



**Selectmen's Meeting
January 10th, 2018
MINUTES**

Selectmen Present: *Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd, Paul Yates*

Also Present: *Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Chuck Hanson (Vice-Chair, Budget committee).*

The meeting was called to order by chair Hanna at 7.00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Hanna, to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 3rd. Passed 3 – 0.

Bristol Mills Dam Advisory Committee: Selectmen received the final report of Wright-Pierce's Feasibility Study into options for the dam. Chair Hanna agreed to moderate the public hearing on the report, which is scheduled for 7 pm on Tuesday, December 30th, at the Bristol Consolidated School gym.

New Business:

Review of 2017 financials: draft Town and Parks summary financials for 2017 were reviewed by the Selectmen. It was noted that Parks had a very successful year financially, with a surplus of \$60,000 after adding \$11,000 to reserves; however it should be borne in mind that the well-drilling at Ellingwood Park was authorized in the 2017 budget but work was delayed into January, so that this cost will be reflected in the current year, not 2017.

2017 Town Annual report: Administrator Hall asked for guidance on the dedication of the Town report and illustration of its cover. The suggestion of dedication to the town's Fire and Rescue service was considered a good idea, but Selectmen will consider other options and chair Hanna will look at his photography collection for cover ideas.

Old Business:

Marine Law Enforcement Contract (Shellfish Warden): Selectmen reviewed the renewal for 2018 of the Town's contract with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

for shellfish warden services, on the same terms as for 2017. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Lowd, to accept the 2018 contract as presented; passed 3 – 0.

2018 Warrant: Administrator Hall presented a number of items relating to the Town Meeting Warrant.

- The 2018 Transfer Station budget had been drafted, though not yet approved by the Transfer station Board; the proposed assessment to Bristol is unchanged.
- A summary of capital expenditures and transfers to reserves was presented and discussed. It was agreed, given that there is still one remaining payment of \$71,000 due on the Fire Truck Note, the Selectmen advise placing \$10,000 in each of the Facilities and Fire Truck reserve funds this year; however when the Fire Truck Note is paid off in the course of 2018, they would be comfortable asking for perhaps \$50,000 a year to be transferred to the Fire Truck reserve in future years. The Town Administrator noted the desirability of purchasing an automatic standby generator for the Town Hall, but as this year it is foreseen to replace the Town Hall roof, that expenditure should be deferred to 2019.
- Hall noted the costs of providing Loud's and Marsh Islands with services including fire protection, free parking and now plumbing inspection. He asked the Selectmen to consider the option of annexing the islands to the Town. This would redirect the property taxes (currently 5.04 mills) from the State to the Town (currently 6.25 mills); the island properties currently pay, in aggregate, around \$60,000. If a Bill were to be presented to the 129th Maine Legislature in January 2019, it should be considered on the Town Warrant this year, March 2018. Selectmen asked Hall to prepare a Warrant article which would permit, but not require, the Selectmen to act, depending on investigation during 2018 of the legal and financial obligations this would place on the Town, and into the views of island taxpayers.

Regular Business:

Abatements: one request for a property tax abatement was reviewed. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Lowd, to accept the recommendation of the Assessors to deny the application in Abatement Warrant number 0019. The motion carried, 3 – 0.

Selectmen reviewed and signed the accounts payable and payroll warrants for the Town, Parks, Fire & Rescue and the Transfer Station.

Correspondence:

- Selectmen reviewed the annual Maine Municipal Association list of recipients of publications, without proposing any changes.
- Bill Brewer's formal notice that his firm has started the audit of the 2017 financials was noted.
- The Board reviewed the latest filings in the Wotton legal matter, which has now been appealed to the High Court. The Town Administrator was

requested to ask Counsel for an estimate of legal fees to set aside in the Town Meeting Warrant for this case.

There were no Public Comments offered.

Notice of forthcoming public meetings:

Notice was given of the following forthcoming meetings:

- The Planning Board will meet on Thursday, January 11th, at 7 pm at the Town Hall.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission will meet on Thursday, January 11th at 6 pm at the Ellingwood Information Center
- Budget Committee, Tuesday, January 23rd, 6.30 pm – Town Hall: consideration of requests from Non-Profit Service Providers
- Harbor Committee: Thursday, January 25th, 6 pm – Town Hall
- A public hearing on the Wright-Pierce report on options for the Bristol Mills Dam will be held at the Bristol School gym on Tuesday, January 30th, at 7 pm.
- Selectmen will meet each Wednesday this month, i.e. on January 17, 24 and 31, always at 7 pm at the Town Hall.

NOTE THAT THE TOWN OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on Monday, January 15th, in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

A motion to adjourn was proposed at 8.19 pm by Yates, seconded by Lowd, carried 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hall
Town Administrator