

Select Board Meeting MINUTES Bristol Town Office – June 7, 2023

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

Also Present: B. Cole (ME DoT), M. Barnes (LCRPC), J. Riley (LCN), M. Day (LCSO), J. Hatch, P. Jennings, P. Fisher, C. Jackson, A. Perley, D. Carlucci, R. Francis, K. Kortemeier, M. Piasecki, S. Phinney and townspeople owning property along SR 32 in New Harbor/Chamberlain

Hanna called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

On a motion by Poland and a second by Hanna, the minutes of May 17th were passed acknowledging that the headline of "Certified Ration Declaration" had a typo.

Chamberlain Speed Review

S. Phinney spoke for New Harbor/Chamberlain property owners, expressing concern about increased speed, lack of enforcement and pedestrian safety along the stretch of Route 32 between the old ballfield (Hardy Boat parking) and Chamberlain Post Office. The following points were discussed.

- Local businesses bring in extra foot traffic in the summer months and the shoulder is not
 wide enough to accommodate both pedestrians and vehicles. M. Day proposed the Hardy
 Boat consider a shuttle service from the parking area to Shaw's for their passengers.
 There are shoulder wash outs on the portion of Route 32 where Hardy Boat passengers
 walk from their cars to the boat. ME DoT will be notified.
- Excess speed. M. Day asked if there were certain times of the day that would benefit from enforcement and included that LCSO has discussed enforcement for the area and will provide more coverage depending on staffing availability.
- Collecting data from the speed signs. The Highway Department and Town Admin will work on setting this up.
- Speed Bumps. It was suggested that seasonal temporary speed bumps be used. S. Cole thought it a possibility and would require consent from the town. He cautioned that speed bumps can be noisy.
- Lack of signs. B. Osier noted there was only one speed limit sign between Route 130 and the Chamberlain Post Office depicting the speed. All agreed that more signage would be helpful.
- Pedestrian Safety. The Chamberlain portion of Route 32 and Long Cove Point Road provide a scenic walking situation. People walking often feel unsafe sharing the road with vehicular traffic.

S. Cole shared that ME DoT provides community-based partnership initiatives for villages and municipalities. The program is designed to support communities with traffic safety along state roads. The municipality is responsible for starting the project and engineering a design. The design is shared with DoT and if approved by their engineers, the project could be funded with a 50% state match for up to \$500,000. These types of projects normally take 2-3 years to complete. Cole offered his services in helping the town start and lead the program.

Hanna recognized the challenges involved in that portion of Route 32 and was open to the idea of meeting with engineers for possible long-term solutions for calming traffic. A project of this type would need to be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting. If it was determined the road needed to be widened, property owners may be required to give up land abutting the roadway.

Hatchtown Bridge ROW

Property owners upstream of Hatchtown Bridge reviewed a survey map of the bridge replacement project overlayed with the location of their buildings. J. Hatch noted the boundary lines are incorrect and the map needs to be updated with the correct boundaries. He also noted the turnout on the eastern side of the bridge is not needed as it goes to a driveway that is rarely used. Hanna emphasized that these were preliminary drawings, and the town would not force land purchases if property owners were not agreeable. The current drawings assume the old bridge would be used for one-way alternating traffic during the construction phase of the new bridge. Another option is to close the road to traffic during the construction phase which the Select Board are amenable to. Hanna will follow up with Calderwood Engineering to review the plan and move the proposed bridge downstream.

The replacement project will widen the bridge, providing safer passage for larger, commercial vehicles. Any vegetation removed from private property during the project will be replaced. Construction of the bridge is only allowed during certain months of the year due to fish migrations.

2023 Mil Rate

On a motion by Hanna and a second by Poland, the 2023 mil rate was proposed at 7.95 per \$1,000. The motion passed.

Historical Buildings

A building safety report from MMA Property & Casualty was presented. The towns buildings are in great shape outside of general maintenance for Ervine School, McKinley School and Willing Workers Hall. An estimate will be obtained for painting the three buildings.

The Harrington Meetinghouse needs a new handicap ramp. Materials will be funded through the Town budget and labor through the Parks budget. The caretaker of the meetinghouse will be contacted for input on the project.

Memorial Veteran's Walk

A. Perley, a member of Bristol's Veterans Memorial Committee gave a review of proposed plans for the Memorial Veteran's Walk located at Ellingwood Park. The plan is broken down into 10 different areas and each area has been identified for future growth. The various areas will be left natural or have picnic tables, benches, memorials and a flagpole. A copy of the plan is on file at the Town Office. She has requested a sign be placed within the same granite pillars that currently holds the Ellingwood sign.

Regular Business

Roads Report. Hanna looked into the report of erosion on the Back Shore Road. He proposed that a surveyor be hired to determine the line between the town roadway and the private roadway. All agreed.

Two DoT Business Directional Sign Permits that will be located in Bristol along Route 130 were signed for Megan Higgins Denturist, a business located in Walpole.

Correspondence. D. Carlucci invited the Board to the groundbreaking ceremony for the School Renovation Project on June 13, 2023 at 1:30pm at the Bristol School.

Building Permits. (006-056-E), (04E-213-B), (007-076-D), (004-083-4), (04E-213) were reviewed.

Warrants. The Board reviewed and signed warrants for the School Payroll and Accounts Payable for the School, Town, Fire, and Parks Departments and Transfer Station.

Hanna gave notice of the following upcoming public meetings:

- Comprehensive Plan Committee, Tuesday, June 13th @ 6:30pm and Thursday, June 15th @ 6:30pm, Town Office
- Parks Department, Tuesday, June 20th @ 6:00pm, Ellingwood Center
- Select Board, Wednesday, June 21st @ 6:30pm, Town Office
- Harbor Committee, Thursday, June 22nd @ 5:00pm, Town Office

Executive Session:

The Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters at 8:35pm. The Board left Executive Session at 8:45pm. No action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Bizarro Town Administrator