

# Selectmen's Meeting February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 MINUTES

Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd, Paul Yates
Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Steve Lackovic (Chair, Shellfish
Committee); Rachel Bizarro (Town Clerk); Jessica Westhaver (Assessing Clerk);
Clyde Pendleton and Sandra Lane (Parks Commissioners); Lara Sargent (Parks
Director); Jeff Eilenberg (Vice Chair, Planning Board); Benjamin Sack.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chad Hanna at 7.01 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to accept the Minutes of the Selectmen's meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Passed 3 – 0.

## **Public Hearing:**

<u>Land Use Ordinance Amendments</u>: Pendleton asked for a summary of the email survey conducted via the Town's web site regarding electronic signs. Westhaver reported that 73%, or 86 votes out of 118 respondents, expressed opinions against changeable signs. There were no further public comments.

Shoreland Zoning Amendments: There were no public comments.

#### **New Business:**

Benjamin Sack requested consideration by the Selectmen of his request for a commercial clam license. He expressed frustration that he had not been granted a license in 2017 when one commercial license holder gave up his license. Lackovic and Bizarro, who chair and staff the Shellfish Committee respectively, presented data on the number of applications for a license in the annual lottery over the last five years, and pointed out that Mr. Sack had not applied for the lottery. Eight persons (five resident and three non-resident) had applied to participate in the lottery. The Shellfish Committee had voted not to replace the retired license, thus reducing the number of commercial license holders to 11 resident and 2 non-resident, and this number had been accepted by Maine D.M.R.. Bizarro presented a copy of an email response from D.M.R. to Mr. Sack's partner, Amy O'Brien, confirming that the Town has acted correctly. Mr. Sack expressed his frustration at being unable to work at his preferred career, saying that he wished only to earn a living.

#### **Old Business:**

### **Budget Committee:**

Selectmen discussed the vote the previous day by the Budget Committee not to recommend the budget of the Parks and Recreation Department. Chair Hanna stated his understanding that, as a Proprietary Account, the Parks budget did not require approval by the Town meeting as it involved no appropriation of Town funds. The vote is therefore advisory rather than permissive. Lowd stressed that the process of consideration of the budget is driven by the need for transparency in the Parks operation, rather than legal requirements. It would nevertheless be good if the Town did indeed express its support for the Budget, and the Selectmen had made a unanimous recommendation in its support. Pendleton, as Chair of the Parks Commission, expressed his regret at having left the Budget Committee meeting before the vote was taken. He had believed that he had answered all questions on the Parks budget.

The question was raised as to whether members of the Committee holding personal vendettas should have recused themselves from voting. Hanna responded that it may be unfortunate if the Budget Committee votes on the basis of policy matters or personal feelings, rather than the facts of the budget, but noone can stop freedom of expression.

Administrator Chris Hall was asked to confirm with Maine Municipal Association's legal office whether, as believed, the Department could continue to trade without an affirmative budget vote of the Town.

<u>Town Office Copier Contract</u>: Jessica Westhaver presented an analysis of three bids received for new copiers at the Town Office and Ellingwood Park. It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates to accept the low bid from Symquest and authorize the Town Administrator to sign a five-year purchase and maintenance contract. Motion passed 3 - 0.

<u>Highways</u>: Selectmen noted a request from Sean Hunter of the Highways Department to begin posting weight restrictions on Town roads. Selectmen decided that action was not yet necessary but would review the matter in the coming weeks.

### **Old Business:**

<u>2018 Warrant</u>: It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to recommend the appropriation of \$1,500 for LifeFlight of Maine, which had been omitted from the previous week's votes on the budget articles. Motion carried, 3-0.

Selectmen then reviewed the Warrant one more time, before it was moved by Yates, seconded by Hanna, to send the Warrant to Lincoln County Publishing. It is expected that the printed version will be available for signature on February 28.

## **Regular Business:**

Selectmen reviewed and signed the accounts payable and payroll warrants for the Town, Parks, School and the Bristol/South Bristol Transfer Station.

Hanna gave notice of the following Public Meetings:

**Parks and Recreation Commission**, Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm at Ellingwood Information Center **Planning Board**, Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at Town Hall. **Selectmen**, Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm at the Town Hall

Note that the Town Office will be CLOSED on Monday, February 19, in observation of Presidents' Day.

It was moved by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to Adjourn. Motion passed, 3 - 0, at 8.25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Hall Town Administrator