



**Selectmen's Meeting
MINUTES
Bristol Town Office, March 4th, 2020**

*Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates. Chad Hanna
Also Present: Chris Hall (Town Administrator); Joe Rose (Code Enforcement Officer);
Candy Congdon (Lincoln County News); Chuck Hanson; Karl McLetchie; Pat Porter.*

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Chad Hanna, at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Poland, seconded by Yates, to accept the minutes from the February 19th meeting as presented. Motion passed 3 – 0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Per the Board's decision of February 12th to send two sets of Ordinance Amendments to Town meeting, public hearings had been scheduled for this night and advertised accordingly.

Addressing Ordinance: Joe Rose, Code Enforcement Officer, presented two minor amendments to the Ordinance: to change from two to three the number of residences on a driveway that would require the designation of a road name; and to correct a typographical error.

There being no public comments, chair Hanna closed the Public Hearing at 7.06 pm.

Land Use Standards Ordinance: Rose then presented amendments to the Land Use Ordinance which corrected a discrepancy between the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance and the Land Use Ordinance. The Planning Board proposes to incorporate the Shoreland Zone wording on Non-Conforming Structures into the Land Use Ordinance, which will allow a degree of greater flexibility to the Planning Board in permitting changes which would improve, though not entirely eliminate, a nonconformance.

There being no public comments, chair Hanna closed the Public Hearing at 7.11 pm.

Old Business:

Pesticide Policy: Karl McLetchie spoke to a draft Policy, which had also been considered this day at the School Board. Hanna stressed the importance of

having a single policy for all Town properties, including the School and Parks. The Board thought that the draft was clear and appropriate but wished to see the will of the Town in regard to Article 35 on the Town meeting Warrant which addresses the question. The matter was Tabled until March 18th.

Olde Bristol Days: Sheila McLain, chair of the Merritt Brackett Lobster Boat Races, to be held this year on August 16th, requested that the Town receive a proposed donation for the Boat Races which is required to be paid to a tax-exempt organization. The Boat Race is incorporated but, she reported, has not yet received its 501(c)3 tax-exempt status. Poland agreed that the Town should handle the money, as has been done in the past, and stressed the importance of careful paperwork and reporting, for the annual audit. McLain will communicate this to the donor.

New Business:

The Town Clerk requested that the Board review a list of annual appointments effective through Town Meeting. She asked that these be re-appointed at the Town meeting, rather than leave a loophole of legal vulnerability by not appointing until the Board meets at a date after the Town Meeting. The list was approved and the Board requested that the Clerk bring appropriate certificates of appointment to the March 17 meeting.

Tax-acquired property: Hall asked permission to advertise for sale by sealed bids, the property at Map 014, lot 089 (1403 State Route 32), which had been acquired by the Town through tax liens. He had contacted the next of kin of the former owner and the heirs to the estate had no interest in acquiring the property. The Board directed him to notify the public that they would open sealed bids and award the property in 'as is' condition to the high bidder at the Board meeting on Wednesday, April 15th, at 7 pm. The notice of sale should note that a period of 90 days is set in statute for removal of personal property from the tax-acquired property.

The Town Office had been contacted by the Marine Patrol who were concerned that elver harvesters are already camping at the Town Landing at Pemaquid Falls, although the season does not open until March 22nd. Hall pointed out that the Town's Parking Ordinance prohibits overnight parking or camping in Town Parks, and that the Town Landing is listed as one of those Parks. The Old Bristol Historical Society has invited the harvesters to park their vehicles and trailers instead at the Pemaquid Mill, and Hall proposed that the Town rent a portable toilet for the Mill for the duration of the season. The Parks Commission have booked port-a-potties for the Town Landing beginning March 18th, and Sean Hunter has placed a trash bin at the Landing which he will empty regularly. The

Board asked Hall to go with the Marine Patrol to ask the campers to move to the Mill, at least until the season opens.

For the Assessing Clerk, Jess Westhaver, Hall asked the Board to take note of the new Renewable Energy Exemption which allows a reduction in property taxes for both residential and commercial renewable energy installations in which the nameplate capacity is under 5 megawatts of net energy billing. The Board reviewed the application for the Exemption. The solar array at the Transfer Station may qualify for this if Sundog Solar completes an application by the due date of April 1st.

Regular Business:

Shaw's Lobster Wharf applied for renewal of their liquor license. It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to approve the application. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and Selectmen signed the application approval.

Selectmen reviewed three Abatement Warrants for property at Map 004, lot 154-2A-LEASE. This is a mobile home on which the Board had previously on November 12, 2019, waived foreclosure of outstanding liens. The owner has now filed for a Homestead Exemption, which based on the current valuation and ratio would exempt the property from any tax liability going forward.

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to approve Abatement Warrant number 2020-0001, for the year 2017 in the amount of \$ 106.88, and to write off the lien fee for that year. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to approve Abatement Warrant number 2020-0002, for the year 2018 in the amount of \$ 106.88, and to write off the lien fee for that year. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to approve Abatement Warrant number 2020-0003, for the year 2019 in the amount of \$ 115.43, and to write off the lien fee for that year. Motion passed, 3 – 0.

Selectmen reviewed and approved Building Permits for work at Map 004C, lot 005-1, and Map 008, lot 006-E.

Selectmen reviewed and approved Warrants for accounts payable and payroll for the Town Office, Fire Department, Parks and Recreation, and the Bristol – South Bristol Transfer Station.

Under Correspondence, Hall circulated a letter regarding precautions for the Covid-19 virus that had been sent from the School to all parents.

In Public Comments, Yates reported that he had received negative feedback from a number of people on the supposed wish of the Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee to re-open historic rights of way. In discussion, it was made clear that the Committee has completed its work with the delivery of its Report to the Board; and that any funds voted by Town Meeting for Bicycle, Pedestrian and Road

Safety under Article 13 of the Warrant would be for expenditure at the Selectmen's discretion in the usual manner.

Poland said that she would support the Town producing a new Comprehensive Plan, it being 15 years since the last such exercise, and the issues that the Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee reported on would properly to be incorporated into a Comprehensive Plan. The Board agreed to consider this further after the Town Meeting.

Public Meetings: The Chair gave notice of forthcoming public meetings, as follows:

- Fish Committee, Thursday, March 5th, 6 pm at Ellingwood Information Center
- Planning Board: Thursday, March 5th, and Thursday, March 19th, both meetings at 7 pm at the Town Office
- Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee ('Bristol Byways'), Monday, March 9th, 10 a.m. at Ellingwood Information Center
- Broadband Committee, Thursday, March 12th, 7 pm at the Town Office
- TOWN MEETING: Monday, March 16th, town election, 8 am to 8 pm at the Bristol Mills Fire House; Tuesday, March 17th, open meeting, 7 pm at the Bristol Consolidated School gymnasium.
- Selectmen: Wednesday, March 18th, 7 pm at the Town Office
- Parks and Recreation Commission: Tuesday, March 24th, 6 pm at Ellingwood Information Center
- Harbor Committee: Thursday, March 26th, 5 pm at the Town Office

It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Poland, to enter Executive Session under M.R.S. Title 1, chapter 13, §405.6.A, to discuss a personnel matter. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and the Board entered Executive Session at 8.15 pm.

The Board left Executive Session at 8.20, and the Chair announced that no action would be taken.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8.21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Hall
Town Administrator