband Installation

Representatives from Tidewater Telecom will meet with the Select Board on January 24 to discuss further installation of fiber optics along town roads. Huddle Road has been partially built out with fiber and is on the list for completion. Bizarro would like to have the fiber installed on Cozy Cottage Road to have internet at Hanna Landing. Portions of Round Pond remain unserved and those areas will be a priority.

Midcoast Council of Government

MCOG will help Bristol navigate LD 2003 and bring the town into compliancy by the deadline of July 1, 2024. The representative from MCOG, Mathew Eddy, will attend the next Planning Board meeting on January 18 and will meet with Bizarro on January 19.

Shellfish Warden Contract

Poland made a motion to accept the Shellfish Warden contract with amendments to Section 2 and Section 10 to read as 2024 instead of 2023. Yates seconded the motion with said amendments. The motion passed.

2024 Budget Review

The painting quote for Willing Worker's Hall is \$34,900 and the painting quote for McKinley School is \$23,500. These quotes include full prep, priming and two coats of paint. The cost could be reduced if less prep work is done. The roof quote for Willing Workers Hall is \$20,000. Knowles will have a quote for a new fence on the dam in a few days. The assessing budget will be moved back to \$55,000. The assessor's agent will work extra hours in the spring to assess storm damage. At this time, it is unknown if the IRS has waived the \$18,000 fine. If not, this will be paid out of town expense. The Fish Committee plans to build a shed in 2024. The cost should be \$5,000 or less. Final numbers for the road budget will be determined as more information is received.

The School Board has invited the Select Board and Budget Committee for a review of the school budget on Wednesday, February 7 at 5:30pm at the Bristol School. The regularly scheduled Select Board meeting will be held at the school immediately following the School Board meeting.

Lincoln County Housing Project

LCRPC submitted three proposed locations for affordable housing. Their goal is to identify housing locations in all towns in Lincoln County. All locations in Bristol were near the school. Lot 004-133-E is accessed by a private road, lots 006-001 and 004-140 are accessed by state and town roads. Lot 006-001 contains large tracts of wetlands and is undevelopable. All three lots proposed are owned privately.

Regular Business

Correspondence. The CPC has followed up with re-scheduling the shared meeting between the Select Board, Planning Board and CPC. It was decided to hold the meeting after the budget season, sometime in late February.

Warrants. The Board reviewed and signed AP and Payroll warrants for the School, School Renovation Project and Transfer Station and AP warrants for the Town, Fire Department and Parks Department.

Hanna gave notice of the following upcoming public meetings:

- Planning Board, Thursday, January 18th @ 6:30pm, Town Office
- Budget Committee, Monday, January 22nd @ 6:30pm, Town Office
- Select Board, Wednesday, January 24th @ 6:30pm, Town Office
- Harbor Committee, Thursday, January 25th @ 5:00pm, Town Office

The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Bizarro
Town Administrator