



**Selectmen's Meeting  
May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present: *Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd.*

Apologies: *Paul Yates*

Also Present: *Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Phil Averill, Sandee Brackett, Wayne Chickering, Richard Francis, John Gamage Sr., John Gamage Jr., Charles Hanson, Paul Leeman Jr., Kris Poland.*

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Chad Hanna, at 7.04 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Hanna, to accept the Minutes of the Selectmen's meetings of May 16<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Motion passed 2 – 0.

**Additional agenda items taken out of order:**

Wayne Chickering spoke of his wish to donate a bench to the Pemaquid Lighthouse Park in memory of his wife Sharon, to replace one stolen over the winter. Past Parks policy had been not to accept such donations, but Hall reported the intent of Parks Director Lara Sargent to revisit the policy with the Parks Commissioners, and he understood that they were likely to set a cap of (say) four donated benches for that park.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Hanna, to accept the generous offer of Mr. Chickering. If placement could not be agreed in the Lighthouse Park, Chickering suggested placement on Town-owned land at Pemaquid Point as an alternative. Hall will follow up with the Parks Commission.

Phil Averill followed up on his request of May 16<sup>th</sup> for the Town to rectify the displacement of granite blocks in the Harrington Meeting House Cemetery, by vehicles used by the roofers working on the Meeting House. He thanked Sean Hunter for his prompt action to replace the stones, but showed photographs of continued displacement. Hall reported that the final payment to the roofers had been made, following their completion of an end-

of-work ‘punch list.’ Hanna indicated that Sean Hunter has not completed the corrective work, and he will discuss further needs with him.

**Old Business:**

Special Town Meeting: Selectmen returned to the draft Warrant for the July 24 Special Town Meeting, tabled on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Articles were read out by Hanna, as follows:

**Article 1:**

To elect a Moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

**Article 2:**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to repair the Bristol Mills Dam, and construct a new fish passage sufficient to accommodate the expected maximum capacity for alewife migration in the Pemaquid River watershed.

**Article 3:**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to remove the Bristol Mills Dam, and construct a new water level control structure north of the Benner Road Stone Arch Bridge; a new public swimming facility at Ellingwood Park; and new dry hydrants as necessary to maintain fire protection water supplies?

**Article 4:**

To see what sum the Town shall authorize the Selectmen to transfer from Surplus ~~to the Fish Ladder Capital Reserve Fund~~, to be applied to the preparatory work to implement either Article 2 or Article 3 above?

Selectmen recommend (3 – 0):..... \$40,000.00  
Budget Committee recommends ( - ):.....(To be determined)

Lowd proposed, seconded by Hanna, that the Warrant be accepted as drafted, with the exception of striking the words ‘to the Fish Ladder Capital Reserve Fund’ in Article 4.

From the floor, Francis asked that Article 3 use the term ‘replace’ instead of ‘remove’ the dam, but this was considered misleading. Hanson asked whether it was necessary to ask two questions rather than a single either/or question, but was told that this format is required by state law. Brackett spoke of the experience of towns in New Hampshire of high costs of maintaining weirs to control water levels in lakes, as proposed in Article 3. This was ruled to be properly a subject for the Public Hearing.

The Warrant was approved, 2 – 0, and signed by those Selectmen present.

A date of Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> was set for the Public Hearing on the Warrant. This date is ahead of the 30-day availability of absentee ballots.

Update on Roads and Roofs:

The roofing contractor has completed work.

A pre-bid meeting for the preparatory work on the final unpaved section of Sproul Hill Road, will take place on Thursday May 31<sup>st</sup>, at 7 pm.

Hall reported that the Highway Department had completed culvert replacement and other work preparatory to this year's road paving. He expects Hagar to do the paving work in June.

**New Business:**

Mil rate:

Hall presented worksheets for a range of mil rates, including the maximum and minimum overlay amounts allowed by state law on the basis of the town's appropriations and its real estate and personal property valuations. It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Lowd, to set a mill rate of 0.00625 (\$625 per thousand) for 2018. Motion passed 2 – 0. It was noted that this is the lowest rate in Maine for a town of more than 1,000 residents.

Hanna asked that the signing of the Tax Assessment Warrant be done on June 6<sup>th</sup>, to allow Yates to add his signature. Hall will, nevertheless, go ahead with preparing the mailing of tax bills, with a goal of their being sent in mid-June.

Appointments to the Budget Committee were tabled until June 6<sup>th</sup> so that Paul Yates, who chaired the interviews of candidates, could participate.

Paul Leeman asked if existing members of the Budget Committee, as well as new appointees, would be expected to sign their adherence to the Code of Ethics. Hanna replied that this is the intent of the Selectmen.

**Regular Business:**

Liquor permit: Selectmen reviewed and signed their consent to renewal of a liquor license for The Harbor Room. Moved by Lowd, seconded by Hanna; passed 2 – 0.

Land Re-Classification: Selectmen approved the transfer from Tree Growth to Open Space of 18.5 acres within the lot recorded as Map 005, lot 019. Moved by Lowd to approve the re-categorization; seconded Hanna; passed 2 – 0.

Building Permits: Selectmen reviewed and approved Building Permits for properties at:

- Map 002, lot 093-B;
- Map 004, lot 074;
- Map 004-A, lot 018-B;
- Map 007, lot 068-D;
- Map 026, lot 010-04.

Selectmen reviewed and signed Warrants for the Town, Bristol Fire & Rescue, Parks & Recreation Commission, and the Bristol/South Bristol Transfer Station.

Correspondence received:

Hall brought two matters relating to the dam to the Selectmen's attention. An interim report from the surveyors, Gartley and Dorsky, showed more town-owned land at the dam site than had been expected, and appears to show more than sufficient space to build a new fish ladder and associated park without acquiring land.

Secondly, Francis had drawn attention to reports of potential Town liability in the event of accident or mishap at the dam. Hall read the relevant section from the Maine Tort Claims Act making clear that municipally-owned dams are immune from damages claims.

Two events are to take place on June 19<sup>th</sup>: an appeal of property valuation will be heard by the County commissioners at 11 am; and the annual meeting of the Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission will take place at the 1812 Farm in Bristol Mills, from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Selectmen reviewed correspondence relating to the Wotton property in New Harbor, where neighbors are alleging a nuisance from rodent infestation (wharf rats). The town's Health Officer had visited the site and found no action appropriate for the Town to take.

Public comments:

There were no public comments.

Chair Hanna gave notice of the following Public Meetings:

- State Primary Election and referendum: Tuesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 8 am to 8 pm
- Selectmen: Meeting with bidders for Sproul Hill Road prep. work: Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 6 pm, Bristol Town Office; Regular Selectmen's meetings, Wednesday June 6 and Wednesday, June 20, 7 pm at Bristol Town Office.
- Harbor Committee: Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 6 pm at the Town Office
- Shellfish Committee: Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at the Town Office
- Parks & Recreation Commission, Tuesday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Planning Board: Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 7 pm at the Town Office

- Fish Committee: for information on work sessions and opportunities to volunteer to count alewives, contact chair Karl McLetchie at (617) 201-5637.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Hanna, to adjourn. Motion passed, 3–0, at 8.35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Hall  
Town Administrator